## Athletes and Parents,

The Winter season is fast approaching. Winter registration closes November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Winter tryouts begin Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. This year, we will be back to the same format as years past. The only difference will be that <u>ALL players</u>, fans, coaches and referees will be masked. At this point there will not be any other restrictions. <u>Once you are in the building you will need to be masked</u>.

The Varsity and JV basketball teams will begin practicing on Monday (11/29). The schedule will be up next week. The middle school basketball teams will begin on Tuesday (11/30). Middle school practices run from 2:30 – 3:30 after school. Most likely, the first week, the MS boys will go two days, and the MS girls will go the other two, giving each team access to the entire gym while coaches make the decision as to who will be on the final roster. Once again, that schedule will be finalized next week. Depending on numbers, the entire cheer squad, middle school and varsity, will begin cheering on Monday (11/29). As with the other sports, the schedule will be posted next week. For information regarding ice hockey, please refer to the Hudson athletic website.

## \*IMPORTANT NOTE

Please check to make sure that your physical is up to date. There are a bunch of student athletes that have registered that are not eligible to start the Winter season because their physical is either expired or, being new to Tahanto sports, they have yet to be entered into the database.

PLEASE MAKE A POINT OF CHECKING WITH THE SCHOOL NURSE, Courtney Lamb (clamb@bbrsd.org)
TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE A VALID PHYSICAL ON FILE IN THE TAHANTO ATHLETIC DATABASE.

With the switch to a new nurse at the beginning of the year, the database with the physicals had quite a few issues. However, Ms Sequeira came back for the past couple of weeks and cleaned it up. I will be sending out emails in the coming days of the students who are not in the database, or who are showing an expired physical. If you receive one of these emails, kindly email a copy of the updated physical to Ms Lamb, or make an appointment for your son/daughter's physical. Just to be clear, if your son/daughter does not have an active physical in the Tahanto database, they are not eligible to participate in athletics until it is updated.

## Lastly...

In order to gain a better understanding of actions, language and behavior which can be interpreted as discriminatory in nature and to confirm their commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, all student athletes, coaches and athletic directors must take the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) free online course entitled *Implicit Bias* and take the *MIAA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Pledge*. School administrators (coaches and athletic directors) must take the course and pledge every school year, prior to the start of the academic year. Student-athletes must take the course and pledge every year as well, and they must do so prior to the start of their athletic season.

Copies of the pledge will be at each team's first practice.

Matt Porcaro

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