

9-12 Athletic Reconfiguration

Frequently Asked Questions

Why was the decision made to reconfigure ninth grade athletics and place them as part of the high school interscholastic sport programs?

- Perceived inconsistencies in offerings and alignment with the league and state programs
- Conflicts of schedules
- Equity in opportunities provided for all students

Who made the decision?

- The PSD School Board unanimously agreed on March 25, 2013 (with a recommendation from Superintendent Tim Yeomans) to spend the next year developing a plan that will give ninth graders an opportunity to compete at the highest level.

When will the change go into effect?

- In August of the 2014-15 school year

How will ninth graders get to the high schools?

- The School Board may choose to consider the following options:
 - No transportation provided (Current Status Quo)
 - JHs within 1 mile radius of HS not transported
 - All seven JHs receive shuttle service daily for 9th grade athletes.
 - Change JH and HS bell schedules to allow JH dismissal 10 min before HS... then busses pick up JH and before going to the High Schools.

Will any ninth grade programs exist at the junior highs?

- Intramural opportunities were discussed by the Task Force for *Junior High Basketball* and *Junior High Volleyball*. These programs would be intended to serve those students in the 9th grade who are not participating in a high school program.

Is there an opportunity for public questions and input?

- Dates and times have been identified for public forums that will highlight progress made to date, explain a vision for completion of the work, and provide a time for public comment. Those dates and times are:
 - October 28 @ Puyallup HS **Commons** 6:30-8:30 PM
 - October 29 @ Emerald Ridge HS **Auditorium** 6:30-8:30 PM
 - October 30 @ Rogers HS **Commons** 6:30-8:30 PM
 - March 3 @ Rogers HS 6:30-8:30 PM (Room TBD)
 - March 4 @ Puyallup HS 6:30-8:30 PM (Room TBD)
 - March 5 @ Emerald Ridge HS 6:30-8:30 PM (Room TBD)

What will happen to the 7th and 8th grade programs?

- In the current Task Force implementation plan 8th grade programs would become the new "varsity" at each Jr High and the 7th grade teams would become the new junior varsity program. The current 7th grade jamboree and low profile participation philosophy would be changed to a more traditional JV competitive program.

Will high school C-Teams consist of 9th grade only?

NO. HS C-teams are considered developmental programs and may sometimes include 10th & 11th graders

What programs will offer C-Team opportunities?

C-Team" opportunities would be added at each high school added in Football, B&G Soccer, B&G Basketball, and Volleyball. Baseball and Fastpitch will be reviewed after the conclusion of tryouts during the 2015 season.

More information?

- For more information contact: Rick Wells PSD Director of Athletics – Wellsjr@puyallup.k12.wa.us