

ANNUAL ATHLETIC REPORT

Board of Trustees
Discussion Item
May 22, 2012

Introduction

The TUHSD 2011-12 athletic program continued to consist of approximately 40 District teams plus JV Lacrosse at each of our comprehensive schools for a total of **2,623 athletes (duplicated) participating on 127 teams**. This represents an increase of 84 (+3.5%) athletes participating on district teams over last year and 441 more than in 2005-06 when we began keeping records. Sometimes, one site offers a level of a particular sport that the others do not depending interest in that 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.

Athletic 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 fourth 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. They have provided a consistent guide to athletics. Minor revisions will made for 2012-13 and will be forthcoming to the Board on the consent agenda soon.

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.

2011-12 TUHSD Athletic Council Members:

Board Representatives:	Bob Walter and Monica Bonny
Superintendent:	Laurie Kimbrel
Athletic Directors:	Christina Amoroso, Pete Donoff and Jessica Peisch
Athletic Administrators:	Wes Cedros, Eric Saibel and Chad Stuart
Booster Club Representatives:	Deborah Dilley (Tam), Gina Feiner (Drake) and Barbara Kelly (Redwood)
District Athletic Coordinator:	Sue Chelini
Facilities Representatives (ex officio):	Tony Catrino and Chris McCune

In 2011-12, the Athletic Council:

- Reviewed recent updates for the *Parent-Student Guide to Athletics* and the *Coaches' Handbook*.
- Received a flash drive with the logo of their school containing the District-wide athletic information. Each site adds a school-specific folder. Flash drives are given to coaches instead of a binder.
- Viewed the www.tamdistrict.org/athletics website.
- Heard an update to the community-funded JV lacrosse program. To date, only boys' teams have been fielded. Later in the year, the BOT approved supporting the JV lacrosse program for both boys and girls as part of the staffing plan for 2012-13.
- Heard ongoing updates about concussions:
 - The Lynn Woolsey Concussion Field Hearing and Follow-Up
 - The new AB25 state-mandated Concussion Education forms that were immediately implemented in November. Winter teams were provided with forms and the form has now been added to the Athletic Participation Clearance Form.
 - Strengthening concussion information in the PE curriculum, especially in the First Aid unit.
 - The Redwood PTSA sponsored an evening seminar with Dr. Anthony Luke, UCSF.
 - Posting of large concussion posters in each school's locker rooms.
- Discussed how schools handle fundraising for individual teams. Coordinating fundraising activities without duplication of efforts is a concern. Athletes and parents must be clear on what the activity will support. Also, each group must go through appropriate fiscal accounting channels.
- Continued a discussion about team sizes, raising the question of how to accommodate athletic interest within the scope of the ability of the coaches to handle large sizes. All agreed that there should be some teams that do not cut. They also agreed that they would like everyone that wants to play to be able to. The AC agreed that the ADs and athletic administrators should make the call about safety and team sizes. When agreeing to drop this topic of discussion, the AC noted that it is a District responsibility to make a staffing plan for athletics as well as academics.
- Asked for a legal opinion about Title IX requirements and how to proactively meet the three-prong test.
- Expressed a long-standing concern about goose-droppings which create sanitation and maintenance concerns. To no avail, many suggestions have been made including coyote decoys, allowing dogs on the fields, etc. Tam Boosters tried an electronic eye device which did not work. Tongue-in-cheek: the best way would be to put synthetic turf on all the fields. Geese are not as much of an issue at Drake since it is not as close to a marsh as are Redwood and Tam.
- Brainstormed ways to let the community know that the Fall season of sport begins August 13, 7 school days before the first day of school. Football begins on August 6. There is also an issue in the Winter season with three basketball games being held before school resumes on January 9. The early Fall start

presents a problem for the AD and AD Assistant who would not regularly begin work in time to process the Athletic Participation Clearance forms, issue uniforms and equipment, deal with transfer forms, etc.

- Discussed the FAPE policy as it applies to athletics. Most agree that anything considered a uniform should be provided. Personal items such as shoes, mouthguards, etc. should be the responsibility of the family. There are options for those who cannot afford them.
- Raised the question of Friday night football at Tam (and possibly other sites). The superintendent gave a compelling list of reasons why it is not a good idea.
- Heard a presentation from The Dominican University of California regarding community sports. DU is a Division II school with some new athletic facilities, including gymnasium, soccer/lacrosse fields and tennis courts. They may be adding softball next year. A major donor would like them to create athletic opportunities for high school-aged students who may have been cut from school teams. They also may be a neutral site opportunity for playoffs that don't conflict with their own program. Barbara Kelly volunteered to be a liaison between DU and TUHSD to investigate what opportunities might make sense and how to market them to the student population. This could be a non-District solution to the issue of team sizes.
- Budget priorities for the future:
 - Immediate:
 - JV lacrosse being added as a District sport.
 - Near term:
 - Transportation priorities
 - Athletic Trainer parity
 - Longer term:
 - Coaching stipend longevity step
 - Increasing enrollment & teams
 - Increasing impacts on the Athletic Directors
- Heard about an issue with Marin Catholic team "chaplins" who were inviting District players to participate in prayer. The AC recommended that we go on record asking MC to not involve our teams in such a practice. It puts players in an awkward situation for a public school team.
- Agreed that, due to specific field conditions, each site should make their own decision about how to handle safety when lacrosse, soccer and track need to use the same facility. In addition, all sites have **safety issues with athletic venues** in proximity to the baseball fields.

Items for the Athletic Council to address in 2011-12:

- Continue the discussion of a policy for **preventive athletic medical services**.
- Review the **coaches' evaluation process** and make recommendations as needed (has been on the agenda for two years already).
- 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 (not accomplished this year)
- Continue to seek ways to **support the Athletic Directors**.
- Continue to **review athletic policies** as needed.

2011-12 ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS:

Athletic Directors: The best news this year was that Tam AD Christina Amoroso, currently in her fourth year in that position, was named NCS "Rookie" Athletic Director of the Year. "Rookies" have been ADs for five years or less. She was recognized at the CSADA conference in San Diego in April. Pete Donoff and Jessica Peisch continued their positions for the third year. We are pleased that all will continue as Athletic Directors next year giving the District athletic program continuity that it has not enjoyed for many years. The sustainability has been noticeable in the smoothness of the athletic programs this year.

Eligibility: On May 4, the CIF Federated Council changed transfer eligibility rules. Gone is the one free transfer prior to the beginning of the sophomore year. A significant change affects athletes who transfer without a change of residence. **If they hope to play at the varsity level, they must “sit out” 30 school days for each sport they competed in the previous year.** They may practice with the team, but may not complete in a scrimmage or other competition until their “sit out” period is completed.

Paperless AD: An idea coming from the 2011 CSADA conference was the “Paperless AD”. Rather than revising and duplicating pages of information and compiling it all into a binder, we purchased flash drives with each school’s logo. A District coaches’ folder was created for the drives including all the handbooks as well as District-wide policies and procedures. Each school created another folder with site-specific information. Flash drives were given to coaches for their use. The flash drives can be updated as needed, at least annually. The flash drives had an initial cost of about \$5.50 each while the binders cost about \$10 each in duplicating, collating and binders. While it doesn’t eliminate paper completely, the flashdrives were well received by the coaches and made things easier for the ADs.

TUHSD Athletic Web Site: With Joel Hames help, considerable time was spent creating a user-friendly District web site for athletes, parents and coaches. Each school has linked to this web site for information that may change so when updates are made in forms or the publications, they are automatically updated on the school athletic web site. If you have not already seen this web site, it can be found at www.tamdistrict.org/athletics . There are plans for improving the site over the summer including coach and parent education videos, health and safety links and NCAA athletic recruiting information.

2012 Fall Season of Sport: An anomaly in August, 2012 is a discrepancy between the TUHSD and NCS calendars. Football begins August 6. All other sports begin August 13, seven school days before the August 22 first day of school. This discrepancy catches the ADs before their start date AND no clerical help to process the Athletic Participation Clearance forms and any transfer eligibility as well as to meet with coaches and provide equipment, uniforms, etc. for the Fall sports. This is a one-time issue we are working with the District to resolve.

Concussions: The school year began with a successful Field Hearing on Concussions held by Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey at Redwood in August. Several speakers spoke about various aspects of concussions they have experienced. In November, California legislation required that each student athlete and parent sign a concussion information form. The form was duplicated and collected from winter athletes and added to the Athletic Participation Clearance form online immediately. Following the lead of the Tam Boosters, Redwood and Drake posted concussion posters in both locker rooms. The PE department agreed to boost the content about concussions in their programs, especially the first aid unit.

JV Lacrosse: JV boys’ lacrosse continues to attract a large number of players and all three schools have had very successful seasons. The program has been fully-funded by the community for the 2010, 2011 and 2012 seasons. In 2013, JV boys’ lacrosse will be an MCAL sport. So far, none of the three schools had enough girls’ lacrosse players to form a JV team in 2010 or 2011. Currently, no MCAL school fields a JV girls’ lacrosse team.

As the Board well knows, for 2013, due to the success of the boys’ program, the District will assume funding responsibility for JV lacrosse, both boys’ and girls’. It does appear that we may have at least one girls’ JV program for next year as the numbers are increasing for that sport as well.

We cannot thank enough the key volunteers who spearheaded the fund-raising for JV lacrosse for the past three years: **Barbara Kelly, Redwood; June Maselbas, Drake; and Joyce Porter, Tam.** Without them, our athletes would never have had this opportunity.

Athletic Trainers: The Board received an extensive report on athletic trainers in August, 2010. From that report: “The primary mission of the high school athletic trainer is the health and safety of the student athlete focusing on prevention of athletic injuries. S/he can assess the safety of the athletic venues and weather conditions, work with coaches for appropriate conditioning for the individual sport, evaluate injuries and make appropriate medical referrals, follow the prescription of a medical professional in rehabilitating an injury, provide

education on medical issues related to athletics and consult with athletes and their parents about the athlete's health. The AT,C is on the sideline at many home athletic contests including those where medical coverage is required by CIF (any football and boys' lacrosse game)."

Redwood has funded a 25-hour/week (plus weekend overtime) trainer through UCSF Medical Center, Department of Orthopedics, Sports Medicine for many years, currently a \$50-55,000 commitment. The AT,C is a part-time District-hire so this arrangement gives him/her full-time employment, working at the UCSF clinic for the remaining hours.

For the first time, the Board approved a MOU for 2011-12 between UCSF and the Drake Benchwarmers to fund a 15-hour/week trainer. Even if it meant that an athletic trainer was not available every day or for all sports, the service has been well received. The Drake Benchwarmers are proud to say they will be submitting an MOU to increase this service to five days a week for 2011-12. However, this commitment is not without controversy as it means less funding for other activities that the Drake Benchwarmers have traditionally funded.

Athletic trainers are the only District position that has been fully-funded by an outside source. To fund salaries and salary-driven benefits is a significant commitment for the booster clubs over time, diverting resources that might otherwise be spent on funding team needs. There also is a disparity between schools in the ability to fund such a program. While Redwood's trainer has been in place since 2000-01, this was only the first year for Drake. So far, Tam has not been able to fund the position. The next budget priority for athletics would be for the District to assume fiscal responsibility for the Athletic Trainer position.

Schedule Star: Schedule Star is a program that provides a myriad of functions for the ADs, saving them considerable time and phone calls and improving parent/athlete/coach communication. Even though ScheduleStar no longer supports SchoolDude, the ADs continue to depend on this program as a significant communication tool. Schedule Star also has compatible websites for each school targeted for parents and athletes at www.highschoolsports.net.

California State Athletic Directors Association: Christina, Jessica and Sue attended the CSADA conference in San Diego in April. This is a major professional development opportunity for ADs. As already reported, Christina was recognized as NCS New Athletic Director of the Year. Other major topics included athletic budgets, current legislation, social networking, Title IX, sportsmanship and NCAA athletic recruiting. Jessica continued to take NIAAA courses in addition to her Certified Athletic Administrator designation.

Budget: The ADs continue to explore 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. Several changes resulted:

- ADs are working closely with their vendors to make sure that 2011-12 invoices are submitted early in June before the AD and budget secretary leave to avoid unpaid bills carrying over into next year's budget. Many expenses of Spring season playoffs cannot be accurately anticipated resulting in last-minute costs.
- Football helmet and shoulder pad reconditioning: We finished the second year of a very favorable five-year contract with T&B Sports in San Rafael. In the past, each school spent about \$8-12,000 depending on the number of players. The contract has resulted in significant savings (\$3,000-\$4,000 per school) and will continue for another three years. The reconditioning vendor has identified issues by which we can reduce the cost of replacement of parts as well.
- Transportation: Bussing continues to be the single largest expense for the AD's budget. Although they were significantly less expensive, the First Student busses used in 2010-11 were discontinued due to limited availability and safety issues due to no equipment storage under the bus. ADs have looked into other vendors and potential van rentals. An on-going issue is for teams in which individuals may go on to higher competition (i.e. cross country, golf, swimming, tennis, track). District policy does not allow coaches to drive athletes, creating a problem when one athlete must travel to a distant competition location and a parent is unable to drive.

2011-12 TUHSD Athletic Successes: Traditionally, TUHSD teams have been very successful in MCAL and NCS competition. This year is no exception. Pennants listed are MCAL unless otherwise indicated. By the time of the Board meeting, we will have additional results for spring playoffs.

Tamalpais Pennants:

Fall (9): Cross Country, B Soccer, G Tennis; NCS Champions: G Team Tennis, G Tennis Doubles, B Soccer 2nd place, NCS Champions: G Team Tennis, G Tennis Doubles, B Soccer 2nd place

Spring (5): B Track & Field, G Track & Field, B Swimming* (4th in a row), B Tennis Singles, NCS: B Tennis,

NCS Scholastic Pennants (2): Football, G V Basketball

Individual Recognition:

Teams still competing as of 5/15: NCS B & G Track & Field, NCS B V Lacrosse, NCS B & G Swimming
NCS G V Soccer, MCAL/NCS Softball, MCAL/NCS Baseball

Drake Pennants:

MCAL Sportsmanship Pennant for 2010-11

Fall (5): B V Waterpolo, G V Waterpolo, B JV Waterpolo, B Cross Country (NCS 2nd), G V Volleyball (NCS 2nd),

Winter (1): B V Basketball

Spring (2): G JV Soccer, B Volleyball (3rd in a row),

Scholastic (2): B Waterpolo, G Cross Country

Non MCAL: Mountain Biking Nor-Cal 2012

Teams still competing as of 5/15: NCS: B Volleyball, NCS G V Soccer, NCS B Volleyball

Redwood Pennants:

Fall (5): B Cross Country, G Cross Country, G F Volleyball, G JV Volleyball, G V Volleyball

Winter (3): G F Basketball, G JV Basketball, Wrestling (MCAL Individual),

Spring (4): B Golf, B Tennis, B V Lacrosse, G Swimming (9th in a row)

NCS Scholastic Pennants (4): G V Volleyball, G Golf, B Cross Country G V Basketball

Individual Recognition: Wrestling NCS Individual, 1st place (Dylan Morris)

Teams still competing in playoffs as of 5/15: MCAL/NCS Baseball, NCS B Lacrosse, B Tennis, NCS G V Soccer, NCS G V Lacrosse, NCS B Volleyball, Swimming & Diving, Track & Field, B Golf

Redwood Hosted Events:

Fall: G Volleyball, G Tennis

Spring: MCAL Individual and Doubles Tennis Tournament, NCS B Team Tennis

ATHLETIC PARTICIPANTS BY SPORT AND TEAM FOR 2011-12:

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 which has **increased district-wide by 20.2%** since 2005-06 with no increase in AD time (although we have added a much-appreciated indispensable AD clerical assistant.)

	2011-12										
	Fall	Winter	Spring		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Tam	355	111	432		762	780	682	780	812	862	898
Drake	304	108	328		640	673	706	748	750	715	740
Redwood	386	160	439		780	748	829	889	962	962	985
	1045	379	1199								
	1045	379	1199		2182	2201	2217	2417	2524	2539	2623

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 $\pm 80\%$ of the number of total team members.