

November 9, 2017

Dear Parents of Fifth & Sixth Grade Boys,

All boys are invited to participate in the St. Joe's Boys' Basketball Program. Our team participates in the Boise Public School League competing against schools of similar size and in our area of town.

The philosophy of the program is educational with the focus on introduction to the sport, participation, fun, good sportsmanship, team building and basketball fundamentals. Score is not kept. Coaches, while refereeing the games, have the latitude to teach while officiating. Each player will play a minimum of 2 six minute periods per game. This is not a competitive league such as AAU, Hoop Dreams or other "Club Ball" teams.

**We rely on parent volunteers to coach. You do not have to have a child in the program to coach. The position can also be job-shared.**

Practice begins the week of January 8, 2018. Seven to eight games will be played following approximately 8 practices in preparation for the season. A typical week is a 3-4 day commitment (1-2 practices/1-2 games). The season will run 6-7 weeks in its entirety.

Games (home and away) are after school. Although the plan is to have practice immediately after school, we may need to adjust a bit after we have a coach in place and have the opportunity to put that schedule together. Because we are the home court for the middle school basketball league, there will be days our gym is unavailable or where our practices would run from 3:00-4:00 rather than a more typical 3:00-4:30 practice time. Practicing Wednesday mornings before school starts (late start day) would be an option we could tap into if needed and if it worked for the coach.

Parents are responsible for the transportation of their son to away games. If you transport a child other than your own, you must have completed the Safe Environment class and have the proper carpooling-related paperwork on file in the school office (same as school field trip requirements – please refer to the school's handbook).

Participants need to wear appropriate athletic footwear to practice. A t-shirt and shorts are also preferred, but not required. The school will provide uniforms for games.

Students are expected to be at practice in order to participate in games. If there is a conflict, please talk with or send a note to the coach (TBD).

***Participation requires the submission of the following, to Mrs. Governale, no later than Wed., Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. All forms are available on the school website in addition to being attached.***

- Youth Athletic Participation and Release Form
- Medical History for any Hospital or Practitioner Form
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Basketball Parent Volunteer Form/Contact Information

Families will be invoiced a registration fee at the end of the season. The season expenses will be equally divided between all participating families. This fee is typically \$30 - \$40 and covers the cost of equipment, uniforms, the pizza party, and other related expenses that may arise. We do our best to keep costs as low as possible, thus our preference in compiling an actual and real time expense amount total at the end of the season.

I look forward to your son participating in this program.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at [governale@stjoes.com](mailto:governale@stjoes.com) or 208-342-4909, ext. 226.

Respectfully,

Mrs. Governale  
5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Athletic Director  
Physical Education Specialist  
Middle School Health Education