

ANNUAL ATHLETIC REPORT

Board of Trustees
Discussion Item
June 22, 2010

Introduction

The District's 2009-10 athletic program continues to consist of approximately 40 teams at each of our comprehensive high schools for a total of 2,524 athletes (duplicated) participating on 121 teams. This represents an increase of 107 athletes participating on district teams over last year and 342 more than in 2005-06. Sometimes, one site offers a level of a particular sport that the others do not depending interest in the sport.

Tamalpais Union High School District teams are members of the Marin County Athletic League (MCAL) in the North Coast Section (NCS) of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF). The CIF governs all high school athletics in California.

Administration and coaches continue to uphold the purpose of our Athletic Code of Conduct (AR6145.21) which is to promote the idea of healthy competition and to set standards of good sportsmanship for everyone involved. The District and all of our schools, along with all other MCAL schools, subscribe to the tenets of Pursuing Victory with Honor.

Athletics is a learning situation where growth and maturity are expected to flourish and it is an experience that is intended to help our students develop poise and self-confidence, healthy and fair competition and many hours of hard work and enjoyment.

The attached information is an overview of this year's athletic program.

For the second year, District athletics operated under that TUHSD Athletic Manual which included three publications: the Parent-Student Guide to Athletics, Coaches' Handbook and the Athletic Director's Handbook. The Parent-Student and Coaches' publications are posted on school web sites and available to the public. They have provided a consistent guide to athletics. Minor revisions were made in August, 2009, but significant revisions will be made for 2010-11. The handbooks will be coming back to the Board for approval in summer, 2010.

Prepared by Sue Chelini, TUHSD Athletic Coordinator

Approved by Laurie Kimbrel, Superintendent

TUHSD ATHLETIC COUNCIL

The TUHSD Athletic Council meets four times each year. It shares information and makes recommendations about district athletic programs and policies. The broad representation and expertise contributes to the high standards for athletics established by the Board of Trustees. The Athletic Council's support has never wavered from trying to do what is best for the kids. We are very lucky to have such a well-rounded support group for the athletic program.

2009-10 TUHSD Athletic Council Members:

Board Representatives:	Bob Walter and Monica Bonny (replacing John Wright)
Athletic Directors:	Christina Amoroso, Pete Donoff and Jessica Peisch
Athletic Administrators:	Corbett Elsen, Eric Saibel and Chad Stuart
Booster Club Representatives:	Jamie Firmage and Elizabeth Suzuki (Tam), Ken Conroy (Drake) and Susan Wirta (Redwood)
District Athletic Coordinator:	Sue Chelini
Facilities Representatives (ex officio):	George Baranoff and Joe Knighten

Agenda Items Addressed by the 2009-10 Athletic Council:

- Recommended that the BOT authorize JV lacrosse teams with funding from school booster groups and the Southern Marin Lacrosse Club.
- Participated in an intensive discussion with recommendations to the MCAL regarding the potential move of girls' soccer to the winter season. In the end, the MCAL decided not to make this move until CIF requires it in the future.
- Discussed the issue of an improved batting cage at Drake and made recommendations to the Facilities Cabinet.
- Discussed establishment of athletic priorities in order to assist ADs in considering their budget priorities.
- Discussed ways to maximize the use of the athletic budget for 2010-11.
- Heard initial discussion of potential reduction of the number of schools in the MCAL as a result of NCS league realignment over the next two years.
- Conducted a coaching certification program for District coaches in November, 2009.
- Heard reports from George Baranoff regarding completion of modernization projects including the Tam pool, weight room and field house as well as punch items on other new facilities. Safety netting between competing athletic areas at all three sites was discussed. The Tam Boosters provided netting between lacrosse and track areas. An on-going facilities issue is convenient athletic team storage and reduction in the number of containers on District property.
- Tam Boosters sponsored a very successful program for parents and athletes on Concussion Prevention in August, 2009.

Items to Address in 2010-11:

- Review the placement of various coaching positions on the coaching salary scale for equity in relation to length of season, number of athletes, safety concerns of the sport and amount of inventory to be maintained.
- Review the coaches' evaluation process and make recommendations as needed.
- Continue to seek ways to support the Athletic Directors
- Continued revision of the TUHSD Athletic Manual.
- Continue to review athletic policies as needed.

2009-10 ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS:

New Athletic Directors: Pete Donoff, Drake, and Jessica Peisch, Redwood, were the new athletic directors this year. Jessica came with four years experience as AD at Novato High. Pete is a retired PE teacher from White Hill Middle School. There is a steep learning curve in this position that should be appreciated by all. They joined Christina Amoroso, Tam, who is in her second year. The good news is that all three will continue to be ADs next year, making 2010-11 the first year since 2005-06 that we have not had at least one new Athletic Director.

Budget: The ADs would especially like to thank the Board of Trustees for their support of athletics by retention of the Athletic Assistants. The ADs would not be able to accomplish their responsibilities without the help of their assistants. The ADs have been exploring cost saving measures such as district-wide multi-year contracts with various vendors for such items as football helmet and shoulder pad reconditioning (now about \$10-12,000/school/year), uniforms and equipment. We also plan to use First Student school busses rather than commercial bussing as much as possible.

Baseball Bats: As you have undoubtedly heard, based on the serious injury to a Marin Catholic baseball player, the MCAL voted a one-year moratorium on the use of non-wood bats. All MCAL teams played this season with wood bats. The NCS declined to make the same commitment. The MCAL countered by confirming our teams would use wood bats during NCS playoffs. We also made the commitment to offer wood bats to any opposing team in section playoffs. As it turned out, all but one of the NCS baseball games were played with MCAL teams using wood bats and the opposing teams using metal ones. The wood bats actually were protecting the opposing team more than the MCAL team. The MCAL has started a conversation that has reached the National Federation of High Schools rules committees and created considerable controversy. The MCAL Board of Managers is also considering safety equipment such as helmets and mouthguards. Most softball pitchers already wear helmets with cages. Stay tuned for more in 2011.

JV Lacrosse: Following a swell of community interest in JV lacrosse, the Athletic Council convened a sub-committee who studied the issue. In Fall, 2009, the Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding with Southern Marin Lacrosse to offer JV lacrosse fully funded by the community for one year only. As it turned out, three boys' JV lacrosse teams had very successful seasons. As of 2012, the MCAL will create a league for JV boys' lacrosse. None of the three schools had enough girls' lacrosse players to form a JV team in 2010. Currently, no MCAL school fields a JV girls' lacrosse team. An evaluation report is on this same agenda for the Board to consider continuing Boys' JV lacrosse for 2011.

AB1025: New legislation has passed requiring all non-certificated head coaches of a team at any level (not assistants or volunteers at this time) to have an Activities Supervision Clearance Certificate issued by the California Teacher Credentialing Commission beginning July 1, 2010. Coaches must be fingerprinted by the Department of Justice AND the FBI before applying for the certificate. The certificate must be renewed every five years. The cost is estimated to be \$110-150 per coach. The sites are exploring ways to fund an initial cost of almost \$5,000 per school. The ongoing costs would depend on the turnover of coaches.

Coaching Certification: As of January 1, 2009, all coaches, including volunteers, must have participated in a CIF-authorized coaching education program. In addition to coaching education programs conducted by the MCAL, TUHSD sponsored two in January and November, 2009. It is the responsibility of the ADs to make sure our coaches have this certification.

Publications: The Parent/Student Guide to Athletics, the Coaches' Handbook and the Athletic Director's Handbook were re-published for 2009-10 with minor modifications. The Parent/Student Guide and Coaches' Handbook are posted on school web sites. There will be more substantive revisions for 2010-11 based on information learned at the California State Athletic Directors' Conference that will be brought to the Board for their approval this summer.

Modernization: The ADs and all of our athletic teams and coaches appreciate that the wonderful athletic facilities provided by modernization are now complete. It was exciting to see all three pools full of swimmers this year and the Tam team room occupied. The Tam state-of-the-art weight room rivals any commercial gym. All three schools happily finished their tennis seasons on their new courts.

The long-awaited opening of the Red Hill Community Park facilities gave Drake some breathing room for its athletics. Three Drake ADs, George Lewis, Chad Stuart and Pete Donoff representing almost 30 years of Drake athletics, attended the Red Hill Dedication to John Wright. Superintendents Bill Levinson, Bob Ferguson and Laurie Kimbrel were also there. Drake and the whole San Anselmo community will put this soccer/baseball facility to very good use in the future.

Redwood's new practice gym, in it's first full year, has given them more space for PE classrooms as well as for athletics. It was especially used as the winter and spring seasons overlapped and Redwood had 6 basketball teams, wrestling, boys' volleyball and cheer teams all competing for space at the same time. In the past, when Redwood had events such as 8th grade scheduling, CAHSEE or a dance, boys' volleyball has been without a practice location while the Roark Gym was being used. This won't happen again!

Schedule Star: Schedule Star provides a myriad of functions for the ADs, saving them considerable time and phone calls. Check out www.highschoolsports.net for the new site athletic websites where parents, players and coaches can improve their communication. A parent can sign up for automatic notification when a game is cancelled and rescheduled.

2009-10 TUHSD Athletic Success: TUHSD teams have been very successful in MCAL and NCS competition this year. Pennants listed are MCAL unless otherwise indicated. By the time of the Board meeting, we will have additional results.

Tamalpais Pennants: 2 varsity pennants and 2 total

Fall (1): Boys' Cross Country

Spring (1): Softball (MCAL, NCS Softball Finals)

NCS Scholastic Pennants (2): Football and Varsity Boys' Soccer

Runner of the Year (Cross-Country): Dan Milechman

Lineman of the Year (Football): Ja'Van Hall

Drake Pennants: 10 varsity pennants and 16 total

2008-09: First-ever MCAL Sportsmanship Trophy awarded at the end of the year

Fall (6): Varsity Boys' Waterpolo, Girls' Volleyball, Varsity Girls' Volleyball (2nd place NCS), Girls' Cross Country (2nd place NCS)

Winter (2): Freshman Boys' Basketball, Freshman Girls' Basketball

Spring (5): JV Girls' Soccer, Varsity Boys' Volleyball (MCAL, NCS Champs), Varsity Baseball (MCAL Champs & NCS Semi-Finals), Girls' Track

NCS Scholastic Pennants (3): Girls' Cross Country, Varsity Girls' Water Polo; Varsity Boys' Volleyball

Redwood Pennants: 11 varsity pennants and 14 total

Fall (5): Girls' Cross Country, JV Girls' Volleyball; Varsity Girls' Volleyball, JV Boys' Soccer, Varsity Girls' Tennis

Winter (3): JV Girls' Basketball, Varsity Boys' Basketball (MCAL, NCS DII, 1st place, NorCal semi-finalist)

Spring (6): Varsity Girls' Soccer (MCAL, NCS Semi-Finals), Girls' Lacrosse (MCAL, NCS semi-finals), Boys' Tennis, Girls' Swimming; Varsity Softball, Varsity Baseball (MCAL, NCS semi-finals)

NCS DII Scholastic Pennants (3): Varsity Boys' Basketball, Varsity Girls' Basketball, Boys' Volleyball

Tamalpais Hosted Events:

Spring: MCAL Swim Finals

Drake Hosted Events:

Fall: NCS Girls' Volleyball

Redwood Hosted Events:

Fall: NCS Girls' Volleyball matches through the semi-finals

Winter: NCS Boys' Basketball games through the finals, Nor-Call Boys' Basketball first and second rounds, NCS DII and DIII Dual Team Wrestling

Spring: NCS Track Meet, NCS Girls' Soccer, NCS Girls' Lacrosse, NCS Baseball 7 7

ATHLETIC PARTICIPANTS BY SPORT AND TEAM FOR 2009-10:

The attached District statistics for participation in MCAL teams give you an idea of the duplicated student participation in athletics at the three comprehensive high schools. As you can see, the Athletic Directors are supervising an ever-growing program.

	2009-10			TOTALS				
	Fall	Winter	Spring	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Tam	287	93	432	762	780	682	780	812
Drake	312	100	338	640	673	706	748	750
Redwood	357	177	428	780	748	829	889	962
	956	370	1198	2182	2201	2217	2417	2524

Attached is a list of the individual sports by season and number of participants this year at each site. Note that some students participate in more than one sport, so the actual number of student athletes is ± 80% of the number of total team members.