



Broken Bow School Board Report
State of Activities Department
Submitted by Ryan Hogue, Activities Director
April 19, 2010

Good evening,

I would first like to start out by saying how proud I am to belong to a community and school system that supports their students as much as Broken Bow. The Educational, Activity, and personal achievements that our students accomplish year in and year out is second to no one. The school is very fortunate to have a community that supports all of the educational and activity needs that our students must have to succeed in and out of the classroom.

Second, I am giving this report tonight in hope that we can support and finance some of the suggested improvements/ updates that I will be reporting on this evening before the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year.

1. Facilities

- The facilities at Broken Bow Middle School/ High School have been maintained very well by the maintenance department as well as school employees over this past school year. Although some improvements or replacements need to be made during the summer or in the early Fall of the 2010-2011 school year, our facilities are capable of hosting many different levels of competitions and or events.

- **Track/ Press Box**

The track is in Good shape. The runways for the pole vault and long/ triple jump surfaces wear down more than they should, but patching material sent from the original contractor has allowed our maintenance staff to patch when necessary. This is not a long term solution to this problem. Mr. Shea and I are in communication with each other with this concern and are in the process of addressing this problem with the contractor the school district hired to resurface our track. Another minor issue with the track is that when the company painted the lines, they left out or were not asked to paint alley lanes on the southwest corner of the track. Starters must sometimes chalk the alley's so athletes know where to stand before the start. Again, this is a minor issue, but something that needs to be addressed before next spring.

The top level of the press box is very useful when it comes to housing coaches, video personnel, and radio broadcasting for our home team. The problem arises when we have multiple personnel during football or track seasons traveling up and down the winding metal stair case. The steps are very close together and do not allow much room for solid footing. (Especially when it is raining) The Athletic Department would recommend that we start to make plans to redesign and build a new staircase for the press box. The school district could build or contract out the construction of a new staircase from the north end of the press box up towards the south rising above the East end of the concession stand. This would be a standard elevating staircase with no circular steps. Further, the second level of the press box is space we could be utilizing for visiting team's coaches, filmers, and or broadcasting stations. This would also help with hosting track meets at the larger scale. We would have to cut a section out of the East end of the press box, place windows, construct room dividers and counter tops.

- **Auditorium**

During the past two years, I have attended many fine arts programs, sporting events, and activities held in the Broken Bow Middle School Auditorium. In 2008-2009 school year the auditorium received a new sound system, additional steps, lighting, and hand rails on the upper balcony which helped with safety. The sound system was a much needed upgrade last year as well and has been used not only for concerts and programs, but for assemblies and board forums.

- **Locker room facilities**

High School—we are in need of updating our locker room facilities; having the boys and girls' locker rooms located below ground and in the middle of the building causes problems with ventilation. The lack of ventilation and the number of students using the locker rooms causes an unhealthy climate for our physical education students, visiting team's athletes, and Broken Bow athletes. Ideally, building a new addition south of the gymnasium would fit this cause the best. I highly recommend that we look at improving the ventilation system in the girls and boys high school locker rooms and or building on to the south of the High School Gymnasium. The original exhaust fans that were installed when the high school was built are not ventilating the locker rooms at a reasonable level.

The lockers that are in the boy's locker room need to be replaced. Some of the doors to these lockers are either kicked in, bent, or do not have a door on them. During the fall, we house about 70-80 athletes between cross country and football, not including non-fall athlete physical education students. The available space available in the boy's locker room can cause problems when we host LVC Basketball, District Volleyball and District Basketball as well.

The final update or improvement in the boy's locker room that the Athletic Department would like to recommend is for the coach's office in the boy's locker room be renovated before next school year. Officials and Broken Bow coaches use this room everyday to meet, change, or shower before/ following practices and games.

Middle School—Our locker rooms in the middle school are used by our Middle School Girls and Visiting teams. These locker rooms do not meet the needs of our athletes and/or visiting teams that arrive with 25-30 adult students to compete in our facilities. Visiting locker rooms could be moved to the High School if we were to add additional locker rooms south of the High School Gymnasium.

Activities Building—Our locker rooms in the activity building desperately need a cure for the odors that exist in that facility. Again with the help of exhaust fans or fresh air vents we could possibly maintain a healthier atmosphere.

Reasons to Update/ Renovate, or Replace Locker rooms

Lack of adequate ventilation

Lack of space including a place to meet to prepare the team for contests

Lack of adequate training facilities to support men and women

Lack of lockers and locker room space

Difficult accessibility (Handicap Assessable)

Difficulties in Hosting District and Conference Competitions

Difficulties in Hosting contests in general—Middle School locker rooms are not adequate for number of athletes.

Inadequate coaches offices and dressing/ shower rooms

Little or no areas for officials to use for dressing rooms and showers
Lack of Rest Room Facilities

- **Mark Russell Field Complex**

The Mark Russell Field Complex has had some significant improvements made to it from June to August of 2009. First, the purchasing and erecting of the new track and football lights at Mark Russell Field Complex made a significant improvement to the lighting on the football field, track, and bleachers. With this improvement, our lights are some of the best lighting you will find when compared to our conference or district competition.

Second, the purchasing of a new sound system was a much needed renovation at the Mark Russell Field Complex as well. The “old” sound system was very much out-dated and was needing replaced to effectively announce football ball games, track meets, or band, cheerleading, and flag corp half time performances.

Both of these projects were primarily funded by private funding/ sponsorships or in-kind donations. In the end, only \$15,000 of the approximate \$132,000 Mark Russell Field Complex Renovation Project was tax-payers money that was paid by through the school building fund.

The concessions area, restrooms, and press box are all top notch but we could benefit from an improvement in the quality of viewing for our students, parents, and fans during home football contests. When the new track was developed we failed to plan for the viewing of football games. A possible cure would be moving the fence and cement pad forward towards the track and then purchasing new bleachers with handrails for those needing assistance. This would not only help the viewing but also help with traffic along the fence between the stands and the track. Having the first row of seats 4 feet higher would allow for traffic to move along the fence without interfering with fans sitting in the stands.

2. Overall Climate of our Gymnasiums

High School—our high school gymnasium is a nice facility that is well maintained and is a good place to watch a home contest. Mr. Shea and I would like to recommend that we replace the lighting this summer in the gym to enhance the lighting for contests, graduations and performances in the gymnasium. Another improvement that the Athletic Department would recommend is that the school would sand down and repaint the main floor in the near future. As the years pass by, wax build up can discolor the floor paint and make the floor look darker than it is suppose too. Further, some of the floor paint on the floor has either worn away or has been chipped away due to regular year to year maintenance.

Heating and Cooling = We need to look at ways of improving the heating and cooling of the facility: There needs to be some way that we can bring in more of the outside air to try and help with this problem or invest in an air conditioning system.

The renovations that were completed to the High School Gymnasium during the months of July and August were much needed as well. With the help of some community corporate sponsors and a grant from BNSF, new LED wireless scoreboards, basketball backboards/ buzzer lights, and winches for the main and side baskets were installed improving our main host gymnasium substantially. Our HS Gymnasium is used consistently by not only by our activities or programs, but it is also used by area school conference tournaments and also NSAA District Contests. The improvement made to our gymnasium is one of few in the state of Nebraska at the High School as well as College level. Many people have called complimenting on the new

renovations as well as inquired as to how we pulled off such a project without the use of school funds. Overall, the High School Gymnasium Renovation Project was approximately \$55,000.

Middle School Gymnasium/ Auditorium – The climate in the middle school gym is at best “Average” for Fine Arts, Athletic practices and or competitions. Even though we try not to host athletic contests in the Middle School gym, at times we have no choice when our 7th and 8th grade teams are playing at the same time or we have multiple levels competing. The stage and low ceilings can affect a player’s depth perception as well as create an environment not suitable for competitive play. Further, spectators watching these contests do not receive a full view of the playing court when attending these contests. In addition, Play Production has a difficult time setting up, storing stage sets, or practicing in the Middle School auditorium.

Weight Room/ Wrestling Deck—continues to be one of the best in the conference and possibly the district. Yearly improvements with the purchase of new weight equipment will continue to be a great asset to our athletic teams and participants. The weight room also serves as a training tool for our local Fire and Police departments. The weight room will be available for our students to work out throughout the summer starting June 2nd through July 23, 4-days a week from 6:00-8:00 A.M. and from 5:00-7:00 P.M.

The Wrestling Deck has also received some up-dates and improvements through the last year and a half. Ropes and clamps were installed last year to help with the training of our wrestling team. This past fall, with the help of the Athletic Improvement Funds, new record and state qualifying boards were purchased and placed on the north wall of the wrestling deck. Further, over this past Christmas Break, our Maintenance Department added storage units for our competition mats on top of the East Weight Room Stairs as well as installed a divider wall and individual storage cabinets at the top of the stairs. Mr. Foster and the Broken Bow High School industrial tech students constructed the mini storage units in class. With these improvements, our wrestlers and coaching staff can train more effectively and efficiently with the limited space that the deck offers.

Activities Building – It is amazing how much this building gets used during the school year and into the summer vacation months. From Middle School to High School activities, to public use or art shows, this building is rented or reserved for many events/ functions throughout the school year. The Weight room is used a lot by the public and serves the public in a positive manner for healthier life styles. Volleyball and Basketball Town Leagues also use the Activities Building to play their league games or tournaments. During this time, they require the use of our scoreboards, backboards, and volleyball nets and standards. The basketball backboards are needed updated and new volleyball nets were purchased last fall. The scoreboard in the Activities Building could also be updated in the near future. The scoreboard that the school purchased a few years back for the Middle School Gymnasium would be a sufficient replacement. Sufficient funds exist to maintain, replace or purchase these necessity items that are located in the Activities Building.

3. Overall Participation

Our participation numbers for 2009-2010 show that 82% of the students enrolled in Broken Bow Public Schools participate in at least one activity throughout the year. As you will see below, student participation in each activity or group is given.

Participation

Band: 85 member 9-12th grade, 26 members in 8th grade, 30 members in 7th grade
Choir: 46 members 9-12th grade
Journalism: 30 students 10-12th grade
Flags: 8 participants
SODA—104 members
BBMS Student Council—12 members
YOADA: 17 participants
Cheerleading: 8 participants
High School Quiz Bowl: 8 participants Jr. High Quiz Bowl: 30 participants
FFA: 65 Active Members
Tri-M: 33 Active Members
Renaissance: 16 members
Student Council: 29 members
Art Club: 44 members

Fall

Football: 54 players 8th: 21 players 7th: 13 players
Volleyball: 23 players 8th: 13 players 7th: 20 players
Cross Country: 17 Boys & 7 Girls
Girls Golf: 7 golfers 9-12th grade
One Act: 17 participants 9-12th grade

Winter

Speech: 35 participants 9-12th grade
Boys Basketball: 28 players 8th: 17 players 7th: 17 players
Girls Basketball: 19 players 8th: 8 players 7th: 19 players
Wrestling: 16 Wrestlers in 9-12th Grade 20 Wrestlers in 7/8 Grade

Spring

Boys Golf: 14 golfers in 9-12th grade
Boys Track: 41 participants 9-12th grade
Girls Track: 21 participants 9-12th grade

4. Outside Groups - Facility Use

Listed below is use of Broken Bow facilities from June 2009 to May 2010.

Mid-Plains Community College night classes at Broken Bow Schools
Spring Semester, 2010

- Sculpture, Art Room - 8 adults, 5 from out of town - 9 Monday evenings
- Camera, Room 302 - 15 adults, 7 from out of town - 6 Monday evenings
- Anatomy, Room 417- 6 adults from out of town - 14 Monday evenings
- Woodworking, Room 421, 6 adults, 1 from out of town - 12 Tuesday evenings
- Civil War, Media Center, 10 adults, 4 from out of town - 3 Tuesday evenings
- Psychology, Room 302, 10 HS students, 14 Tuesday evenings
- Computer I, Room 403, 7 adults, 4 from out of town - 3 Tuesday afternoons
- Computer II, Room 403, 9 adults, 5 from out of town - 3 Tuesday afternoons
- Country Dance, N-Park, 22 adults, 10 from out town - 5 Sunday evenings
- Bob Ross Painting, Art Room - 9 adults, 5 from out of town - one Saturday
- Nursing classes, dedicated Room, 3 adults from out of town, 4 days per week

TOTAL 105 adults - 78 sessions held

Activities Building

Elks Hoop Shoot-1, Knight of Columbus Hoop Shoot-1, Optimist Volleyball Practice-17, Optimist Volleyball Games-4, Optimist Basketball Practice-17, Optimist Basketball Games-4, Optimist Basketball Tournament-1, Travel Basketball Teams-26, Junior Wrestling-14, Cub Scouts-1, Town Team Volleyball-9, Town Team Basketball-13, Volleyball League Games and Practices -9, Miss/ Mr. Basketball Tourney – 2 Days, LVC Art Show, Club Volleyball-5, Co-Ed Volleyball – 1, 5th Grade Parent Meeting – 1, Country Creations – 1, 6th Grade Basketball – 12, Secret Garden – 1, Fire & Police Department – Unlimited Weight Room Use Throughout the Year, AAU Tumbling Competition – 2, Church Group – 1, Men’s League Basketball Tourney – 1, Fit Kids – June 13-July 8th in the mornings, Broken Bow Fire Department Training - 1.

Middle School Gym

Optimist Volleyball Practice-13, Optimist Basketball Practice-13, Optimist Basketball Games-4, Optimist Basketball Tournament-1, Travel Basketball Teams-14, Hospice Concert-1, Custer Count Friends of the Arts Concert-1, Miss/ Mr. Basketball Tourney – 2 Days, Town Team Volleyball Tournament – 1, DARE Graduation – 1, Pre-School Graduation – 1, “Old Time” Radio Program and Practices – 5, PTA – 1.

Track

High School Track Meets- 3, (Custer County Invite/ Bow Invite/ Bow 9/10 Invite) Jr. High Track Meets-2 (Quad/ Bow Invite), Anselmo Merna Quad – 1, LVC Track Meet – 1, 6th Grade Track Meet-1, Elementary track meet-2, Community (Joggers and Walkers)-daily.

High School Gym

Saturday Morning Optimist Basketball – 8, Optimist Basketball Tournament-1, Kids Fair-1. Just For Kix-1, LVC Basketball Tournament – 2 Days, District Volleyball – 2 Days, District

Basketball (Girls/ Boys) – 6 Days, Senior Tea – 1, Miss/ Mr. Basketball Tourney – 2 Days, Elks Hoop Shoot – 1, CC Early Childhood Committee – 1, Nebraska State 4-H Shooting Sports – 2.

Media Center

Fall/ Winter Officials Testing-2, ACT Testing - 2

Football Field

Punt, Pass, and Kick-1

Custer Elementary Gym

Jazzercise – Monday’s – Tuesday’s – Thursday’s - Winter/ Spring, 4th & 5th Grade Traveling Team – 4, Graduation – 1, Meetings – (Several).

North Park Elementary Gym

Approximately 20 Misc. Dates Used.

High School Classrooms

Mid-Plains Community College.

5. Transportation

The need for a new Activity Bus is upon us. Discussing transportation concerns/ issues with Mr. Shea, he feels that the purchase of an Activity Bus would help our transportation needs out a great deal when scheduling the Activity bus for our many different activities throughout the year. Not only does the MCI we have now help with our school activities, but it also serves the community of Broken Bow several times a year when it comes to historical tours, One Box, or other organizations. The MCI (Bow Express) is our feature bus that is a part of our representation of Broken Bow Public Schools as it travels from town to town and city to city all over the state of Nebraska. Mr. Shea had the following to say about the current status of our MCI: “The 1989 MCI has 920,000 miles on the odometer, A rebuilt engine was installed several years ago, it has newer tires, the front end was totally rebuilt two years ago. At this time we are not having problems out on the road. The problems we are seeing are in the chassis. Corrosion is taking its toll on the bus. The cargo doors have had patches welded in along the bottoms where needed due to the latches falling off. At this time we have been able to repair these places. The day will come when we’ll have an expensive repair that the condition of the bus will not justify the expense.

We have also had days where we had to cancel activities due to the lack of buses. If we pull route buses off the route for activities that leaves us vans to run the routes. With the new laws regarding van drivers we can’t just use school employees to fill in the gaps like we used to. There have been days when we’ve had drivers take two activities as well as their daily route. That driver drove from 6:30 AM to 8:30 PM, and covered over 500 miles.

Any activity that has more than 47 passengers we take the MCI and Bus 96. The MCI is air conditioned, comfortable coach seating and much more storage space. Therefore one half of the

group is riding in comfort and the other half is in the snub nose 96. We always send 2 busses to Varsity football games and Varsity track meets.

We would like to keep the 1989 MCI and add another coach to our fleet. The 1989 would become our secondary activity bus and a newer one would become our front line bus. The cost of such a purchase would be anywhere from \$130,000.00 to \$150,000.00”End Quote.

Conclusion

To conclude the State of the Activities Department report, I feel as my second year comes to a close as Assistant Principal/ Activities Director of Broken Bow Public Schools that the 2009-2010 school year has been a tremendous year when you account for our Fine Arts, Organizations, and Athletic accomplishments. The school district and community had the pleasure during the 2009-2010 school year of witnessing many successful seasons from our Activity programs. The pleasure we have as a school district and community to allow our students the opportunity to find their talents through many different groups, teams, or individual effort has helped Broken Bow Public Schools build a reputation as a striving and competitive Activities Department. I want to thank and commend our teachers, coaches, sponsors, maintenance/ custodial/ and support staff as well as our administrative team for their dedication to our student-athletes/participants and have them know that their efforts do not go un-noticed or unappreciated. To our community and fans, who have rallied behind our Activities Department in many different ways throughout this past school year. By supporting or helping with fund raisers or becoming a corporate sponsor, you have helped our school district improve our facilities a great deal for our students for years to come. To our school board, thank you for your support through out the school year as well. Without your commitment to the improvement of our activities and facilities here at Broken Bow, our students would not have attained the successes they experienced this past school year.

Respectively submitted:

Ryan E. Hogue
Assistant Principal/ A.D.
Broken Bow Public Schools