

News from the athletic department at Baker High School

Sports teams are giving back

This year, and from now on, every sports team will decide on a community service project to complete during the regular season.

"The idea is that you can make a positive impact every day," said Buell Gonzales Jr., the district athletic director.

Students and coaches on each team collaboratively select a challenging project.

This fall the cross country team volunteered at a mud obstacle run held in memory of Wes Gibbons, who died in a sledding accident in December 2018. The soccer teams gleaned potatoes to give to local families, and the cheer squad painted over graffiti at the city-owned skate park.

"Each team is required to do a community service project," Gonzales said. "What that looks like is up to them."



BHS cross country runners helped with the Messy Wessy, an obstacle mud run held September 7 in honor of Wes Gibbons, who died in a sledding accident in December 2018.

Captain's Club

District athletic director Buell Gonzales Jr. will work with representatives from each sports team as part of "Captain's Club." The group will meet on a couple Fridays each month for about 45 minutes and work through the book "7 Ways to Lead Your Team" by Bruce E. Brown.

"We'll intentionally teach leadership — 'let's talk about how we lead teams,'" Gonzales said.

He said the focus will revolve around the question of what it means to be a good leader. The book covers topics such as leading by example, communication, and encouraging others.

Three to four athletes from each sport will be invited to participate upon recommendation from his or her coach. Captain's Club members will change each sports season.

"These are skills and tools the kids will take with them," Gonzales said.

Part of this new program will include the book "Raise Your Game" by Alan Stein Jr., who is scheduled to talk to the BHS student body, coaches and Baker community in March.

Honoring senior citizens

Student athletes at Baker High School are handing out senior citizen passes to local community members, who will in turn be recognized at games during this school year.

"The purpose is to connect and show appreciation for those who have given so much to our community," said Buell Gonzales Jr., district athletic director.

The district has always offered this free pass, but this year reduced the eligible age to 60. The pass gives free entrance to regular season games for football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, baseball and softball. Passholders will also receive a sports schedule. Passes are also available at the front office of Baker High School, 2500 E St., and at the gate of any game.

The senior citizen passes do not apply to playoff games.

