

Decision Item #16: ELIMINATE THE JUNIOR VARSITY TEAMS FORMED AS A RESULT OF “NO CUT” FRESHMEN OVERRUN

Option A: Eliminate additional JV teams

Option B: Increase athletic fees charged to freshmen and sophomores

Background: The District implemented a “no cut” freshmen policy more than 20 years ago to provide freshmen an opportunity to gain experience in athletics before roster limitations were enforced. As a result, an artificial need for additional junior varsity teams was satisfied by creating additional JV teams, though students have had an opportunity to explore athletics at the middle school and freshmen levels.

While eliminating the “no cut” freshmen rule and subsequently eliminating excess freshmen and JV teams was considered in the past, fees charged to seniors and juniors was raised \$20 to help fund the program rather than eliminate it.

Expenditures: The District currently spends approximately \$13,200 to add additional JV teams.

Salaries & Fringe	\$ 7,500
Officiating	\$ 1,700
Transportation	\$ 4,000
Total Expenditures	\$13,200

Revenues: The revenue generated by participating athletes whose roster spots would be eliminated with the abolishment of the additional JV teams is approximately \$2,400. The District charges \$60 per sophomore, per sport to participate. Should additional JV teams be eliminated, approximately 40 athletes would not participate in athletics, decreasing fees by approximately \$2,400. This figure assumes that athletes cut when trying out for an initial sport would not join another team.

FTE: 0.

Anticipated Savings: **Option A:** \$10,800 could be saved if the additional JV teams were eliminated.

Option B: Raising athletic fees for sophomores to \$70 per student and junior fees to \$85 per student would raise athletic revenue by approximately \$14,000, covering the costs of additional JV teams.

Student Impact: **Option A:** 40 Athletes would be impacted annually, a \$260 net cost per student.

Option B: Availability of athletics would not be reduced, however, the accessibility to students may be hampered as some students may not have the capacity to afford the increased fees. Also, facilities will continue to be overtaxed.

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Strategic Priorities: While we have not analyzed the direct impact athletic participation has on attendance, District sources cited research supporting participation in extracurricular activities, specifically athletics, increases impacted students' school attendance.

Effectiveness: While the additional JV teams were created as a spill over of the “no cut” freshmen rule, upon arrival at the JV level athletes have had the opportunity to participate in athletics at the middle school level and perhaps at the freshmen level. The additional JV teams have increased the cost of providing athletics by increasing coaching, transportation and officiating costs at the JV level and overtaxed practice facilities.

Redundancies or Availability of the

Service Elsewhere: Students not participating in the athletic activity of their choice have to opportunity to pursue other athletic activities or participate in other, non-athletic extracurricular activities.

Service Delivery: As an alternative to eliminating the additional JV teams, the District could significantly raise athletic fees for all participants.