

Budget Reductions Impact on Interscholastic Athletics

Board of Education Meeting

April 13, 2009

Reduction of Modified second teams.

Impact:

- Savings \$24,000 plus trans savings.
- Impact on Middle School.
- We will still have one team per sport.
- Will result in player cuts from most middle school teams.

Game Plan

- Work with Rye Brook Recreation to fill voids.
- Develop a stronger intra-mural program
- Maintain the spirit and intent of the Blind Brook interscholastic athletics program.

Elimination of Athletic Trainer

- Net savings of approximately \$32,000.
- Coaches become first responders.
- Coaches attention diverted while attending to injured athletes.
- Loss of a trained professional who is trained in the assessment of athletic injury.
- Loss of a trained professional who provides guidance pertaining to rehabilitation daily.

Game Plan

- Coaches instructed to err on side of caution.
- Fitness Center will still be open daily.
- Goal to seek an individual with expertise in physical training.

Reduction of Per Pupil Cap from \$2000 to \$750

- Will generate increased revenue.
- Will impact all merged sports, may impact other sports.
- Will need to develop a system for the collection of funds.
- Need a plan for families seeking relief (hardships).

Game Plan

- Individual teams may request fund raising opportunities.
- Confidential Scholarship program with clear and confidential protocols in place.

Elimination of Midnight Madness and Homecoming

- Savings of \$6,500.
- Minimal expense for Midnight Madness.
- Homecoming big expense – lights.
- Elimination of two primary traditions.
- Appeal extends beyond the student body.

Game Plan

- Brainstorm ways to seek outside funding.
- Donations, admission at athletic events.
- Create a Blind Brook Athletic Booster Club.

Booster Clubs

- The time is right – Clearly a need for a fund raising group.
- Recommendation for an Athletic Booster Club not sport by sport.
- Fosters sense of community, school spirit, brings all athletic programs under one umbrella.
- “Silver Lining” of tough economic times?
- Do not reinvent the wheel.