

Athletic Department End of Season Report Winter 2025-26

This report provides a comprehensive overview of our athletic and extracurricular programs, including participation data, operational costs, and an academic review of the Winter season.

Winter Season Highlights:

- **Top Scholar-Athletes:** Congratulations to William Bingham (Freshman, Unified Sports), Mackenzie Greenberg (Junior, Dance), and Rolando Lopez (Sophomore, Boys Basketball) for their outstanding academic performance.
- **Athletic Excellence:** We celebrate 17 All-CCC Conference selections and 7 All-State honorees, 1 state open champion and 1 New England champion.
- **Championship Success:** The MHS Dance team secured State Championships in both the Large Hip Hop and Small Jazz divisions, ultimately being named the **2026 CT Dance Team of the Year**.
- **Academic Achievement:** Most impressively, **60%** of our Winter Varsity student-athletes earned a spot on the CCC All-Academic team by maintaining at least an **87.5 GPA** during the second marking period.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and programs.

High School Sports Narratives

The following narratives are an overview provided for you from the coach's perspective, as to how their season went, starting with the high school programs.

Boys Basketball, Corey Gordon:

The Middletown High School Boys Basketball program concluded the 2025–2026 season with a 10–10 record. Throughout the year, our student-athletes demonstrated resilience, growth, and a commitment to representing Middletown with pride. After starting the season 5–2, the team navigated a challenging mid-season stretch but continued to compete and improve while establishing a culture centered on growth, competitiveness, and excellence. The team played in the first round CIAC State Tournament with a victory over Weaver HS, moving onto the second round state tournament at Stratford HS where the team fought back and competed with toughness throughout. One varsity player earned All-Conference honors. The Freshman team finished 2nd place in the Kenny Robinson Tournament, highlighting the strong future of the program.

The program continues to build a strong foundation focused on toughness, discipline, accountability, and pride in representing Middletown High School. We appreciate the continued support from the Board of Education, school administration, families, and the Middletown community as we work to continue growing the program and providing meaningful opportunities for our student-athletes.

Girls Basketball, Kelvin Jones:

The MHS Girls basketball team finished the 2025-26 regular season with a 1-19 record. With this record, we did not qualify for the CIAC and CCC tournament. We had a varsity team with several freshmen players with no experience at that level. With the expected improvement of our younger players, the coaches are looking forward to this progression and a successful season in 2026-27 in the CIAC and CCC.

Wrestling, David Baldyga:

This was a season of growth and improvement. We finished the season with a dual match record of 15 wins and 11 losses. Of the 11 losses over half of them were less than 6 points, we struggled to fill all 14 weight classes averaging 12-18 points in forfeits. Isaiah McDaniel and Josh Ramos both reached and surpassed 100 wins in their career. We had four all conference athletes Josh Ramos, Isaiah McDaniel, Ca'Mani McDaniel and Andrew Scharper. Four state place winners Josh Ramos 2nd, Ca'Mani McDaniel 5th, Andrew Scharper 6th and Isaiah McDaniel state champ. Two State open place winners Josh Ramos 4th and Isaiah McDaniel 2nd. Isaiah McDaniel avenged a one point loss in the state open finals by a week later dominating and winning the New England's championship becoming the third New England champ in schools history. At the end of the month we will compete at Nationals with the hopes of adding all Americans to the list of accomplishments.

Boys Swim/Dive, Trevor Charles:

The Boys Swimming and Diving program finished 9-4 this year, and second in the CCC South conference. 9 Kids qualified for Class M states, and 8 moved on to Finals. At the finals meet two individuals were named All State athletes, and one, Cole Strickland, was Class M State Champion in the 200 Free. 4 student athletes qualified for the State Open event.

Winter Cheerleading, Lindsay Hansen:

This winter season we cheered at designated boys and girls basketball games for JV and Varsity. This season we were selected to have a JV team in an effort to build our foundation for varsity. We worked this season on various skills and made goals for the coming year to improve on. We attended three cheerleading competitions for varsity. We were able to work on more intermediate level stunts and will continue to work on them for the following season. We will continue to work on tumbling skills and stunt technique.

Dance Team Marisa Bishop/Caitilin Nelson:

This Winter season was extremely successful. We danced at several home basketball games, competed at 2 local competitions, traveled to Orlando, FL to compete at the National Dance Team Championship, and placed first in both Hip Hop and Jazz at the CIAC Connecticut Dance Team State Championship! We are competing at Regionals against top teams from CT, MA and VT on 3/14.

Girls Indoor Track: Rob Weston:

The Girls Indoor Track Team continued to improve as many of the younger athletes really started to learn the ropes. We had a ton of talent spread across a variety of events and a variety of grade levels. Not only did we have major contributions from upperclassmen, but the sophomores and freshmen made sure to let themselves be known. Each meet, from the first to the last, saw us compete to the best of our ability and achieve some awesome accomplishments. Standouts from the season would definitely be Brookelyn Grant and Nadia Ansaldo. Brookelyn continued her success from last season, being our top sprinter and gradually becoming one of the top sprinters in the state. Nadia improved massively in the jumping events and managed to break the school record in the triple jump. As a team, we ended the season with a 4-5 record and a 6th place finish in the CCC south. With many returning varsity athletes, we'll look to compete with the best in the state in the coming seasons and make it a goal to be one of the top teams in our conference.

Boys Indoor Track: James White:

This was an incredible season. This group understood their roles, stayed focused on their goals, and showed what true teamwork looks like. A big shoutout to our upperclassmen Rodney Crockett set a sophomore meet record at the Hispanic Games at one of the most iconic tracks in the country. He placed 2nd overall in the CCC, breaking the school record. He finished 2nd in Class L, placed at State Opens and also placed 3rd at the New England Championships. We also saw school records fall this season: Porchheng Kim in the pole vault with a jump of 11' 6", and Rodney Crockett in the 55-meter dash.

Unified Basketball: Cindy Culp

This winter season for Unified Basketball we had learned new techniques and had fun. The coaches were out on the courts more with the athletes which really helped with engagement. We had 2 tournaments. Our Glastonbury tournament was rescheduled due to snow which made us have back to back tournaments- Glastonbury High School and Cheshire School. Our team was tired by tournament number 2, however you would have never known it because they definitely didn't show it. Overall this season was great and we are looking forward to a great Spring season!

Beman Middle School Winter Sports Narratives

Middle School Wrestling: Steve McKeever:

This season we had 38 boys and girls join the wrestling team, of those 8 were managers, 5 girls participated on the team. The team had 6 wins and 6 losses. We took first place in the East Haven Holiday tournament. Once again we hosted the Beman Invitational, 11 teams and 240 athletes competed. Of the 240 athletes, 50 were girls, which allowed us to make 8 brackets of only girls. This was the first time that girls were able to wrestle only girls, allowing them to be more competitive and enjoy the sport a little more.

Middle School Boys Basketball: John Geary

Preseason tryouts in November had 102 individuals showcasing their ability in order to make the squad. Seventeen eighth graders, five seventh graders were selected as well as five sixth graders.

The varsity boys finished with an overall record of 10 wins, 4 losses (9 and 2 in the Conference) and the JV team finished with 10 wins and 3 losses. This year's team worked hard from the opening day of tryouts to the final game. They came so close to getting to the BEMAN INVITATIONAL Finals losing to Silver Medal Winners Dodd Middle School of Cheshire 45-41.

Throughout the season, the Beman team was often complimented for its play and conduct by officials, coaches, opponents and parents. Our GOAL as Rams is to demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the court.... And this team demonstrated that.

Middle School Girls Basketball: Mike Angeli

The Beman Girls Basketball team had a successful season of 6 wins, 8 losses and a 2-2 record in the Beman Invitational securing 3rd place. The JV girls had a successful record over .500. The team worked incredibly hard to become not only better individual students-athletes but collectively a stronger team. Special shoutout to our four Captains: Brianna Eldridge, Olivia Lane, Addison Sharillo and Autumn Thomas, who acquired and displayed all the characteristics of great leadership throughout the entire season. Their dedication, assertiveness, organization and compassion towards their team and teammates, in itself, labeled this season as successful.

Middle School Cheer: Beth Shapiro

Initially 70 girls signed up to participate and tried out for the squad. Ultimately 20 girls made the team, but two left during the season due to personal reasons. The team consisted of ten 8th graders, six 7th graders and two 6th graders. The girls learned about 45 chants to use at games at the beginning of the season and another 10 towards the end in order to freshen up the repertoire. They also learned and performed a dance routine for half time and 2 sideline dances as well as some longer cheers to use during timeouts. The girls loved to take ownership of the team and to help make decisions about our performances. We are still struggling to find an appropriate place to practice where we can have enough space and access to mats, which limits what we are capable of doing.

WINTER TEAM RECORDS

MHS	Wins	Losses	Tie
Girls Basketball	1	19	
Boys Basketball	10	10	
Girls Indoor Track	4	6	
Boys Indoor Track	9	1	
Wrestling	15	11	
Boys Swim/Dive	9	4	
Co-Op Hockey	15	3	2
Cheerleading	-	-	
Dance	-	-	
Unified Basketball	-	-	
BEMAN			
Girls Basketball	6	8	
Boys Basketball	10	4	
Wrestling	6	6	
Cheerleading	-	-	

Academic Review---2025-26 Winter Sports Season

All student-athletes in grades 9-12 were reviewed for compliance to Middletown High School’s eligibility policy. In accordance with district and CIAC policy, grades from the 2nd quarter served as the criteria in the review process. Student-athletes who had met CIAC eligibility standards, but had received one or more failing grades were subject to the review process. As is the case with all athletic seasons, all interscholastic teams were required to hold supervised study halls in some capacity for student-athletes throughout the season.

Team-by team results of the Academic Review process are summarized in the following table:

	Number Of Student Athletes Subject To Academic Review	Number Of Student Athletes Meeting MHS Criteria For Continuing Participation	Number Of Student Athletes Who Failed To Meet MHS Criteria For Continuing Participation
Boys Basketball	5	5	0
Girls Basketball	2	2	0
Wrestling	7	7	0
Boys Swimming	1	1	0
Boys Indoor Track	2	2	0
Girls Indoor Track	1	1	0
Cheerleading	1	1	0
Dance Team	0	0	0
Hockey	1	1	0
Unified	0	0	0
Total	20	20	0

The Academic Review process is designed to support students and encourage them to strive for academic success. Often, a student’s desire to play a sport or engage in extracurricular activities will spark the effort and focus necessary for improvement in the classroom. Athletics are a valuable part of the high school experience, and Middletown High School is committed to using sports as partners in the educational process.

2025-26 WINTER ATHLETICS EXPENSES

SPORT	*OPERATING EXPENSES		GENERATED INCOME		Number of Coaches		Total Salaries	
	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26	2024-25	2025-26
Boys Basketball	\$ 12,850	\$ 12,600	\$ 2,887	\$ 3,093	3	3	\$ 21,923	\$ 22,580
-Police	\$ 8,360	\$ 5,805						
Middle School	\$ 2,245	\$ 3,972	\$ 0	\$ 0	2	1	\$ 6,566	\$ 4,960
Girls Basketball	\$ 9,066	\$ 6,948	\$ 1,199	\$ 1,580	3	2	\$ 21,923	\$ 16,154
-Police	\$ 1,197	\$ 0						
Middle School	\$ 2,657	\$ 3,249	\$ 0	\$ 0	2	2	\$ 6,566	\$ 6,763
Boys Swim & Dive	\$ 13,134	\$ 4,036	\$ 0	\$ 0	3	3	\$ 21,923	\$ 22,580
Indoor Track (Boys/Girls)	\$ 10,721	\$ 4,735	\$ 0	\$ 0	3	4	\$ 21,788	\$ 22,442
Wrestling	\$ 7,349	\$ 5,792	\$ 673	\$ 1,000	2	2	\$ 15,684	\$ 16,154
Middle School	\$ 2,435	\$ 928	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 4,816	\$ 4,960
Cheerleading	\$ 3,037	\$ 395	\$ 0	\$ 0	2	2	\$ 11,951	\$ 12,308
MS Cheerleading	\$ 0	\$ 24	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 4,816	\$ 4,960
Unified Sports	\$ 497	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	1	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,494
Dance	\$ 1,909	\$ 7,805	\$ 0	\$ 0	2	2	\$ 6,239	\$ 6,426
Ice Hockey Co-op	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 0	\$ 0	0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Strength & Conditioning	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	1	0	\$ 6,239	\$ 0
Athletic Training	\$ 8,162	\$ (+4,860 added to sports affected)						
Security: MHS	\$ 13,837	\$ 16,330						
: Beman	\$ 2,606	\$ 1,676						
***Miscellaneous	\$ 5,965	\$ 6,605						
Transportation	\$ 41,817	\$ 47,625						
TOTALS	\$149,344	\$ 130,025	\$ 4,759	\$ 5,673	26	24	\$151,844	\$ 141,781

*Operating Expenses- Includes officials, custodial overtime, event workers, uniforms, equipment, supplies and game personnel.

**Miscellaneous includes awards, administrative supplies, office supplies, dues & fees.

***Dance includes team state championship rings.

Winter 2025-26 Participation

<u>SPORT</u>	<i>MIDDLE SCHOOL</i>								<i>HIGH SCHOOL</i>								<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>				
	<u>SIXTH</u>		<u>SEVENTH</u>		<u>EIGHTH</u>		<u>TOTALS</u>		<u>NINTH</u>		<u>TENTH</u>		<u>ELEVENTH</u>		<u>TWELFTH</u>				<u>TOTALS</u>		
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	
Boys Indoor Track										16	2	9	20	14	8	4	11	43	41	43	41
Girls Indoor Track										5	11	3	4	7	6	8	6	23	27	23	27
Boys Swim										7	2	6	9	10	3	9	11	32	25	32	25
Boys Basketball	2	5	15	5	11	20	28	30		12	15	9	9	4	7	7	3	32	34	60	64
Girls Basketball	4	6	13	7	8	12	25	25		5	5	10	1	2	7	8	1	25	14	50	39
Wrestling	11	8	8	16	12	14	31	38		8	6	7	6	3	5	7	3	25	20	56	58
Cheerleading	2	2	6	6	12	10	20	18		7	6	10	4	5	7	1	5	23	22	43	40
Dance										2	3	8	3	5	6	2	3	17	15	17	15
Unified Sports										1	3	2	2	1	3	3	1	7	9	7	9
Co-Op Hockey										0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	19	21	42	34	43	56	104	111		63	53	64	58	51	52	49	45	227	208	331	319

Winter Coaches

MHS Boys Basketball	Head Coach	Corey Gordon
	Assistant	Terry Sears
	Assistant	Jason Manzie
BMS Boys Basketball	Head Coach	John Geary
MHS Girls Basketball	Head Coach	Kelvin Jones
	Assistant	Taylor Nkonoki
BMS Girls Basketball	Head Coach	Mike Angeli
	Assistant	Vivaldi Demas
MHS Wrestling	Head Coach	David Baldyga
	Assistant	Josh Veleas
BMS Wrestling	Head Coach	Steve McKeever
MHS Girls Indoor Track	Head Coach	Rob Weston
	Assistant	Jamarius Russell
MHS Boys Indoor Track	Head Coach	James White
	Assistant	Brennan Lazich
MHS Boys Swim/Dive	Head Coach	Trevor Charles
	Assistant Dive	Daniel Kinney
	Assistant	Taylor Garbowski
MHS Cheerleading	Head Coach	Lindsay Hansen
	Assistant	Aaliyah Wright
BMS Cheerleading	Head Coach	Beth Shapiro
MHS Dance	Co-Coach	Marisa Bishop
	Co-Coach	Caitilyn Nelson
MHS Unified Basketball	Head Coach	Cindy Culp
MHS Co-Op Hockey	Head Coach	David Dubos