



CHELSEA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

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To: Board of Education

From: Matt Cunningham

Re: Athletics Update

Date: March 4, 2026

MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award Winner Miles Dell

Senior student-athlete Miles Dell has been chosen as one of 32 recipients of the 2025 MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award. The MHSAA received over 1,500 applications for this award and will honor the recipients during the MHSAA Boys Basketball Championship Games at the Breslin Student Events Center on Saturday, March 14.

For 37 years, the MHSAA and Farm Bureau have honored the best student-athletes in Michigan based on achievement and leadership in athletics and activities, as well as responses to short-answer and essay questions. An excerpt from Miles' essay:

"I had just experienced the pinnacle of sportsmanship in athletics ... not just to compete, but to laugh, to celebrate, to have fun, and to forge unbreakable bonds with the people around us. Too often, I think, athletes get caught up in pressure and competitiveness, and these reasons drift out of sight."

SEC Expansion in 2027-28

The SEC will expand in the 2027-28 academic year with the addition of the schools that remain in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association: Brighton, Howell, Hartland, Salem, Canton, Plymouth, Fordson, Dearborn, Wayne, John Glenn, Belleville, and Crestwood. This is in addition to Jackson Northwest, which had previously applied and been accepted as an SEC member for the same year.

The conference will have 4 divisions of 6, 6, 7, and 8 schools respectively, with the current six schools that Chelsea competes with in the SEC White division adding Jackson Northwest for an eight-team division.



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Winter Sports Updates

The winter sports season is wrapping up with spring sports practices beginning Monday, March 9. It was, and continues to be, a successful season for our Bulldogs:

- Boys basketball are SEC White co-champs, won a district championship, and will compete on Thursday, March 5, for a regional championship
- Cheerleading won the SEC White, and Coach Christy Motsinger was named SEC White Coach of the Year
- Wrestling won the SEC White, a team district title, and wrestlers Hunter Burk and Collin Beckel have qualified for the individual championships this weekend at Ford Field
- Boys and girls bowling each placed 2nd in the SEC White, while Cayden Bowen won the individual championship in the SEC White
- Girls basketball begins postseason play tonight as the top seed in the Williamston District

LEAD

After careful consideration and feedback from students, the athletic department has transitioned from the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) to L.E.A.D. (Leadership, Excellence, Athletes, Dedication). LEAD is a group of sophomore-senior student-athlete who represent their teams, support Chelsea Athletics, and help improve the overall student-athlete experience at CHS. The mission is to promote, advocate for, and advance Chelsea Athletics and the student experience in Chelsea. Students must submit an application of interest to join the group, along with coach recommendations. The group expands the opportunities from the SAAC group from 12 students to the current 26 students who have applied and have been accepted.

This group meets regularly with advisors Athletic Director Matt Cunningham, Assistant Athletic Director Jason Morris, Track and Field Head Coach/CHS Teacher David Slusser, and Coach/CHS Teacher Joe Welton and will have appearances and input from other members of the CHS coaching staff and community.

Go Bulldogs!

Respectfully,

Matt Cunningham, Athletic Director
Chelsea School District