

An update of the status on the survey results regarding a middle school softball program:

The survey showed interest from over 100 potential parties from both Hillcrest and Madison. After reviewing the survey, two issues stood out: (1) there was strong preference for a **non parent** coach, and (2) the price point from most of the participants came in at \$325.

The issue is scheduled for discussion at the Board of Education meeting on **Tuesday, February 9, 2010**, as the last item under new business (see the information under www.trumbullps.org for the Board of Education meetings). However, the Board of Education (BOE) has some concerns about the program which I think you should be aware of:

- (1) The middle schools currently run programs for both boys and girls basketball where the pay-to-play fee is \$200 per player. As it stands right now, the programs run *deficits* which are covered by the Trumbull High School high school sports program, which, (in turn) reduces the high school sports program budgets. Although the survey indicates that parents are willing to pay a higher fee to cover the program, the BOE may be reluctant to go over the present \$200 pay-to-play fee presently paid by the basketball participants.
- (2) The basketball programs at the middle school program currently have paid coaches through the teachers agreements, and the BOE may be reluctant to have volunteer coaches, or coaches outside the Trumbull system, for the softball program.
- (3) The BOE has been discussing **dropping** the middle school program due to its ongoing deficits. With the economy the way it is, and the BOE's budget situation, I don't need to tell you that **adding** a program, *even without a significant cost to the BOE*, will be a difficult sell.

The BOE will be discussing this issue at their meeting next Tuesday night – February 9th. If you are interested in seeing this program approved, it is **important** that you attend the BOE meeting and express your support for this program. Please keep in mind that various options to address the BOE's concerns will need to be discussed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at (203) 268-7361 or (203) 522-7438, or the athletic director's office at (203) 452-4557. Lynn and I would like to thank Mr. Michael Herbst for all the time and effort he has put into working with us on the softball program.

Please feel free to pass this e-mail on to any Trumbull residents that may be interested in the softball program.

Best Regards,

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NOTE (from www.trumbullps.org : The Trumbull Board of Education meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month with the exception of holidays and school vacations [**Please note that this Board meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2010**] Meetings are usually held at the Long Hill Administration building - 6254 Main St., Trumbull. Agenda's are usually posted a day or two prior to the meeting on the "[Meetings](#)" section of this website. In addition, the full board packet is usually available for download as well. Both documents are in PDF format. You can view some of the meetings on [Google Videos](#). A listing of the current videos are on [Trumbull's Educational Channel](#).