# FAIRFIELD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fairfield Athletics 2025-2026 & Beyond

# Providing Opportunities & Sustainable Solutions

Presented by:

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## **District Vision**



### Empowering tomorrow's leaders...one Knight at a time



#### **COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTOR**

- I act responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind.
- I serve as an active participant in a larger society.
- I demonstrate empathy, compassion, and respect for fellow community members.
- I am involved in community service and humanitarian efforts.
- I actively participate in civic life through knowing how to stay informed and understanding governmental processes.

#### **GROWTH MINDSET** (Continuous Personal Growth)

- I engage in self-reflection to enhance understanding and integrate new information into existing knowledge.
- · I persist through difficulties.
- I enjoy sharing knowledge with others and contributing to the learning of the broader community.
- I demonstrate commitment to learning as a lifelong process.
- I go beyond basic mastery of skills and/or competencies to explore and expand my own learning and opportunities to gain knowledge.

#### COMMUNICATOR

- I articulate thoughts and ideas using oral, written, and non-verbal communication skills in a variety of forms.
- I know when it is appropriate to listen and when to speak.
- I actively listen to develop deeper understanding.
- I communicate effectively in diverse environments.

#### CRITICAL THINKER

個面

I analyze possible outcomes prior to action.

COLLABORATOR

groups/individuals.

team member.

common goal.

· I demonstrate the ability to work

· I assume shared responsibility for

collaborative work, and value the

· I listen and act with empathy.

· I exercise flexibility in making

effectively and respectfully with diverse

I respectfully give and receive feedback.

individual contributions made by each

healthy compromises to accomplish a

- I make sound judgments and decisions considering the larger community.
- I identify, define, and solve problems and amicably resolve problems.
- I think outside the box and demonstrate perseverance.
- I make decisions by processing information, seeking patterns and connections, constructing meaningful knowledge, and applying knowledge to authentic context.

#### INNOVATOR

- I pursue imaginative approaches and solutions to challenges by asking questions, being flexible in my thinking, and learning from experimentation.
- I view failure as an opportunity to learn; understand that creativity and innovation is a long-term, cyclical process of small successes and frequent mistakes.
- I seek to continually improve processes and products.
- · I respectfully challenge the status quo.
- I use a wide range of idea creation techniques i.e., brainstorming, divergent and convergent thinking.

## **District Mission**



## **Students First!**

- Engaged in learning
- Empowered to be career and college ready
- Educated to make a difference

# Philosophy of Interscholastic Athletics at Fairfield Area School District



We are firm believers in an education-based interscholastic athletic program. Although we all want to win, winning is not the most important outcome in high/middle school athletics. The interests of the student-athlete come first. To this end, our athletes should learn life-long values and qualities, develop and grow as individuals, and understand and embrace sportsmanship.

## **Current Situation...**

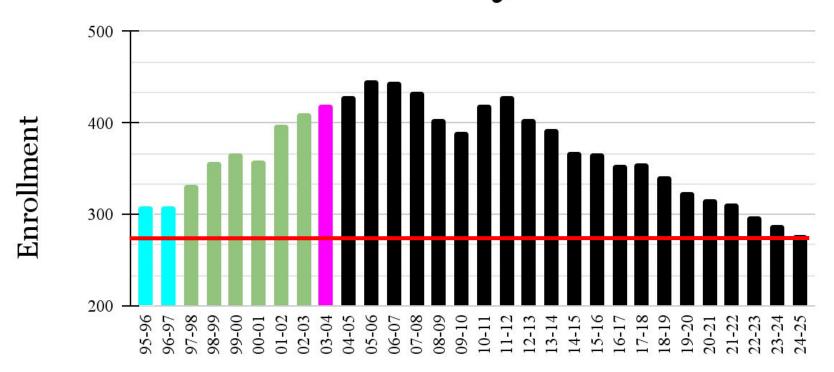


- 277 students in the high school
- 16 sports offered (boys/girls soccer, golf, field hockey, boys/girls cross country, football, volleyball, cheerleading, girls/boys basketball, wrestling, boys/girls track and field, baseball, softball)
- This fall several teams had rosters that were slightly larger than the maximum allowed on the field (in some cases we had to play with less than a full team in order to play the contest)
- Varsity football season transitioned to JV football due to low numbers/health and safety of the student-athletes
- Low numbers are currently projected for some of the winter sports teams

### Fairfield Area High School Enrollment: Past 30 Years



## **Enrollment By Year**



95-97 - 12 Sports

97-03 - 13 Sports

03-04 - 15 Sports

04-24 - 16 Sports

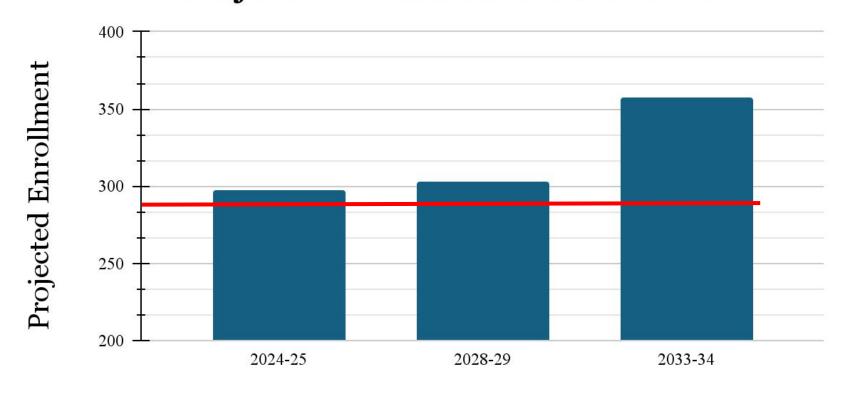
(Including Cheerleading)

Year - Oct 1 Enrollment

# What Does High School Enrollment Look Like in the Near Future?



#### PDE Projected Enrollment vs. School Year



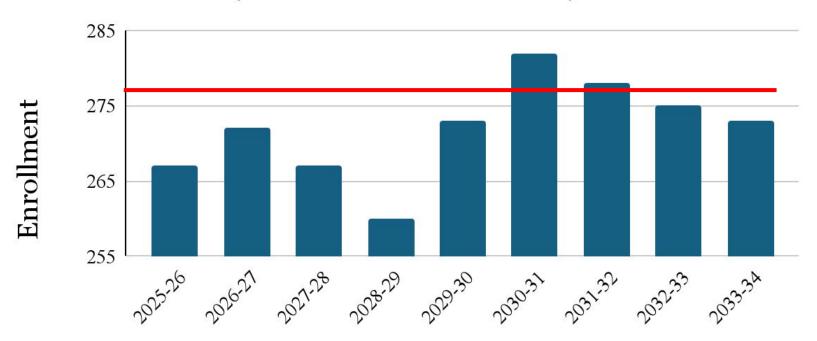
School Year

# What Does High School Enrollment Look Like in the Near Future?



#### Future Enrollment vs. Year

(Based on Current Enrollment)



Year

## Athletic Team Participation – Historical



Please see handout or link below to see number of participants per sport over the past 30 years. Most of the data was collected at 5 year increments, except for the past 5 years (more data was given).

Number of Participants



#### Option #1 –YAIAA Only with 16 Current Athletic Teams

#### **Considerations**:

- Athletic participation numbers will continue to fluctuate impacting athletic teams see enrollment information and team participation information.
- Some athletic programs currently have low participation and the number of participants for a specific athletic program impacts its viability and sustainability
- Sustainability of all 16 teams is a concern based on enrollment and number of participants it has become a math problem.
- YAIAA does provide stability, officials, local competition and rivalries, student awards, guaranteed games, conference championships and a direct pathway to PIAA District and State playoff competition.



#### Option #2 – Independent with 16 Current Athletic Teams

#### **Considerations**:

- FASD will need to schedule all contests and are not guaranteed a full complement of officials.
- Increased travel time to play opponents which potentially impacts academics.
- Minimal teams in District III are independent and not all independent teams in Pennsylvania are members of PIAA.
- Qualifying for post-season Districts and States becomes more challenging in lieu of scheduling contests.
- Less opportunity for Fairfield Student-Athletes to be recognized at the local, county, and state levels.
- Not an option to be independent in some sports and be in the YAIAA.
- Being independent does not address sustainability of the 16 current athletic programs which then impacts opportunity for student-athletes to participate in those programs.





District III Power Ranking FAQ

Power Ranking Explanation

## District III - Independent vs. League-Affiliated PIAA Schools



League	# of Schools	% of District III Schools
BCIAA	18	14.29%
CCAC	20	15.87%
LL	26	20.63%
MP	30	23.81%
TV	6	4.76%
YAIAA	22	17.46%
Ind	5	3.97%

Halifax is part of MP and TV

Total PIAA schools in District III - 126

96.03% of District III PIAA schools are league-affiliated

# District III Independent Schools... What Sports Do They Offer?



Harrisburg Academy - B/G

Basketball, B/G Soccer, Boys

Swimming, B/G Tennis -

(co-op)

Our Lady of the Cross - B/G

Basketball, Boys Soccer

Janus School - B/G Bowling

Shalom Christian Academy -

Baseball, Softball, B/G

Basketball, B/G Cross Country,

B/G Soccer, Volleyball

York Country Day - B/G

Basketball, B/G Soccer (co-op),

B/G Tennis (co-op)



## Option #3 - Co-op 16 Athletic Teams With Another School District Considerations:

- Co-ops between school districts for athletic purposes must be with a school district that shares a physical border.
- Gettysburg & Waynesboro are the only two (2) school districts that border Fairfield in PA.
- A dance partner is required...a school district willing to co-op all 16 athletic teams.
- No opportunities for Fairfield students to compete for "Fairfield"
- Potential long-term impact on school spirit and culture
- Local community impact
- Co-op with another district for all athletics is sustainable and provides opportunities for student-athletes.



## Option #4 - Hybrid YAIAA & Co-op for Some Athletic Teams

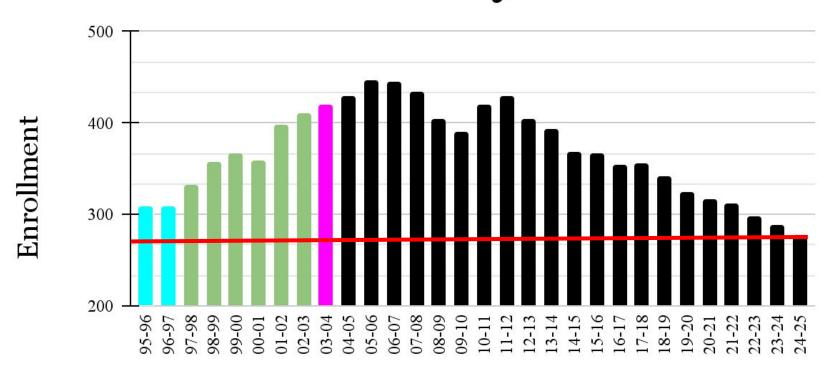
#### **Considerations:**

- Co-ops between school districts for athletic purposes must be with a school district that shares a physical border.
- Gettysburg & Waynesboro are the only two (2) school districts that border Fairfield in PA.
- A dance partner is required...a school district willing to co-op some athletic teams.
- Co-ops can be evaluated or re-evaluated every two (2) years.
- YAIAA does provide stability, officials, local competition and rivalries, student awards, guaranteed games, conference championships and a direct pathway to PIAA District and State playoff competition.
- Hybrid YAIAA & Co-op with another district for some athletics is sustainable and provides student-athlete opportunity.

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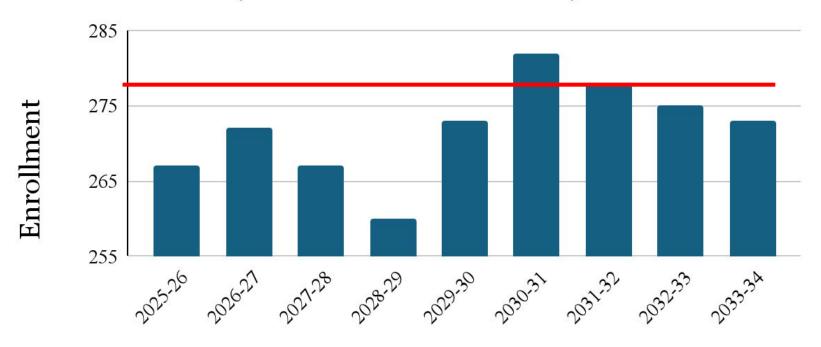
Year - Oct 1 Enrollment

# What Does High School Enrollment Look Like in the Near Future?



#### Future Enrollment vs. Year

(Based on Current Enrollment)



Year

## Moving Forward While Providing Opportunities & Sustainable Solutions Recommendations...



- 1. Remain in the YAIAA
- 2. Co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in Football
- 3. Co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in Wrestling
- 4. Either co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in Field Hockey next year, or do not offer Field Hockey after current 10th graders graduate due to limited student interest
- Do not offer MS Field Hockey (1 student-athlete has expressed interest in last 2 years)
- 6. Establish MS Cross Country team
- 7. Establish Competitive Cheer/Spirit team in the fall, if we co-op with Gettysburg in Football

### 2024-2025 Fairfield Athletics - Current



#### **FALL**

Varsity.....JV Football

Boys/Girls Soccer

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Golf

Volleyball

Field Hockey

Middle School

Field Hockey

#### WINTER

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling

Cheerleading

Middle School

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling

Cheerleading

#### **SPRING**

Baseball

Softball

Boys/Girls Track & Field

Middle School

Boys/Girls Track & Field

Soccer

## 2025-2026 Fairfield Athletics - Hybrid Option



#### **FALL**

Boys/Girls Soccer

Competitive Spirit/Cheer

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Golf

Volleyball

Field Hockey - (Co-op)

Football - (Co-op)

Middle School

**Cross Country** 

#### WINTER

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling - (Co-op)

Competitive Spirit/Cheer

#### **Middle School**

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling - (Co-op)

Cheerleading

#### **SPRING**

Baseball

Softball

Boys/Girls Track & Field

#### <u>Middle School</u>

Boys/Girls Track & Field

Soccer

## 2026-2027 Fairfield Athletics - Hybrid Option



#### **FALL**

Boys/Girls Soccer

Competitive Spirit/Cheer

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Golf

Volleyball

Field Hockey - (Co-op)

Football - (Co-op)

Middle School

**Cross Country** 

#### WINTER

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling - (Co-op)

Competitive Spirit/Cheer

#### **Middle School**

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling - (Co-op)

Cheerleading

#### **SPRING**

Baseball

Softball

Boys/Girls Track & Field

#### <u>Middle School</u>

Boys/Girls Track & Field

Soccer

## 2027-2028 Fairfield Athletics - Hybrid Option



#### **FALL**

Boys/Girls Soccer

Competitive Spirit/Cheer

Boys/Girls Cross Country

Golf

Volleyball

Football - (Co-op)

Middle School

**Cross Country** 

#### WINTER

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling - (Co-op)

Competitive Spirit/Cheer

#### **Middle School**

Boys/Girls Basketball

Wrestling - (Co-op)

Cheerleading

#### **SPRING**

Baseball

Softball

Boys/Girls Track & Field

#### <u>Middle School</u>

Boys/Girls Track & Field

Soccer



## Projected Timeline

#### December 2024

Board decision to co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in football

### January 2025

If Board decision is to <u>not</u> co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in football, we need to know if we are going to have a varsity football schedule or a JV football schedule (If YAIAA will allow)



## Projected Timeline

#### March 2025

- Board decision if we co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in field hockey
- Board decision if we continue to offer MS field hockey
- Board decision if we establish MS cross country

### **April 2025**

 Board decision if we co-op with Gettysburg or Waynesboro in wrestling

 Board decision if we establish a competitive spirit/cheer team

# Moving Forward While Providing Opportunities & Sustainable Solutions



# Questions?