

Blazers Boys Basketball

October 31, 2011

Dear Parents:

Excitement and high expectations after last year's state tournament experience is in the air. Basketball season is right around the corner and your son has signed up to play. We would like you to read some preseason information.

We need to have all the players have their **Athletic codes signed, Bellin Health Center cards filled out (front and back), and fees paid before the first day of practice.** All forms and fees are due **Friday, November 11, 2011.** If they played soccer, football or ran cross country all they will need to do is get their **fee** in. The first day of practice is **November 14** (please see practice schedule on the website). If there are any parents that would like to bring breakfast in for the varsity players before school on two-a-day week let me know.

Some of the athletes will also have additional items to purchase. New players need to **buy a practice jersey** that is maroon/white reversible. These shirts are **\$25** or the athlete can purchase them from past players.

We are once again going to try to fund raise to help offset some costs. The boys will be doing a Free Throw-a-thon. Your son will have pledge sheets in the near future. If anyone has other ideas I would be interested.

Please read the **Parent-Coach Communication** letter located on the website. Our philosophy is to have all freshmen play in all of the games, JV's to play in most of the games and at the varsity level we are trying to win every game. I would like to emphasize that all players are members of the team. If you are scoring 20 points a game or sitting on the bench, calling out screens or giving encouragement. All of these players are considered team members. We win as a team and we lose as a team. Please if you have a question or concern for the coach of your program please deal with him directly as much as possible. But please call to set up a meeting; don't confront a coach with a concern, before/after practice or before/after a game. Another coach will sit in with you on your talk.

We expect the players to be at all the practices. If a player misses a practice or a game for an "unexcused" reason (family vacations, dentist appointments, hunting or others) we will expect them to miss a game for each practice or game they have missed. We understand that these items are important to the family but your son has also given a commitment to be a part of his team, and with that comes responsibilities, please don't let him neglect those. Please help him out by not scheduling appointments or vacations during this time. As I always say "You only have 1 chance to play high school basketball."

Assistant coaches this year will be: JV coach **Matt Zeitler**, freshmen coach **Mike Stock**, and we are working on a few others to help out.

There has been a lot of information in this letter and I may not have covered all of your questions, feel free to give me a call at school 469-6810 or at home 406-8738. We need your support through this season for it to be a success. Go Blazers!

God's blessings,

Mark W. Meerstein

Mark Meerstein
Head Varsity Basketball Coach

1 Corinthians 12:12—"The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many they form one body. So it is with Christ."
WE ARE ONE BODY!