



GENESEO

COMMUNITY UNIT
SCHOOL DISTRICT #228

Where the *future* grows.

GMS Girls Softball Proposal

By Jenni Johnson



The Why

TEACHLEARN**CARE**



GMS Athletic Goal

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- a. To have as many individuals participate in as many different activities as possible on a yearly basis

*Source: Pardoe, Darin. District 228 “State of GMS Athletics” School Board Presentation. 10 October 2019.

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Why?

Playing a sport provides girls with benefits that can last throughout their entire lives. These include: decreased risk of cancer, improved life skills (such as teamwork, leadership, and perseverance), increased self-confidence, improved academic performance, decreased risk for obesity-related diseases (such as heart disease and diabetes), improved emotional health and resiliency.

Source: <https://www.apadivisions.org/division-35/news-events/news/physical-activity>

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But Why Softball?



Sports & Activities

- [Baseball, Boys](#)
- [Basketball, Boys](#)
- [Basketball, Girls](#)
- [Bowling, Boys & Girls](#)
- [Cheerleading](#)
- [Chess](#)
- [Cross Country, Boys & Girls](#)
- [Golf, Boys & Girls](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Scholastic Bowl](#)
- [Softball, Boys \(Ret.\)](#)
- [Softball, Girls](#)
- [Speech](#)
- [Track & Field, Boys & Girls](#)
- [Volleyball, Girls](#)
- [Wrestling, Boys](#)

As you can see the only sports not currently taking place at GMS are Cheerleading, Bowling, Baseball and Softball.

Boys and Girls Soccer is an “Emerging IESA sport” no local teams are currently registered or on the Interest list. Boys Volleyball is also an emerging sport with no local interest at this time.

Athletic Numbers 2017-2022

	2017-2018	Percentage	2018-2019	Percentage	2019-2020	Percentage	2020-2021	Percentage	2021-2022	Percentage
GMS Girls	312	49.30%	322	49.50%	292	48.60%	277	47.80%	298	48.40%
GMS Boys	321	50.70%	328	50.50%	309	51.40%	303	52.20%	318	51.60%
GMS Total	633		650		601		580		616	
Athletics										
Girls	128	46.90%	123	46.20%	127	46%	111	50.40%	105	45.30%
Boys	145	53.10%	143	53.80%	149	54%	109	49.60%	127	54.70%
Total Athletes	273		266		276		220		232	

*Covid Year

But don't we have travel softball?

A majority of girls do play travel softball for a VARIETY of teams in the Quad Cities. Some do not play as part of the Green Xtreme organization for one reason or another. This would give the girls a chance to play together before high school starts in order to develop a strong bond with their teammates. This strong bond would be further reinforced with the IESA post-season they would encounter at GMS. We feel this middle school training ground will provide advantages to our players once they reach the much more competitive WB6 conference at GHS.

This would also allow the girls that have not played travel softball an opportunity to play at a more advanced level at an earlier age. We believe that they would be better prepared for high school softball.

Sweet 16 3A Teams with Middle School Softball

2018-2019

11/16 teams had middle school softball including Pontiac (Lost to them in the Sectional Championship)

Lemont
Burbank
Glen Ellyn
Ottawa
Kankakee McNamara
Pontiac
Centralia
Carbondale
Charleston
Mt. Zion
Marengo

2020-2021

11/16 teams had middle school softball. Including the two teams in the State Championship.

Ottawa
Lemont
Washington
Bloomington
Norridge (Ridgewood)
Burbank
Antioch
Rochester
Chatham (Glenwood)
Highland
Waterloo



Interesting Statistic

In 2018-2019 our sectional was the Peoria (ND) HS Sectional.

12/20 of those HS teams had middle school softball.

In 2020-2021 we were in the Sterling HS Sectional.

0/15 teams had middle school softball.



Local Schools with IESA Softball:

Annawan

Bureau Valley Junior High

Cambridge

Galva

Kewanee Central

Kewanee Visitation

Kewanee Wethersfield

Mercer County

Princeton

ROWVA

Toulon Stark County

Williamsfield

Woodhull Alwood

Peoria area teams for a Saturday double headers

366 schools in Illinois offer softball at the middle school level for IESA



Coaching Staff

Head Coach & Assistant Coach: There is interest from current staff for both positions.

Possible Volunteer Coaches: High School Girls that don't play a fall sport that are looking for Silver Cord Hours

Compensation

Head Coach: 7%

Assistant Coach: 4%

Boys Basketball- 10 weeks is 9%

Volleyball- 9 weeks is 9%

Track (IESA) 10 Weeks is 9% Assistant 7%

Cross Country (IESA) 9 Weeks is 9% Assistant 7%



Obstacles:



VOLLEYBALL: Our current conference does not follow the IESA calendar for Volleyball or Basketball (both boys and girls).

*Softball is not a fall high school sport. Therefore, athletes should not have to choose between softball and volleyball at the middle school level. We would collaborate with volleyball to ensure as many athletes can compete in both when desired.

*Golf, Cross Country, Volleyball, and Football are all fall sports at the middle school and high school level.

Practice/Schedule

*The first year, we would have 5-10 scheduled games, with the possibility of a few B games.

*Home games and practice would take place at JFE. The fields are owned by the school district, so no cost.

*Practice: For girls that are participating in volleyball, they might only practice a few times a week. Parents would be required to transport their athlete to practices.

*No cuts, however depending on the busing situation, everyone might not travel to away games. 18 are allowed on the Postseason Roster.



Practice

Practice begins July 25th at JFE from (time TBA)

Games may begin August 3

Roster of 18 due to IESA by end of August

Regionals begin September 7 or 8, 10, 13

Sectionals September 17

State September 23-24

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Equipment Provided By Player

Fielding Face Mask

Glove

Bat

Helmet

Pants

Cleats (must be rubber)

Catching Equipment (if applicable)

Socks



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Anticipated Costs

IESA 2022 Girls Softball

Postmarked Entry Date & Fees To 6/6/2022 - \$65.00

Umpires for home games \$55-\$60 per umpire

Chalk for field ~ \$4 per game.

Game Balls (at least 2 per home game) 2 dozen \$150

Uniforms: Shirt (\$20-\$40), pants (\$20), Belt (\$8).

Low End Total: \$30/girl Higher End Total: \$70/girl

Miscellaneous Equipment (might be able to use the high school equipment such as nets)

Total Cost

Item	20 girls, 10 games (5 home 5 away)	30 girls, 10 Games	20 Girls 15 games (8 home, 7 away)	30 Girls 15 games	20 girls 20 games (10 home, 10 away)	30 girls 20 games)
Head Coach 7%	\$2,590	\$2,590	\$2,590	\$2,590	\$2,590	\$2,590
Assistant Coach 4%	\$1,480	\$1,480	\$1,480	\$1,480	\$1,480	\$1,480
IESA Fee	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65	\$65
Game Balls (Year 1 more balls for practice)	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250
Bus for Away Games	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$3,000	\$3,000
Umpires for Home (2 per game)	\$650	\$650	\$1,040	\$1,040	1,300	\$1,300
Chalk	\$20	\$20	\$30	\$30	\$40	\$40
Uniforms \$20 T-Shirt	\$400	\$600	\$400	\$600	\$400	\$600
TOTAL COST Year 1	\$6,955	\$7,155	\$7,955	\$8,155	\$9,125	\$9,325

(looking into GHS Booster Club funding, using old GHS jerseys, or donations to decrease cost. Girls provide pants, socks, belt)

Upgraded Uniform \$75/girl	\$1,500	\$2,250	\$1,500	\$2,250	\$1,500	\$2,250
- Original Uniform cost	-400	-600	-400	-600	-400	-600
TOTAL COST Year 2	\$8,055	\$8,805	\$9,055	\$9,805	\$10,225	\$10,975

Balls	-\$150	-150	-150	-150	-150	-150
uniforms	-\$1,500	-\$2,250	-\$1,500	-\$2,250	-\$1,500	-\$2,250
TOTAL AFTER Year 2	\$6,405	\$6,405	\$7,405	\$7,405	\$8,575	\$8,575

In Conclusion

Adding IESA Girls Softball to Geneseo Middle School would benefit the Geneseo High School Softball Program, and more importantly it would benefit the 7th and 8th grade girls at Geneseo Middle School by providing them with another opportunity to participate in athletics and represent their school.



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