

Activities Director Report- Frank Bartsch

6/22/26

The softball season came to a conclusion in the first round of the playoffs. Despite a promising start, the girls faded at the end of the season and lost their last 6 games. Coach Wallaker and I discussed a plan for next year during her performance review process that will address missed or shortened JV opportunities/games, player conduct, the rigor of practices, and coach/youth level involvement going forward. I have an accountability plan for the coach to follow and we will implement it at the start of practice next March.

The JH boys baseball team wrapped up their season on May 22nd in Hermantown. There was growth (physical and mental) from this group and next year the plan is for the 9th grade group to play varsity baseball (a few older students will play too). I am hoping we can also have a JH team comprised of 6th, 7th and 8th graders next season. I polled students at the end of the school year and we should have 11 or 12 at the JH level and similar numbers at varsity. I have not heard of the baseball coaches following through on any summer baseball opportunities I forwarded them this spring.

Our golf girls played in three meets this season and also played multiple rounds at our home course. The boys were able to play in our home meet. Per Coach Adam, everything went well this season and he saw a lot of improvement from the student-athletes. He continued to express that the other schools were very appreciative of the opportunity to play our course. Adam and I have had a discussion about a need for increased numbers in the golf program. He is actively recruiting and the possibility of a cooperative with Cromwell may still be an option going forward.

Cromwell has given us days and times their gyms will be open this summer if our basketball and volleyball teams would like to use them. I forwarded those days/times on to the coaches to check interest. It sounds like boys' basketball is going to pick a day.

I am still in the process of moving all of our 2026-2027 schedules to BOUND. A lot of other schools are still coming on board just this summer, so all of the contracts that need to be sent probably won't be finalized until mid-July. I forwarded the volleyball schedule on to Coach Lora and it is all entered into BOUND. I have a conference call the week of June 22nd to find out how to take the platform active and link it to our website. The system works pretty well and I am interested to see the finished product and the view that the community will see when finished.

We have 8 boys committed to playing football next year in the cooperative with Cromwell (five freshmen, two juniors and a senior) and we had an organizational meeting on Thursday, May 14th with Coach Gronner. He discussed plans for fall practice and provided the players with a calendar of events (practices, lift days, and 7 on 7 scrimmages) happening this summer during the waiver period.

That is it for now. If you see any issues that need to be brought to my attention or have topics you would like me to include in my monthly reports, please let me know via email at fbartsch@isd698.org or phone at 218.269.9207. The same goes for any questions you may have.

Go Bears!

Thank you.

Frank Bartsch