



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## **CULTURE**

With any successful company or sports team, you quickly discover a specific culture that pervades. A culture is defined as the set of shared attitudes, values, goals and practices that characterizes an organization. As a basketball coaching staff, we want everyone on our team to know what our culture is. **Our culture makes us who we are.** It is our foundation and we refer to it as “BE WHO WE ARE, DO WHAT WE DO”.

**“IT’S NOT ABOUT YOU...BE WHO WE ARE, DO WHAT WE DO,”** meaning we are focused on what Joplin

Basketball emphasizes. Are we going to class, listening and being respectful, acting as a good citizen, being honest, being a servant leader in the community, looking someone in the eye when they are talking, talking on defense, taking charges, walling up on defense, blocking out, sharing the ball, sprinting on every possession, taking high percentage shots, etc.? Are we doing all of the *little things* necessary to make Joplin Basketball better each and every day? We ignore what everyone else is doing and focus on our “Fundamentals Through Fatigue”. *Be who we are and Do what we do* best and we will be successful!



## **VISION**

We envision a culture where student athletes are proud of Joplin High School and have positive personal, social and civic values that foster academic and athletic success. We will create lasting beliefs and values for our student athletes.

***EAGLE PRIDE!!***



# *JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL*



## **PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT**

We are deeply passionate about player development in the game of life and basketball through a comprehensive system of play that our team can execute efficiently. This will allow us to experience the consistent results of competing and winning Championships on and off of the court.

## **CORE VALUES**

We believe the promotion and enhancement of student learning and personal development is the primary purpose of athletics. We believe student learning and personal development includes the development of intellectual, emotional, social, physical and ethical capacities.

The coaching staff will acknowledge and emphasize the 15 core values in every team practice, event and game. The core values are instrumental for lifelong success and helping our athletes become role model citizens. Our message is much larger than the game of basketball! We want to prepare our student athletes for the real world. Anything that can be done to improve the character of our student athletes and team increases our chances for success. The following core values will be taught and addressed in all that we are and all that we do:

- FAITH • FAMILY • INTEGRITY • TEAMWORK • COMMITMENT
- TOGETHERNESS • SERVANT LEADERSHIP • PASSION • TOUGHNESS
- WORK ETHIC • SELFLESSNESS • COMPETITIVENESS •
- COMMUNICATION • RESPECT • EAGLE PRIDE

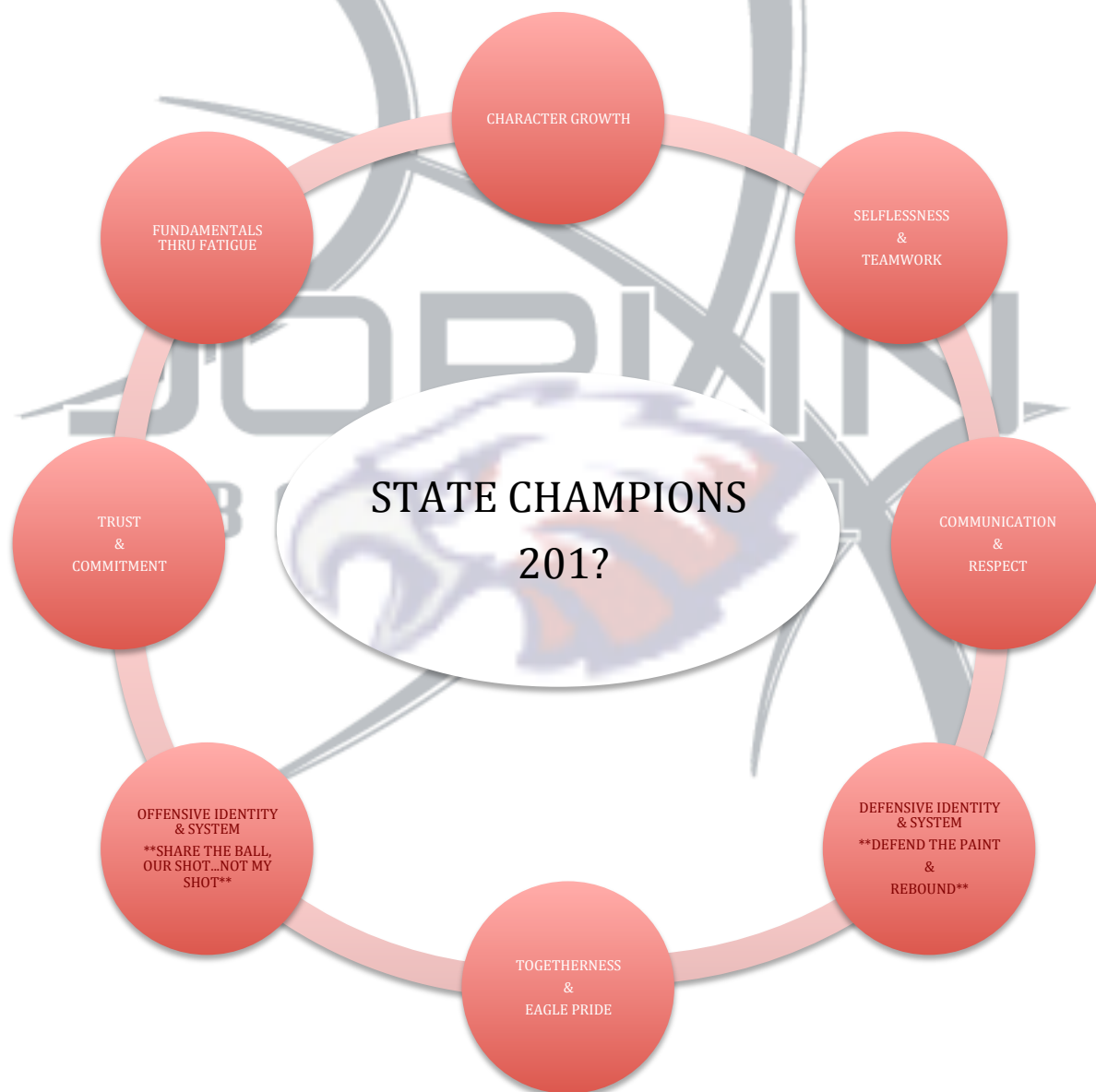


# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



Any path that leads to success has a strong and sturdy foundation. These 15 core values will be the “BRICKS” that hold our 2017-18 path together. With these values in place and highlighted, the tactical performance goals and academic goals will be obtainable. WINNING will occur!

## WHAT WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT





## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

- 1) *Instill* hard work and accountability in each student athlete so they can maximize their full potential in the classroom, on the basketball court and the game of life.
- 2) *Prepare* each student athlete for the real world by holding them accountable to our program core values.
- 3) *Ensure* each student athlete is taking care of business in the classroom before they have the privilege to play high school basketball.
- 4) *Create* a family atmosphere for all past, current and future Joplin boys' basketball players.
- 5) *Set* specific, measureable and attainable individual life goals, academic goals, tactical performance goals and team goals along with implementing an action plan for all four areas to be achieved.
- 6) *Educate* and counsel our student athletes about NCAA Clearinghouse criteria, career choices and internships preparing them for the future.
- 7) *Map-out* and follow our 2017-18 Critical Path to ensure individual and team success.
- 8) *Develop* and improve each player's basketball skill and IQ through a comprehensive system of play so they can become the best player they are capable of becoming.
- 9) *Master* the fundamentals of the game of basketball by giving 100% effort during practice and skill workouts to fully prepare for game play.
- 10) *Upgrade* the respectability of the Joplin Basketball Program in the Ozark Conference, SW MO, and the State of Missouri.
- 11) *Establish* an attitude and tradition that will attract students to want to participate in the basketball program at Joplin High School.
- 12) *Display* a winning attitude through the development of team "togetherness" and unity.
- 13) *Build* positive relationships with Joplin faculty, students, Little Dribbler's, JYBA and the surrounding community.
- 14) *Become* servant leaders in our community by conducting volunteer work, clinics and camps.
- 15) *Compete* and win the Ozark Championship, District Championship and State Championship.

*Begin with the end in mind!!*



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## 2017-18 CRITICAL PATH

TACTICAL							
FUNDAMENTALS THRU FATIGUE							
HIGH PRESSURE TEAM DEFENSE							
EXECUTING TEAM DEFENSIVE PRINCIPLES – PROTECT THE PAINT							
DOMINATE THE GLASS ON BOTH ENDS OF THE FLOOR							
SPRINT THE FLOOR, SHARE THE BALL, BE UNSELFISH IN OUR TEAM OFFENSE							
SKILLED, CONFIDENT & CLUTCH SHOOTER’S							
ATTACK, DRAW FOULS AND MAXIMIZE FREE-THROW OPPORTUNITIES							
VALUE THE BALL & MINIMIZE TURNOVERS. SKILLED, CONFIDENT & CLUTCH BALLHANDLER’S							
EXECUTE & FINISH UNDER PRESSURE – DO NOT WASTE LAYUPS							
ACADEMIC							
TEAM & INDIVIDUAL GPA		Your credentials in the classroom will take you further and last longer than any success that you might encounter on the court. (Goal -- Team GPA = 3.0+ ; Individual GPA = 2.0+)					
MENTAL							
ROUTINES		Breathing, emotional control, performance routines (i.e. Extra shots/ballhandling pre-practice or after practice, stretching before and after practice, warming up at game speed) Pre-game/practice, During game/practice, and Post game/practice.					
GOAL SETTING		Academic goals, life goals, team goals, on court performance goals with action plans mapped out on paper to achieve these goals.					
MOTIVATION		Themes and events throughout the year with an emphasis on team building.					
FUNCTIONAL FITNESS							
NUTRITION		Fueled for optimal performance. (Goal - 3 healthy meals per day)					
SLEEP		Consistent and in bed early. (Goal – 8-10 hours of sleep per night)					
STRENGTH & ENDURANCE		Building and maintaining strength throughout the year. This will be accomplished by being diligent in the weight room during weight’s class, or when assigned by coach for those not in a weights class. (Goal – 5-6 hours per week)					
RANGE OF MOTION		Flexibility. Pre-practice and Pre-game Dynamic Warm-up...Post-practice and Post-game cool down Dynamic Warm-up.					
CORE VALUES = CHARACTER GROWTH							
FAITH	FAMILY	INTEGRITY	TEAMWORK	TOGETHERNESS	COMMITMENT	PASSION	
TOUGHNESS	WORK ETHIC	SELFLESSNESS	COMPETITIVENESS	COMMUNICATION	RESPECT	SERVANT LEADERSHIP	
EAGLE PRIDE							

**\*\*We are smart, aggressive, up-tempo, tough minded, well conditioned, unselfish, and our disposition is to *ATTACK* and be *ENTHUSIASTIC* in all that we do!\*\***



## IDENTITY OF A JOPLIN BASKETBALL PLAYER

1. Give *100% effort* and try your best in all that you do.
2. Tell the truth and make *no excuses* regardless of the circumstances.
3. Be a sponge and become a *lifelong learner*.
4. Maintain a *positive mental attitude* and body language.
5. Represent yourself, your family and Joplin High School in a *first class manner* at all times.
6. Understand your role on the team, take great pride in it and focus on *team goals* more than individual goals.
7. *Care* about your teammates, take responsibility for their wellbeing and treat them as family.
8. *Attack* in everything you do! *Finish* everything you begin!
9. Take *care of your body* along with staying dedicated to the ball and weight room.
10. Believes that *team defense wins championships*, and is entirely committed to development in this area.





## **IDENTITY OF A JOPLIN BASKETBALL COACH**

1. Coaches are servant leaders and responsible role models. Coaches are not meant to be “buddies” to the players. Our role is much larger than that, coaches are to be mentors and guides for our young men!
2. Our coaches believe that players are sons first, students second and athletes third.
3. Professional and honest in all relationships.
4. Teach each player with respect.
5. Thoroughly communicate role on and off of the court.
6. Loyal to each player in public and in private.
7. Evaluate each player's basketball talent.
8. Guide each player to achieve his goals through leadership and training.
9. Enhance each player's basketball skill set.
10. Personally assist each player now and after graduation in any way possible.
11. Make decisions on what is best for the team.
12. Provide discipline and structure for each player and help them mature.
13. Work and challenge each student to push himself outside of his comfort zone.
14. To make Joplin Boys' Basketball a positive and memorable experience.
15. Set high standards for our players in the classroom, on the basketball court and in life.
16. Firm, fair and consistent regarding discipline.



## COACH-PLAYER-PARENT COMMUNICATIONS

Our goal as a staff is to **promote a family atmosphere** where all parents and students are comfortable. The coaching staff will strive to make sure all of the parents and students are on the same page.

Communication throughout the entire year is vital for successful parent and student relations with the coaching staff. Communication is important for successful player development on and off of the basketball court. Great teams begin with great parents! **Coach Hafer will have an “open door policy” for students.** We encourage any student that has an issue with their coach to reach out to the coach to find a resolution (i.e., 4-Step Joplin Basketball Communication Process). However, there will be a communication process that all students, parents and coaches need to follow.

## 4-STEP JOPLIN BASKETBALL COMMUNICATION PROCESS

- STEP 1 → Student meets with head coach
- STEP 2 → Student and parent meet with head coach
- STEP 3 → Student, parent and coach meet with the athletic director
- STEP 4 → Student, parent, coach and athletic director meet with the principal

Students are expected to meet with Coach Hafer first, if they have an issue or problem. If a Coach receives a point of contact (e.g., in-person, email, phone call) from a parent/family member before hearing from the student, the coach will politely ask that the student comes to the coach first – as directed in the 4-Step Joplin Basketball Communication Process. This process streamlines the communication process and promotes accountability to all students within the Joplin High School boys' basketball program.

There will be times during the season when a parent or player may be confused about why something happens the way it does. Please remember that knowledge is the best way to find a solution. There are many things that are part of the game plan that are not seen or heard during a game. These instructions take place at practice, in the locker room, on the bus, film session, or in the huddle on the floor. The only way to be clear about what is happening on the floor during a game is to get all of the information so that a clear judgment can be made. This is why we stress that players come see Coach Hafer if they are confused about their role, playing time, etc.

### ☐ 24-HOURS

Remember, immediately following a game, win or lose, is a tough time to talk to the coach. Usually the coach, player and parent are very emotional. Please adhere to the “24-hour” rule. Wait until the next day to contact the coach with an issue. Usually by then, both sides might be more rational and able to find a solution to the problem. Coach Hafer prefers communicating **in person** rather than over the phone or email. If we cannot meet in person, speaking over the phone is the second best way to communicate. *Email and text messaging is the last form of communication*, if we cannot find a time to meet or speak over the phone.





# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## TRY-OUTS

- We will begin our first practice on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. During this week, students will be evaluated for placement in our program. Each participating student will be given a minimum of two days to demonstrate their skill level, work ethic, and basketball knowledge in front of the Joplin boys' basketball coaching staff.
- A series of cuts will take place during this first week, with the first round taking place following Tuesday's practice. If necessary, a second cut will take place the following practice on Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup>. On Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup>, each team in the program will be established and practices will continue as normal.
- It is our goal to give every student a fair and honest evaluation. Therefore, each student will be evaluated based on six factors that we feel are extremely important in order to produce a successful basketball program at the high school level.
- The six factors are *academics, basketball skill, basketball IQ, coach-ability, effort, character and communication*. A description of each area is found on the following page. Please note that these areas are used as a means to help with the process of elimination. However, students must first and foremost demonstrate the ability to competitively play basketball at the high school level; otherwise they will not be a candidate for team placement.
- This will be an intense week and we appreciate each student putting himself in a position to compete for a roster spot. Cutting students is the hardest thing we as coaches have to do. Unfortunately it is the nature of this sport.
- Each student must understand that in a performance based culture, roster spots are earned on an ongoing basis. This begins with summer strength & conditioning, open gym attendance, initial try-outs, concluding at the completion of the season.
- It is very important to make sure your student is getting adequate nutrition, fluids and rest.

***All in, Everyday, All the Time!!***



## **COACHES CRITERIA FOR PLAYER EVALUATION**

### **1. ACADEMICS**

Each player in our program is a STUDENT-athlete. Being members of our basketball program is a bi-product of the educational institution of JHS. Therefore the expectation is that each player adheres to and exceeds the eligibility requirements set forth by the MSHSAA, Joplin R-8 School District and Joplin High School. If a student is NOT eligible academically, then they cannot play. Academics will take precedence to athletics in our program.

### **2. SKILL (*Approx. Weight Assessed = 70%*)**

Student-athletes will be critiqued on whether or not they have the skill to play competitive high school basketball. Skill refers to their ability to defend, shoot, pass, dribble, rebound, and demonstrate high-level fundamentals.

### **3. BASKETBALL IQ**

Refers to the student-athletes' knowledge of the game. This is critical as each player will need to blend his skills and talents into an organized and structured setting. Our program will challenge these athletes mentally as they will be introduced to a wide variety of concepts, terminologies, and schemes.

### **4. COACH-ABILITY & ATTITUDE**

Our coaching staff is looking for young men who will accept our teaching and coaching. We expect every player to respect the decisions that we make as coaches, have a willingness to be taught and coached, and follow the philosophy of our program at all times. Attitude is extremely important within our program!

### **5. CHARACTER & COMMUNICATION**

Our philosophy is to keep student-athletes who will represent Joplin High School, themselves, and their family with the utmost character. We believe that the avenue of sport more than any other source demonstrates the true character of human beings. Therefore, we want our players to be self-less, encouraging to teammates, respectful of our opponents, officials, and fans, and have genuine joy to compete in the game of basketball. Additionally, our players will communicate early and responsibly regarding all aspects of our basketball program.

## ***PROGRAM GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## ACADEMICS

- In keeping with the belief that participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right, certain standards of eligibility have been established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). The Joplin High School boys' basketball program will endorse and implement the MSHAA rules and regulations along with the Joplin R-8 School District and JHS academic policy for participation.
- While we are aware of the important role that athletics play in the development of students, we are also committed to the philosophy that the primary purpose of our program is to academically prepare students to become productive citizens upon graduation.
- All student athletes must maintain a *minimum* 2.0 GPA in order to be a team member; however, we expect students to have a higher GPA than the minimum. As a team, we strive for excellence and have a team goal of a 3.0+ GPA each season.
- The coaching staff will work with each student athlete to ensure they receive the necessary educational assistance. Setting specific and realistic expectations is important for individual and team success. On the basketball court and in the classroom, student athletes must learn to expand their capabilities to achieve their goals and aspirations. Our goal is to ensure our team is fully prepared for life beyond high school.
- Class truancy (skipping class) will result in disciplinary action, whether an entire class was skipped or just a portion. This consequence will be similar to an unexcused absence at practice.
- Each player must attend all classes in order to participate in practice or a game that day. Exceptions are made for appointments or pre-arranged absences.
- Failure to perform in the classroom may result in dismissal or suspension from the team at the discretion of the coaching staff. Failure to perform in the classroom may also affect the coaching staff's decisions when teams are assigned at the beginning of the season.

## HAZING

- We have a ***ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY*** for hazing. Players are expected to follow all State and Federal laws along with Joplin R-8 School District and Joplin High School policies.
- On top of facing punishment from the police, school district and JHS; players who break this policy may result in dismissal or suspension from the team at the discretion of the coaching staff.

***Hazing will not be tolerated!!***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## DRUGS & ALCOHOL

- We have a ***ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY*** for student-athlete drug and alcohol use in our program!
- Players are expected to follow all State and Federal laws regarding drugs and alcohol along with Joplin R-8 School District and Joplin High School policies.
- On top of facing punishment from the police, school district and JHS; players who break this policy may be subject to dismissal or suspension from the team at the discretion of the coaching staff.
- Players are expected to come forward and speak to Coach Hafer regarding any laws/policies that are broken regarding drugs and alcohol. We will not tolerate players hiding their issues.

## PRACTICE

- Players are expected to trust and listen to their coaches to learn; never negatively question a coach on the court or in public. However, players are expected to ask clarification questions regarding basketball skills, concepts, etc.
- Players are expected not to leave the floor without permission from the coach.
- Players are expected to have a clean and profanity-free mouth at all times.
- Players are expected to refrain from negative comments, trash talking and or physical confrontations with teammates.
- Players are expected to demonstrate a positive attitude along with positive body language. Players that showcase a negative attitude or body language will lose the privilege to practice and play games.
- Players are expected to compete with a consistent and maximum effort and strive to improve their skill set each night before they walk off the hardwood.
- Players are expected to hustle in drills and never loaf on the hardwood.
- Players are expected to be on the floor at least 15 minutes prior to the start of practice. Players are expected to wear their Joplin Basketball practice jersey and shorts.
- Players are expected to keep their backpack and personal items (i.e., cell phone, laptop, iPod, iPad, etc.) locked up inside their locker in the team locker room. The Coaching Staff is not responsible for lost or stolen goods.



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## ...PRACTICE

- Players are expected to know the difference between “hurt” and “injured.” Hurt means you have obvious pain but you are capable to continue playing because the pain is manageable. Injured means you have pain that is not manageable and beyond your pain threshold where you need to seek medical attention (e.g., team trainer).
- Players that are considered “injured” will not be cleared to practice until the Team Physician, Trainer approves.
- Players are expected to ice after practice or during practice if they are injured. Injury does not excuse a player from attending practice.
- Players are expected to take care of school property and equipment including the locker room, main gym, gym 2 & 3, bathrooms, etc. No spitting or gum tossing in gym. We will clean the gym of all garbage after each practice.
- Players are expected to attend every regular and post-season practice. Excused absences will be given out to players who contact Coach Hafer (Varsity), Coach Williams (JV) or Coach Spencer or Coach Taylor (Frosh-Team) **24 hours in advance** with a realistic reason. Contacting Coach Williams, Coach Spencer, or Coach Taylor if you are a Varsity player is unacceptable. Unrealistic reasons are going to another sporting event, going to a girlfriend’s house, going to the weight room, etc. Realistic reasons are group projects, study hall, family emergency, family reunion, sick, etc.
- Players with excused absences are allowed to play in the next game but will not “start” and their playing time has the possibility of changing due to the lack of practice time that week. If you do not attend practices, you fall behind in all areas (i.e., skill, IQ, team terminology, unity, etc.)
- For every one unexcused absence, that player will sit out at least the first half of the upcoming game. If a player has more than three unexcused absences in the season, he will be suspended along with given an action plan to get back on the team. Commitment to teammates and coaches is one of our top priorities here at JHS.

***There’s no limit to what can be accomplished if no one cares who gets the credit.***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## ATTENDANCE

- Attendance at all games, practices, meetings, conditioning sessions, and team events is **mandatory**.
- Players are expected to arrive at least *15 minutes* early to the start of practices, meetings, conditioning sessions and team events.
- Players are expected to attend every regular and post-season practice. Excused absences will be given out to players who contact Coach Hafer (Varsity), Coach Williams (JV) or Coach Spencer or Coach Taylor (Frosh-Team) **24 hours in advance** with a realistic reason. Contacting Coach Williams, Coach Spencer, or Coach Taylor if you are a Varsity player is unacceptable. Unrealistic reasons are going to another sporting event, going to a girlfriend's house, going to the weight room, etc. Realistic reasons are group projects, study hall, family emergency, family reunion, sick, etc.
- Excused and unexcused absence from practice will be dealt with according to what is previously stated in the practice policy (i.e., non-starter, loss of playing time, etc.).
- Excused and unexcused absence from games will be dealt with on a case by case basis.
- Varsity Players are expected to watch the first ½ of the JV home/away game before heading to locker room. Varsity players are to be dressed and ready to play by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the previous contest.
- JV and Frosh-Team players are expected to watch the entire Varsity game home or away...in the event of an away contest the student-athlete can receive approval from Coach Williams (JV) or Coach Spencer or Coach Taylor (Frosh-Team) to be signed out by a parent or legal guardian.
- **ADDITIONAL EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT DUE TOO A STUDENT-ATHLETE NOT MEETING THE PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS WILL BE ASSIGNED BY THE COACHING STAFF ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. (IE. EXTRA CONDITIONING FOR MISSED PRACTICE, TARDINESS, POOR CONDUCT, ETC.)**

***Attendance is crucial for our success!!***





# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## PLAYING TIME

- After try-outs conclude, each player who made the cut will be assigned to our Varsity, JV or Frosh-Team. Players will be assigned to a team that is parallel with their demonstrated ability. This assignment is **not permanent**. Players have the opportunity to move up or down based off performance during practices and games.
- The determination of playing time is entirely up to the head coach and is dependent upon many factors. These factors are both measureable and subjective. On top of these factors, Varsity, JV and Frosh-Team are different levels of play regarding pace, talent and objectives.
- As the head coach, it is one of my top priorities to make personnel decisions that I believe provide our team with the best chance for success during any given competition. With that said, I am also keenly aware of how playing time affects team climate, the overall well-being of our program, and the development of individual self-esteem and perceived value to the team.
- Playing time can be affected due to actions that are **not tolerated**, such as: complaining to officials, technical fouls, ejections, fighting on the court, arguing with a coach, violation of team rules and expectations, etc.
- I cannot guarantee that any player will play at all during the season, let alone how much they will play. **What I will guarantee is that I will have an open door policy and weekly meetings with each student. These meetings will be private and provide insight to what needs to change in order for them to earn more playing time.**

☐ **COACHES WILL NOT SPEAK WITH PARENTS ABOUT PLAYING TIME.**

## PRACTICE ATTIRE

- Players are expected to wear their 2016 team issued **Joplin Basketball practice jersey and shorts to every practice**. Please frequently wash your jersey and shorts for cleanliness.
- Undershirts will also be provided, if a student-athlete chooses to wear a different undershirt it must be the same color as the team issued undershirt.

***We will look and practice like a team!!***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## TRAVEL ATTIRE

- Team Captains and/or Seniors will determine the game day attire. The objective is to look professional, presentable and represent JHS with class. *Look good, feel good, play good!* **Players are expected to wear their JHS Team Issued Travel Gear and Shirt...or khaki pants/slacks, long-sleeve button shirt, and a tie to their belt line/or bowtie. Players are expected to wear business casual dress shoes** (i.e., not basketball shoes, running shoes, slippers or sandals).
- Players will refrain from wearing hats/beanies on game days. Wearing a jacket over the dress shirt and tie is recommended due to winter weather. If a member of the team does not have such apparel, and cannot afford it, he needs to talk to Coach Hafer 72 hours before the first travel date.

## GAME ATTIRE

- The objective is to look uniform and as a team. Players will wear the team issued warm-up shirt, jersey, and shorts for all home/away warm-ups and games. **Game jersey will remain tucked in at all times.**
- Players are expected to wear white, cardinal or navy team socks for home games and away games. Which team sock to be worn will be decided by the captain(s)/seniors of the varsity team for the entire program.
- Players can only wear sleeve-less or tank top white undergarments under home jerseys, gray or cardinal undergarments under away jerseys. **Players will not wear short sleeve or long sleeve shirts under jerseys unless approved by the Head Coach.**
- **Elbow sleeves, leg tights, wristbands, armbands or headbands are not allowed** unless given permission by Coach Hafer or for medical purposes (Documentation required).
- **All undershirts, tights, braces have to be the same color for all players per MSHAA rules.**

***We will look and play like a team!!***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## TEAM SHOES

- Each student-athlete within the program will have the option to purchase a pair of Nike Basketball shoes at a discounted price. These shoes are specifically designed for elite basketball players and should provide the correct support and comfort once they are broken in. Team shoes allow all Varsity, JV and Frosh-Team players to look united on the court as ONE. **Players will need to wear the team issued Nike Basketball shoe to all practices and games. These shoes should not be worn outside as a street or school shoe. It is mandatory that each player wear these team issued shoes** unless there is a doctor's note stating the player needs to wear a different shoe.
- Any shoe that a student-athlete would like to wear for practice or games that is **NOT** the Team issued Nike shoe must be approved by Coach Hafer prior to purchase.

## EQUIPMENT

- Players will be issued team equipment during the regular season. This equipment is extraordinarily expensive and extremely valuable to our basketball program. Due to our tight budgets, equipment needs to be treated with respect to ensure longevity. All players and parents must understand that equipment is a loan from the school and *has to be returned after the season is over*. If a player does not return his game jerseys, game shorts, warm-ups, etc. he will be fined by JHS in order to pay for the replacement. Ordering replacement items is expensive and the Boys' Basketball Booster Club or JHS will not be liable for lost or stolen items that were issued to players.
- **Each player will be given washing instructions for our team issued practice gear and travel gear.** It is the responsibility of the player to follow these instructions and take care of their team issued items. If the items are returned with stains, holes, discoloration, etc. the player faces the possibility of being fined so a replacement item can be ordered.
- **Game uniforms and warm-up tops will be kept and washed @ JHS.**
- **Players are expected to only wear travel gear and team shirts on game days.** Players who wear these items for other uses (i.e., gym class, yard work, etc.) will lose their privilege of having these items in their possession along with other consequences to be determined by Coach Hafer.



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## ...EQUIPMENT

- All equipment that was issued to each player is expected to be returned to the Head Coach the first Monday following the conclusion of our last game that season.

## BASKETBALLS

- Coaches will provide basketballs for practices and games. Players may take home a JHS basketball if it is approved by Coach Hafer.

## LOCKER ROOM

- The locker room is our “home,” and all players no matter the grade level are expected to feel welcome and safe. Keep your areas clean including your locker.
- **Players are expected to shower after away games (home games a choice) for hygiene purposes along with the bus smelling clean for the ride home.** Bring the necessary toiletries and towel inside your gym bag for away games. We have *zero tolerance* for unprofessionalism or horse-play inside the showers, bathroom, etc. **Absolutely no visitors are permitted in the locker room – home or away; coaches, managers, and players only.** Secure and lock all valuables away. Coaching staff is not responsible for lost or stolen goods.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

- **Coaches will generally not become Facebook friends or Twitter followers with any player or parent on the team.** However, it will be okay to become “friends” or “followers” once the player graduates high school to ensure the lifelong family atmosphere our basketball program promotes. Communication such as phone calls, text messages, and emails are appropriate.
- **The utmost respect will be demonstrated on social media, we are a reflection of our program.** There will be zero-tolerance for negative posts on social media about coaches, players, playing time, or opponents.
- **The previous *Coach-Player-Parent-Communication* and *4-Step Joplin Basketball Communication Process* can be used as the proper guide.**

***Student-athletes will have consequences for misuse of social media.***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## AWAY TRIPS

- **Players are *required* to stay with the team at all times on away trips.**
- Players who leave the travel party, no matter the circumstances, will have their parents called and sent home immediately along with being suspended from the team.
- All Joplin R-8, JHS and JHS Boys' Basketball policies are in effect when traveling. There will be a more in-depth policy/waiver to be signed by parents and students when traveling and staying overnight for game play (i.e., Jefferson City Tournament, Jefferson City, MO).
- At the conclusion of an away contest the student-athlete can receive approval from Coach Hafer (V); Coach Spencer (JV/V); or Coach Pate/Coach Smith (Frosh-Team) to be signed out by a parent or legal guardian.

## TEAM BUS

- **All Varsity, JV and Frosh-Team players must ride the team bus to away games.** At the conclusion of an away contest the student-athlete can receive approval from Coach Hafer (V); Coach Spencer (JV/V); or Coach Pate/Coach Smith (Frosh-Team) to be signed out by a parent or legal guardian.
- **Traveling to our away game is a time for concentration and mental preparedness.** Players are expected to refrain from horse-play, loud conversations and other distractions.
- Players are expected to show courtesy and respect to bus drivers and fellow passengers. This includes following all established bus rules and keeping the bus clean.
- Cell phones are permitted, but will be used for communication purposes only.

## FILM SESSIONS & PLAYER BINDERS

- **Players are expected to watch game film on a consistent basis.** As a coaching staff, we will record each varsity game and upload it to Hudl/Krossover. There will be team film sessions, individual film sessions and take home assignments regarding film.
- **Each varsity player will be given a "Player Binder."** Varsity players are expected to bring their "Player Binder" to each film session.



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## ...FILM SESSIONS & PLAYER BINDERS

- During team film sessions, players are expected to attentively listen to the coach along with writing down notes to improve team and individual performance.
- Film sessions will shed more light on our performance good or bad; players are expected to maintain a positive attitude regarding criticism from the coaching staff. These sessions are used as a tool to help you!

## JEWELRY

- To ensure everyone's safety, **no jewelry will be worn at any time during practice, game, walk-thru, etc.** Please keep all valuables locked up and secure. Coaching staff is not responsible for lost or stolen jewelry.

## HEADPHONES

- Players can wear headphones *only* on the team bus. **Headphones/media players are allowed in the gym, bleachers or locker room at the Head Coach's discretion.** Enjoy the time together with your teammates and coaches. Coaching staff is not responsible for lost or stolen headphones.

## CELL PHONES

- **No cell phones during team meetings, practices, meals, pre-game, etc. except for emergency situations.** No cell phone calls on away bus trips (text message parent or guardian if absolutely needed).

***Players will have consequences for mistakes in behavior and judgment on and off of the basketball court. These consequences will be firm, fair and consistent.***





# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## PLAYER LETTERING

- In order to receive a Varsity letter for playing JHS boys' basketball, the student athlete must complete the season in good standing with JHS, coaching staff, teammates, and community in addition to meeting at least **one** of the following criteria:

- 1) Play in at least 10 varsity regular season games.
- 2) Be selected on the playoff roster of 15 players.
- 3) Be in good academic standing.

## MANAGERS LETTERING

- In order to receive a Varsity letter for being a manager on the boys' basketball team, the student must meet at least **one** of the following criteria:

- 1) Demonstrate exceptional work and commitment as a student manager for the Varsity team by fulfilling all required duties.
- 2) Be selected as a student manager for the final Varsity playoff roster.
- 3) Be in good academic standing.

***All student-athletes/managers eligible to letter will be determined by the JHS coaching staff. These reviews will be fair and consistent.***



## NCAA Eligibility Requirements



- Register through NCAA Clearing House
- 3 Years of English
- 2 Years of Math (Algebra 1 or higher)
- 2 Years of Natural or Physical Science
- 3 Years Additional Years of:
  - Math, English, or Science
- 2 Years of Social Science
- 4 Years of Additional Core Courses
- 2.0 Core GPA or higher
- ACT sum score of 68 or higher OR SAT score of 820 or higher
- <http://www.ncaa.org/student-athletes/future/eligibility-center>
- [http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA\\_EMS/NCAA.jsp](http://web3.ncaa.org/ECWR2/NCAA_EMS/NCAA.jsp)
- THIS IS A MUST FOR ALL STUDENT-ATHLETES TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR NCAA COMPETITION



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## HEAD COACH JEFF HAFER

**Head Basketball Coach Jeff Hafer** is in his 4<sup>th</sup> season as the Head Coach at Joplin High School. Coach Hafer, a Joplin, MO native and graduate, was selected as both an All-State and All-American his senior season in 1996. Following high school, Coach Hafer completed a four-year playing career (1996-2000) at the University of Missouri for former Tiger coaching legend Norm Stewart and current Mizzou Head coach Kim Anderson. During the 1999-2000 season, he averaged 8.3 points and 4.6 rebounds per game, helping 1<sup>st</sup> year Head Coach (and current Utah Jazz Head Coach ) Quin Snyder lead the Tigers to a second straight trip to the NCAA Division I National Tournament. Coach Hafer, whose MU career spanned 112 games, shares the Tigers' single game record for blocked shots (5) and he ranks fifth on MU's all-time steals list (169). He was named to the Big XII Conference All-Freshman Team in 1996-97 when he averaged 7.7 points and 3.7 rebounds per game despite missing seven games due to injury, as well as being selected for the 1997-98 Big XII All-Star Team that traveled Europe playing professional teams in Belgium, England, France, and Germany. As a senior at Mizzou Coach Hafer was All-Big XII Academic Honorable Mention and a member of The Dean's List.



Prior to joining the coaching staff at Joplin, Hafer served as an Assistant Coach at Pittsburg State University for 7 seasons, his final season being promoted to Associate Head Basketball Coach for longtime Division I and II coach Gene Iba. Coach Hafer helped the Gorillas to a pair of NCAA Division II National Tournament appearances (2005, 2007) and a 117-83 record during his tenure on Iba's staff. Hafer is credited with recruiting and signing 3 of the 6 All-American's to play for Pittsburg State since joining the NCAA.

Coach Hafer majored in Interdisciplinary Studies and earned his Bachelor's of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Missouri in 2000. Coach Hafer completed his Master of Business Administration degree from Pittsburg State University in 2005, as well as a Master's in the Art of Teaching from Missouri State University in 2012. Coach Hafer married his high school sweetheart, Annie Moore, on May 29, 1999. Annie is currently a pharmaceutical representative in Joplin. Coach Hafer and Annie have 3 children Tommy (15), Ella (13), and Whit (11). Coach Hafer would like to thank his entire family for all of their love and support! He would also like to give special thanks to his wife, Annie, for her patience and devotion throughout his coaching career.







# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## JAMES SPENCER - ASSISTANT COACH/JV HEAD COACH

**Assistant Basketball Coach James Spencer** is in his 4<sup>th</sup> season as head freshman coach at Joplin High School. Born and raised in Southeast Kansas, Coach Spencer was a four-year letterman at Northeast High School in Arma, KS, and was selected to the first team all-league and all-state honorable mention squad during his senior season. He was also a four-year state qualifier in track & field in long jump, triple jump, and 4x800 relay. Upon graduating from Northeast in 2002, Coach Spencer attended Pittsburg State University, pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Education and graduating Cum Laude in 2007. During this time, he returned to his alma mater, and coached basketball and track & field for the Northeast Vikings. In 2007, Coach Spencer began his teaching career at West Franklin Middle School in Pomona, KS where he taught middle school and high school P.E., and continued to pursue his passion for coaching. He served as an assistant high school basketball coach for two years, before taking over as head coach in 2009. During his time as head coach, he lead his team from last place to consecutive second-place league finishes. In addition to coaching, Coach Spencer completed his Master's Degree in Human Performance and Wellness from Pittsburg State University in 2013. In his first year as freshman coach at Joplin High School, the team had strong finishes in the Mt. Vernon (2<sup>nd</sup> place) and Monett (1<sup>st</sup> place) tournaments.



Coach Spencer married his high school sweetheart, Kayla, in 2006. Kayla is a pediatric physical therapist for the Joplin School District. Coach Spencer and his wife have two children: Emery (age 5) and Cale (age 2). The Spencer's have a passion for running, and are currently training for their first marathon. Coach Spencer and his family are sports enthusiasts and die-hard Kansas Jayhawk fans, and round out their love of basketball with their interest in horses and rodeo.



**Coach Hafer says,** *"James brings a vast knowledge and passion for basketball to JHS. He is an individual of high character and the type of man our students need as a coach/mentor. James has several years of Varsity Head Coaching experience that will be invaluable to our program's continued growth".*



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## **BRANDON PATE - ASSISTANT COACH/FRESHMAN HEAD COACH**

**Assistant Basketball Coach Brandon Pate** is in his 1<sup>st</sup> season as head freshman coach at Joplin High School. Coach Pate comes to Joplin program after serving as an assistant coach at Riverton High School over the past five years. While on the coaching staff at Riverton High School (2012-2017) Coach Pate was a part of 2 Conference Championships (2013-14) (2014-15); 4 straight Sub State Championship game appearances (2013 through 2016); 2 Sub State Championships (2013-14 & 2014-15); and 2 State Tournament appearances (2013-14 & 2014-15).



Originally from Las Cruces NM, Coach Pate graduated from Onate High School in 1995, where he was a part of 2 District Championship teams (92-93)(93-94), and two State Tournament appearances(92-92)(93-94). He was voted as an All District performer his freshman through senior seasons (91-95), voted as an All State performer his sophomore and junior seasons(93,94), as well as MVP of New Mexico High School All Star game in 1995 against players such as Kenny Thomas (University of New Mexico, 9 year NBA career), AJ Bramlett (University of Arizona, member of 1997 NCAA national championship team). Coach Pate attended Mesa Community College in Mesa, AZ in 1996 and helped lead a talented nationally ranked team to a 30-5 record, a Conference title, Region 1 title and a National Tournament appearance in Hutchinson, KS. Additionally, Coach Pate played at Northland Pioneer College in Holbrook, AZ in 1998 where he was voted All-Conference. Coach Pate finished his collegiate career at Pittsburg State University in 1999-00 playing under Head Coach Gene Iba. At Pittsburg State he was 2nd team All Conference his junior year; 1st team All Conference his senior year; and selected as Honorable Mention All American his senior year. Other highlights at Pitt St include a 29 point performance against a #4 ranked Kansas Jayhawks, and a 38 point performance against Southwest Baptist. Coach Pate played for a short time professionally in Venezuela for Valencia Trotamundos.



Over the last 12 years Coach Pate has worked for Joplin Schools at the Beacon Alternative School. He is married to his beautiful wife Paige, a High School Spanish teacher. The couple has 1 son Braylon who just turned two

**Coach Hafer says,** *"Brandon brings a tremendous amount of skill development experience to our program. He has an outstanding track record of developing players individually and that will be a huge asset to our program for years to come. He is an excellent mentor and example for the young men in our program, and we are lucky to have him on our staff".*



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



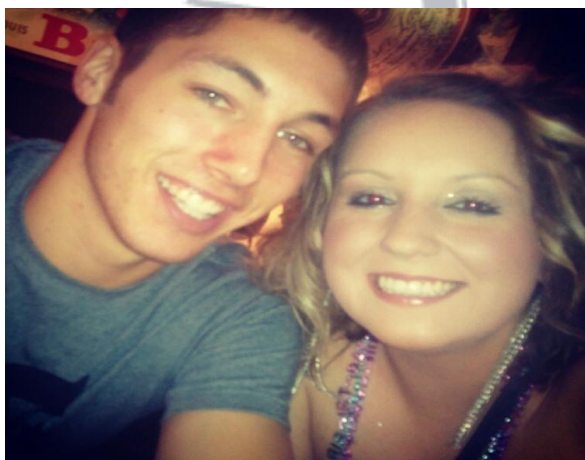
## ALEX SMITH - ASSISTANT COACH/FRESHMAN ASST. COACH

**Freshman Assistant Coach Alex Smith** is in his 1<sup>st</sup> season as a member of the Joplin High School Basketball staff.

Coach Smith is a 2009 Parsons High School graduate. In high school, Alex played multiple Varsity sports and went on to play basketball at Labette Community College.

After 2 years at Labette, Alex attended Pittsburg State University where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Physical Education.

Alex and his wife Kelsie have three daughters. Karmyn (2 Years), Khloe (1 Year), and Ashlynn (1 Year).



**Coach Hafer says,** *“Alex is a passionate student of the game of basketball. His passion for kids and skill development will be tremendous assets to our basketball program. Alex has a very bright future in coaching, and we are thrilled to have him on our staff”.*





# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## WHAT'S NEXT?

1. **Winter Sport Clearance:** pick-up JHS Sports Clearance Packet from athletics office ASAP. Complete all forms, have student get a physical (if needed), pay JHS bookkeeper and then go to athletics office to submit paperwork. Players who are not officially cleared (yellow ticket) will not be eligible to practice on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. **Complete before Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**. (Cannot try-out without these forms completed).
2. **Try-outs:** We start tryouts on **Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> JV/V 4:00pm-6:00pm in Gym 2 & 3; Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> Frosh 6:00pm-8:00pm in Gym 2 & 3.** Students will be given a minimum of 2 days to showcase their basketball skill before cuts are made. Cuts will be made and teams will be formed at the conclusion of the Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> practice. An additional day of tryouts may be added if deemed necessary by the coaching staff.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tryout Day 1: JV/V (4-6pm Gym 2 & 3)
October 30 <sup>th</sup>	Frosh Tryout Day 1: (6pm-8pm Gym 2 & 3)
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	JV/V Tryout Day 2: (4-6pm Gym 2) Final Cuts Posted 11/1
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Frosh Tryout Day 2: (3pm-5pm Gym 2 & 3) Final Cut Posted 11/1
November 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Parent Meeting 10:45am @ JHS (Frosh, Junior Varsity &amp; Varsity)</b>
TBA	<b>Red &amp; White Night @ JHS: (7:00pm-9:00pm)</b>
TBA	<b>Media Day 9:15am</b>
November 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>V/JV Jamboree @ JHS: (2 Gyms 6:00pm-7:45pm)</b>
November 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Game: @ McDonald County</b>
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Thanksgiving: No Practice Frosh, JV or Varsity</b>

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. **FACEBOOK:** Joplin High School Boy's Basketball
2. **TWITTER:** @jhs\_eaglehoops



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## ...WHAT'S NEXT?

- Each student will need to hand in the following items before they can participate.
- Students will **not** be given an extension of their evaluation if they miss practice time due to not having completed all of the requirements listed below.

- ☐ MSHAA Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation Form (White Sheet)
- ☐ MSHAA Eligibility & Parent Permission (Blue Sheet)
- ☐ MSHAA Proof of Insurance Info & Concussion Materials Acknowledgement (Blue Sheet)
- ☐ JHS/FTC Code of Conduct & Drug Testing Policy Consent Form (Green Sheet)

**I have read through the program philosophy packet. I understand how I will be evaluated during try-outs along with agreeing to the team guidelines and expectations.**

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Athlete (print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Athlete (sign name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (sign name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***Please return this portion to Coach Hafer by Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you***



# JOPLIN EAGLE BASKETBALL



## JOPLIN EAGLES 2017-18 GAME SCHEDULE

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Opponent / Event</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
Fri. Nov. 17	JV/V Jamboree	6:00 PM	HOME
Mon. Nov. 20	9/JV/V @ McDonald County	5:00 PM	McDonald County
Nov. 27-Dec. 2	V @ Carthage Tourn.	TBA	Carthage High School
Nov. 29 - Dec. 2	9th and JV @ Webb City Tourn.	TBA	Webb City
Dec. 4, 7, 9	9th @ Monett Tourn.	TBA	Monett High School
Tues. Dec. 5	9/JV/V HOME vs. Carthage	4:30 PM	HOME
Tues. Dec. 12	9/JV/V @ Webb City	5:00 PM	Webb City
Fri. Dec. 15	9/JV/V HOME vs. Lebanon	4:30 PM	HOME
Jan. 4 - 6	V in Kaminsky Classic	TBA	HOME
Fri. Jan. 12	9/JV/V @ Camdenton	4:30 PM	Camdenton
Mon. Jan. 15	9/JV/V HOME vs. Neosho	4:30 PM	HOME
Jan. 18 - 20	V @ Chanute Ralph Miller Tourn.	TBA	Chanute, KS
Tues. Jan. 23	9/JV/V HOME vs. Central	4:30 PM	HOME
Fri. Jan. 26	9/JV/V HOME vs. Rolla (Homecoming)	4:30 PM	HOME
Tues. Jan. 30	9/JV/V HOME vs. Parkview	4:30 PM	HOME
Jan 29, Feb 1, 3	9th @ Mt. Vernon Tourn.	TBA	Mt. Vernon
Fri. Feb. 2	9/JV/V @ Waynesville	5:30 PM	Waynesville
Tues. Feb. 6	9/JV/V HOME vs. Hillcrest	4:30 PM	HOME
Fri. Feb. 9	9/JV/V @ Kickapoo	4:30 PM	Kickapoo
Tues. Feb. 13	9/JV/V HOME vs. Glendale	4:30 PM	HOME
Thurs. Feb. 15	9/JV/V HOME vs. Carl Junction	4:30 PM	HOME
Fri. Feb. 16	9/JV/V HOME vs. West Plains (Sr. Night)	4:30 PM	HOME
Tues. Feb. 20	9/JV/V @ Pittsburg, KS	4:30 PM	Pittsburg, KS
Feb. 24- Mar. 3	V @ District Tourn.	TBA	Neosho