FOR ACTION: Naming BHS South Basketball Court and Lakeview Nature Trail

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board confirm and approve naming the BHS South basketball court as the J.R. Holmes Court. It is further recommended that the Board confirm and approve naming the Lakeview Nature Trail as the Normand Horn Nature Trail.

Background Information

Board Policy 7100 – Facilities Planning – refers only to selecting the name for any new facility constructed by the corporation. However, past practice has been that the Board confirms/approves naming facilities that are not new construction.

**BHS South Basketball Court** – Naming the basketball court at BHS South in honor of J.R. Holmes is certainly in keeping with criteria considered when naming other school facilities. BHS South Principal Mark Fletcher notes that over the course of the past quarter of a century (27 years) J.R. has been the head basketball coach at Bloomington High School South.

Prior to coaching at South Mr. Holmes was head coach for twelve years at Tunnelton and Mitchell. During his thirty-nine year career he has accumulated over 600 wins which places him in the top ten on the all-time wins list for coaches in the state. Since class basketball was implemented twelve years ago, his teams have won more games than any other school in the state. His 2009 team was only the twelfth team in state history to go undefeated. Most importantly, Coach Holmes has sustained his successful program with high expectations for appropriate player behavior and classroom performance.

Coach Holmes is a future Hall of Famer and a cornerstone of the strong tradition of excellence that Bloomington High School South is fortunate to possess.

**Normand Horn Nature Trail** – When the Monroe County Community School District purchased the Lakeview Elementary School property in the mid-1970’s, the acreage included a large portion of beautiful natural resources. The wooded area behind Lakeview is home to a large area of timber, several habitats, a stream, and a beautiful waterfall.

At the time it was purchased the long term plan was to build an outdoor education area available to the school corporation as a whole, with paths and footbridges as well as picnic areas and learning labs.

Under the leadership of Normand Horn, Lakeview’s first principal, teachers provided students with many rich and meaningful learning experiences in this natural and beautiful outdoor setting.

It is the current Lakeview School’s wish to get our students and their families back in the woods. Through the generosity of the Lakeview PTO, we look forward to upgrading and maintaining the Normand Horn Nature Trail to enhance the outdoor learning and exploration opportunities for our students as well as our friends and neighbors from surrounding communities. {See attached ‘Action Plan’}
I hear, I forget.
I see and hear, I remember.
I see, hear, and do. I understand.
    - Old Chinese Proverb

BACKGROUND

Recent studies document that children are gravitating away from outdoor experiences and
towards a virtual indoor reality. In an attempt to engage children in recreation activities and
nature-based learning, Lakeview Elementary hopes to revitalize a nature trail that was utilized in
the past to provide students, families and friends with the opportunity of an outdoor-interpretive
learning trail.

VISITOR EXPERIENCE – GOALS

Engaging children and visitors in recreation and nature-based learning through an interpretive
nature trail open year-round. Provide visitors with a self-guided brochure in which to interact
with their natural surroundings at their own pace and/or with the company of others. By
connecting children and adults with hands-on experience, meaningful and lasting connections
with nature are developed as well as connections with each other.

The target audiences for the Lakeview Elementary School interpretive trail include: all students,
faculty and staff, parents, and near-by residents.

Visitors to the interpretive nature trail will have opportunities to:

- learn about their natural surroundings
- spend time with friends and family
- experience hands-on applications
- exercise their mind and bodies
- enjoy the outdoors!
INTERPRETIVE THEME

General Theme

The general theme for the interpretive trail is “Wildlife Habitat”. Two sub-themes will educate and provide hands-on experiences with visitors.

Sub-Themes

- **Natural Habitats**
  This sub-theme will provide an array of natural habitats that exist in nature and can be witnessed throughout the proposed interpretive nature trail.

- **Man-made Habitats**
  With dwindling habitats, this sub-theme will educate children and adults on the options available to provide habitat for wildlife. By providing students with an opportunity to have hands-on experience in constructing man-made habitats, such as building bird boxes, a sense of accomplishment and connections with family and the outdoors are formed.

KIOSK APPLICATION

In order to facilitate the interpretive nature trail, a kiosk with maps and brochures is proposed. Also, numbered posts will exist throughout the interpretive nature trail and correspond with the interpretive guide located at the kiosk.

4/1/09