

Double trouble? Board approves cheerleading changes

by junior Hailey Elder.

After being petitioned by student athletes who also wish to cheer, the school board approved making cheerleading at Hudson High School an extracurricular activity rather than a sport.

Why the change?

According to the superintendent, Dr. Anthony Voss, both he and the school board were in support of the change in policy for various reasons.

First, they felt cheerleading did not meet the criteria to be classified as a sport because cheerleaders at Hudson school do not participate in any form of competition. Second, they were compelled by the athletes who expressed wanting more opportunity at HHS. Lastly, they felt having more students in school activities strengthens both the activity and the school.

Experiencing growth

The decision has affected the number of cheerleaders on the team. Due to the policy, the original team of 11 became a team of 17, making this year's team the largest in Hudson history. Joining the squad were four volleyball players and two cross country runners.

Not all change is good

To the surprise of some, junior Grace Jorgensen, who started her third year in cross country ranked 13th in the state, was one of the runners who opted to also do fall cheer. Jorgensen, who

thought it would be challenging to juggle the responsibilities of both activities never thought of the biggest drawback she's faced- the cost.

"It's really expensive!" said Jorgensen who has had to spend over a hundred dollars in sport gear, not including her \$120 running shoes.



photo by senior Abby Tjepkes

The decision has not only affected the ones involved in cheer and sports, but also their teammates.

Although she sees the good in the change as well, junior volleyball player Olivia Kolterman worries that the two activities together have overwhelmed her teammates. Cheerleader Katelyn Pint also sees challenges with the decision.

"It is hard to have practices, teach

cheers and work on stunts when we have to work around their schedules," said junior Katelyn Pint, who has been a football cheerleader for three years.

Better than expected

Despite these challenges, the dual participation has gone smoother than anyone anticipated.

"I think it's a great thing to have girls who can do both. The girls who are doing both are glad they have the new opportunity to try something they couldn't before," said senior Lauren Murray, varsity volleyball.

Looking ahead

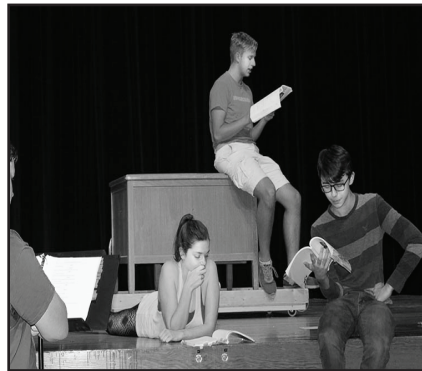
Switching cheerleading to an extracurricular is probationary this year. Dr. Voss is undecided on whether or not he will recommend this continue next year.

"It's too early to tell," said Voss, who plans to see how it will affect winter sports season.

Dr. Voss is optimistic to the policy. "I'm willing to try it [because] I want [students] to have as many opportunities as you can."

Fall coaches are behind the policy in the future, too.

Cross country coach Sherri Selenke said, "I think this has shown that it is manageable and workable and allows the students to be involved more with extracurricular activities."



photos by junior Aubrey Gronoksi

Musical Mania! Junior Andrew Oleson and seniors Lauren Murray, Maddie Hartleip and Holden Caloud prepare for the school musical with director Casey Tecklenburg. On November 4th and 5th, the musical, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, will

be performed in the high school auditorium. Tickets will be available for \$6 in the high school office. The money will help the program at least break even with what they spent on the musical, but they are always hoping to make money for the program as well.

Who's in da club?

by junior Katelyn Pint.

Hudson High School has many great opportunities for students to get involved and give back to their community.

PALs- The PAL (Peers and Leaders) Program is a way for role models in the high school to interact with elementary students. Students meet once a week to spend quality time with their elementary student doing various activities like reading books, playing games and making crafts. To join, see the PALs advisor: 7-12 counselor Ashley McCaulley.

Model UN- Model UN is a student organization in which students role-play as members of the United Nations using parliamentary procedures to solve real world issues and problems. Model UN offers great opportunity for students to debate, learn about different cultures and discuss political issues using position papers, collaboration and/or talking in front of a large audience. To join, see the advisor: 9-12 social studies teacher Paul Simmer.

Art Club - Art Club provides students the opportunity to use their artistic talents to give back to their school and community. Throughout the year, Art Club will be making tie blankets for the Harmony House, making cards for Meals on Wheels and crocheting baby hats for the Iowa City Children's Hospital. Art Club takes place throughout the school year on every other Thursday during seminar and is open to any student interested. To join, see advisor: 9-12 art teacher, Laura Angove.

Spanish Club - Spanish Club is an opportunity to provide educational opportunities outside of the classroom for those interested in the Spanish language and culture. Students in Spanish three and four will meet at least once a month. To join, see advisor: 9-10 Spanish teacher, Dawn Frye.

Robotics- FIRST FTC Robotics is a student organization in which 7-12 students design, build, program, compete and promote their robot and organization. Teams and students are recognized for their innovation, motivation, control systems, promotion of their team, FIRST principles and success in competition. To join, see advisor 9-12 science teacher Vaughn Gross.

Did you know?

- **58 percent** of students at HHS are involved in one or more clubs within the school.

- **More girls** are involved in the clubs at Hudson than boys.

- **The junior class** has the most involved students.

- Clubs HHS Students would like to see at Hudson include, **Chess Club, Dance Team, & Book Club.**