



GPPSS Winter Athletic Parent Survey Summary

May 2014

After each athletic season, the district refreshes an online survey instrument. While individual responses remain anonymous, a summary is released. Data is studied by the administration and used to inform future decisions, enhancing the quality of programming offered to our student athletes. Here is the summary of the data gathered after the 2013/14 winter sports season.

Demographics

Overall, parent participation was light, but this could have been impacted by the number of other GPPSS surveys distributed this spring (including but not limited to the Technology Survey, South Principal Search, Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey, IEP parent survey). Last year we had 138 respondents. Of the 78 parent respondents this time, 62% were from North, 22% from South, 9% from Pierce, 4% from Brownell, and 3% from Parcels. Please note, we have approximately 600 athletes participate each season, so this sampling represents over 10%. Over half (59%) had varsity level athletes, 17% JV, 11 Freshman, and 13% middle school athletes. The most frequently played sports included: basketball (32%), ice hockey (15%), swimming/diving (11%), and cross country (8%), but 16 different sports were listed overall. Regarding their student athlete's gender, 64% of respondents had male athletes, 36% female. Regarding grade level of the student athlete, 33% were in 10th grade, 21% in 11th, 20% in 9th, 12% in 12th, 5% in 7th, 4% in 8th and 6th grades.

Feedback

When asked to respond to these statements, this is the percentage that agreed or strongly agreed with each statement. During this season, participation in this sport by my student athlete:

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|---|-------------------------------|
| - Improved their physical condition | 77% agreed or strongly agreed |
| - Increased my student athlete's confidence | 72% |
| - Increased their self-image | 70% |
| - Enhanced their ability to get along with others | 80% |

However, 15% (remember that of the respondents, that represents 11 parents) disagreed or strongly disagreed with the self-image statement. Those who marked that were asked to comment and the most frequent responses included lack of skill development, negative environment, and need for more coordinated work-outs/conditioning.

When asked about appropriate decisions in these areas, these are the percentages that agreed or strongly agreed their student athlete made good decisions:

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| - In school regarding academic work | 95% |
| - At home with family | 99% |
| - In social settings with friends | 97% |
| - In social settings regarding healthy choices | 94% |

There were eight (8) unique answers for those who marked disagree or strongly disagree ranging from a critique of the survey instrument timing to "kid's don't always make the best choices in eating habits ... but then again, (they're) teenagers."

When asked about study habits, grades, interactions with teachers, relationship with family, interaction with friends, eating habits, sleeping patterns and overall time management during this sport season, the most common response by at least a 2:1 margin for every category was "stayed the same." The most

common comments from those who marked they were negatively impacted included: time consumed by sport, not enough sleep (work load, worry, and practice timing), and practices during exams.

Regarding how participation in the sport impacted these character traits, for Honesty and Integrity, Citizenship, Respect and Kindness, Responsibility and Accountability, and Work Ethic, the most common response was “remained the same” by a 2:1 margin over the next most frequent response. However, when asked about “Positive Attitude” 22% responded their student athlete was negatively impacted, (26% stayed the same, 34% impacted some, 18% impacted significantly). The most frequent comments were about a negative environment or lack of team environment, inequity in treatment, and outmatched by competition.

When asked about playing and participation time, 81% agreed or strongly agreed it was fair when equated with their student athlete’s effort, and 83% said it was fair equated to their ability. Almost two-thirds (64%) said their student had a satisfying experience in the sport this season overall.

Coaching

When asked about the coach(es) this season, this is the percentage who agreed or strongly agreed the coach provided:

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| - Encouragement to perform at his/her best academically | 77% |
| - Encouragement to perform at his/her best athletically | 69% |
| - Technical knowledge and training to perform at their best | 57% |
| - Specific explanations about safety in practice/competition | 86% |
| - Clear expectations for compliance with school rules | 81% |
| - Clear expectations for compliance with team rules | 72% |
| - Opportunities for honest communication | 64% |
| - Frequent examples of proper adult behavior | 65% |

Of the 37 comments in this section, the most frequent were a lack of technical training, lack of positive reinforcement, and not articulating or consistently applying team rules.

Logistics

Regarding bus transportation, 88% were satisfied or very satisfied. In regard to pay-for-participation, 88% agreed or strongly agreed it did not create a financial hardship for their family. In regard to fundraising, 67% agreed or strongly agreed it did not create a financial hardship for their family. Ninety percent (90%) said the team was provided with the proper facilities and 86% said the team was provided with the proper equipment. Most comments in this area dealt with uniforms, socks, warm-ups, and purchasing and fundraising being coordinated by the district not the team/coach. Scheduling and specific gym suggestions (such as a slippery Brownell gym floor) are being addressed individually.

We thank parents and student athletes for their input as we seek for continuous improvement in the programs we provide.