

March 4, 2020

Dear Track Parents:

Welcome to this year's track program at Geneseo Middle School. We hope your son/daughter has a good experience with this sport. We will have up to 200 athletes involved in the program, so we would like to get you some basic information to help you prepare for the expectations for track 2020.

All athletes must have an athletic physical on file with the school nurse before they can practice or participate in a track meet. In addition, for the 2019-20 school year, the School Board approved a \$30 participation fee. This fee applies to any sport, club, or activity. The \$30 is collected once and covers all sports/activities for the entire year. Athletes may not participate in practice or meets until this fee has been paid. Payment may be made with a credit card online through Skyward Family Access or with cash/check at the middle school office.

Track practices will run Monday through Thursday from 3:30 - 5:00 PM. We do have Friday practices on the schedule. When we practice on Fridays, the dismissal time will be 4:30 PM. Please be prompt in picking up your son/daughter at the end of practice. Please note that the practice schedule is subject to change and we will communicate any changes. Also, there will be a parent meeting Thursday, March 5th at 5:00 following practice. This meeting should last about 30 minutes.

Athletes who have an unexcused absence may forfeit their participation in upcoming meets. Communication with coaches is essential. Chronic absenteeism and student handbook violations could lead to dismissal from the team. Excused absences include physical illness; medical appointments, family emergencies, and approved conflicting activities. Athletes must bring a note from home to excuse them from practice.

Early in the season, athletes will need to dress warmly for practices and meets. Sweat suits, coats, caps, gloves, and rain gear may be necessary, so check the weather forecasts. If you or your athlete is interested in purchasing GMS Track and Field gear, we are using an online store this year. See our track website (address below) to order online. Ordering track gear is optional but a great way to support the team.

We hope to return from away meets before 8:30 PM, but please be aware how meets are run varies from school to school. We do not stop for food on the way home, but it is a good idea to send food and water with your athlete. Most meets have concession stands, so some snack money is essential also.

Athletes may leave from a meet with parents after all their events are concluded. To leave with your child from a meet, a signed note **MUST** be given to the school office by the morning of the meet. Before leaving a track meet, please have your son/daughter sign out with a coach, so the coaches know he/she is leaving with a parent. Students may not leave with other parents unless it is stated in a signed note giving the student permission to leave with another parent in the same procedure. **NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE, PLEASE!** Do not ask coaches at the meets to allow exceptions.

Also, attached is a copy of the schedule. Directions can be found on the back. Please notice that athletes may be going to the state meet if they qualify at sectionals. Please consider volunteering at our home meets. It really is fun to help down on the track. You can sign up by filling out the attached form, or use the link on our website. More information can be found at our web page <https://gcsdstaff.org/gmstrackandfield/>. We hope you and your athlete have a great season!

Sincerely,

Erin Gillespie, Head Girls Coach
Deb Wagner, Assistant
Brad Monier, Assistant

Todd Ehlert, Head Boys Coach
Taylor Mathew, Assistant
Mike Harrington, Assistant