

TO: Supt. Dr. Tom Mahoney & Board of Education FROM: Mr. Michael Lawton, Athletic Director RE: Sixth grade track participation 2022-23

Please consider this correspondence as a recommendation to allow OCUSD #220 sixth grade students the opportunity to participate in our middle school track & field program beginning with the Spring 2023 season.

This recommendation is based on the following:

- Exposure to the sport of track and field at an earlier age will allow these athletes an opportunity to learn basic skills and techniques for an additional season prior to high school
- As district enrollment has dropped, current level of coaching staff can effectively coach and supervise the additional amount of sixth grade athletes
- With jr. high track practice now being in Oregon, proximity of sixth grade to the practice facility is no longer an issue
- All other schools in our jr. high conference currently allow sixth grade participation in track & field.

Thank you for your consideration.

