



## **June 2021 Board Report**

### **Athletic Action Plan Summary for 2020-21**

In the summer of 2019, a diverse group of people including OCUSD coaches, parents, community members, teachers, student-athletes and alumni came together with a consultant from an organization called Proactive Coaching to help the district devise an athletic action plan for the coming decade. Many aspects of this plan began to be carried out during the 2019-20 school year but came to a halt when the pandemic hit in March of 2020.

Even with the restrictions on athletics during the most recently completed 2020-21 school year, we were able to implement and carry on with many aspects of the plan. Highlights include:

- Sharing with families and abiding by our district philosophy on athletics that was approved and adopted in the Fall of 2019
- Sharing with families and athletes as well as continuing to publicize the five Hawk Core Values of Accountable, Coachable, Selfless, Integrity, and Physical/Mental Toughness. Many of our programs have adapted these as the “awards” that they now honor at the end of their seasons – replacing more traditional awards like “MVP” or “Most Improved.”
- Publication and distribution of Parent Guides at each pre-season parent/athlete team meeting
- Increased communication and cooperation with feeder programs at the Oregon Park District including camps run and coordinated by OHS coaches
- Expanded use of social media to highlight athletic accomplishments including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the new GoGipper platform that allows enhance graphics for our social media accounts.
- A combined college letter-of-intent signing day held in May to honor the 11 OHS senior athletes that are going on to play sports in college. This event was covered by several Rockford television stations
- Completion of Skills Guides by OHS coaches for use by feeder programs
- A professional development event for all OCUSD coaches coordinated by ProActive Coaching. The organization also worked with 40 of our students athletes at school in a morning event.
- A district wide coaches Zoom event where all coaches shared ideas and concerns with each other when sports resumed in February

With restrictions easing for next year, we anticipate being able to continue these efforts and add back others, including Youth Nights at OHS Games as well as OHS athletes working with P.E. classes at Oregon Elementary School.

### **Big Northern All Conference Honors:**

Baseball - Breccan Berns, Nico Guiffre (Hon, Mention)

Girls Soccer - Leah Watters (first team), Alyssa Mowry (second team), Aubrey Point & Hadley Lutz (hon. mention)

Softball - Bella Koertner, Liz Mois, Mia Trampel (first team), Reilee Suter, Jessie Suter, Lena Trampel (second team), Ella Martin & Ava Hackman (hon. mention)

Wrestling and track were not announced yet as of printing of this report

### **Spring Sports Update**

Softball – The OHS softball team had a record setting season winning 24 games and advancing to the Sectional Final as part of the Class 2A “Sweet Sixteen”. The season ended with a 3-0 loss to Riverdale before a large crowd at Park West on June 10.

Baseball - The varsity team struggled to a 2-15 record. With our small roster and the IHSA pitch count rules, this created difficulties.

Girls Soccer – The OHS girls ended the year with a final record of 5-11-1 but caught fire near the end of the season advancing all the way to the Sectional semi-finals before falling to Rfd. Christian.

Girls Track – OHS has it’s second ever girls track state champion with Brenna Noon throwing the shot put 40’4 inches to win the Class 1A title. Also at state, Jenae Bothe finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the discus and 9<sup>th</sup> in the shot put. Lydia Cermak finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the long jump. As a team, the girls went undefeated in all meets until a third place finish at the 1A Sectional at Winnebago.

Boys Track – As a team, the boys took first place in six of the nine regular season meets they participated in. At the 1A Sectional on June 11, OHS finished in third place overall and qualified three individuals for the state meet – Daniel Dominguez (shot/disc), Ryan Hussung (800m), Riley Benton (pole vault).

Wrestling – The OHS wrestlers finished in second place in the Big Northern Conference, falling only to Dixon in conference meets. Overall, the team finished with a fine record of 17-5 in regular meets. There is no official IHSA post-season this summer but the Illinois Wrestling Coaches Association is conducting an “unofficial” state series in mid-June that numerous OHS wrestlers will be participating in.

### **Dual Sport Option**

For the first time in several decades, OHS offered spring athletes an opportunity to compete in dual sports during the same season. With wrestling being moved to the late spring/early summer as well as enrollment numbers declining, and the unique circumstances of the year due to Covid, our spring coaches decided it was a good opportunity to “pilot” this idea. Interested athletes had to declare a “primary” sport and a “secondary” sport if they wanted to try dual participation as well as requiring parent permission. Seventeen athletes filled out the required paperwork to attempt dual sports. We will review the outcomes at a later date to decide if this will be continued in the future – either as is or with slight adjustments.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mike Lawton*

