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00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,630

Welcome to the Supe's On podcast.

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00:00:01,630 --> 00:00:05,020

I'm your host Dr. Steven Cook superintendent of Bend-La Pine Schools.

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00:00:05,030 --> 00:00:06,540

On the Supe's On podcast.

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00:00:06,540 --> 00:00:12,880

We talk about all things public education specifically as they relate to our Bend-La Pine Schools and the greater community here in Central Oregon.

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00:00:13,060 --> 00:00:19,000

Today we are tackling the world of athletics in our high schools and how that landscape has changed during the past two years.

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00:00:19,140 --> 00:00:23,460

I'm excited to be joined by two of our athletic directors here today to talk through this topic.

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00:00:23,640 --> 00:00:24,130

First of all,

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00:00:24,130 --> 00:00:31,760

Dave Williams who serves as our district athletic director and also as athletic director for our newest high school Caldera high school as well as Lance Haas,

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00:00:31,770 --> 00:00:34,260

who is the athletic director at Mountain View High School.

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00:00:34,270 --> 00:00:35,290

Welcome to the podcast.

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00:00:35,290 --> 00:00:35,750

Both of you.

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00:00:35,760 --> 00:00:36,870

Hey thanks for having us.

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00:00:36,870 --> 00:00:37,950

Thank you very much for having us.

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00:00:38,140 --> 00:00:38,660

First of all,

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00:00:38,660 --> 00:00:47,930

I'd like to start with a big thank you to both of you for the work that you've done to keep our schools functioning and have that extracurriculars as a part of the student experience now,

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00:00:47,940 --> 00:00:48,260

Gosh,

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00:00:48,260 --> 00:00:52,560

two years into this pandemic and keep athletics in our schools going.

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00:00:52,560 --> 00:00:54,120

I know it's not been an easy road,

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00:00:54,170 --> 00:00:58,620

one that has lots of shifts and lots of maneuvering that we've had to manage.

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00:00:58,630 --> 00:01:03,540

Lots of changes and lots of safety protocols that we've also been responsible for implementing and U.

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00:01:03,540 --> 00:01:16,170

Two have done amazing job along with all of our athletic directors to provide those experiences and to do it in a safe and meaningful way so that kids do get access to that part of their high school experience.

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00:01:16,170 --> 00:01:23,070

And we're gonna talk a little bit about some of those rules and regulations and that juggling act that you all have been doing now for gosh two years.

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00:01:23,080 --> 00:01:25,150

But let's start with the,

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00:01:25,150 --> 00:01:25,570

why,

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00:01:25,570 --> 00:01:26,660

what brought you into the work?

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00:01:26,660 --> 00:01:43,410

And it's always been my experience that the athletic directors often times the most underappreciated position in the high school next to the custodian sometimes because there's not a whole lot of thanking people for the officials showing up on time and making sure that all of the supplies and things are ready on the field.

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00:01:43,410 --> 00:01:46,460

And I just have a lot of admiration for the work you do.

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00:01:46,470 --> 00:01:52,710

But let's talk about what brought you specifically into the roles and why you're here and why this is uh,

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00:01:52,720 --> 00:01:54,400

something you've chosen as your career path.

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00:01:54,400 --> 00:01:55,250

So Dave,

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00:01:55,250 --> 00:01:56,070

let's start with you,

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00:01:56,080 --> 00:02:03,580

can you talk a little bit about what got you into the field of athletics and maybe how you started and what it brought you or how you started as a,

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00:02:03,590 --> 00:02:07,900

as a younger student and then how did eventually become your career boy?

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00:02:07,900 --> 00:02:11,070

You're taking me way back to when I was a young kid.

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00:02:11,080 --> 00:02:11,450

You know,

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00:02:11,450 --> 00:02:15,610

just started out in athletics with the support of my family and my,

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00:02:15,620 --> 00:02:17,710

I have older siblings that were involved in,

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00:02:17,840 --> 00:02:20,730

had a lot of opportunity to,

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00:02:20,740 --> 00:02:21,050

you know,

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00:02:21,050 --> 00:02:23,190

move that direction as a youth,

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00:02:23,200 --> 00:02:24,100

played all through youth,

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00:02:24,100 --> 00:02:25,420

played all through high school,

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00:02:25,430 --> 00:02:35,570

pretty fortunate to be able to play at the college level and had so many great mentors and great teammates along the way that just keep you going in those things,

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00:02:35,570 --> 00:02:35,740

you know,

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00:02:35,740 --> 00:02:36,160

I can,

46

00:02:36,440 --> 00:02:42,130

I can think of names like Mike Chambliss and Elmer Groaner and Monty Macdonald and my college coach,

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00:02:42,140 --> 00:02:43,200

Jack Riley,

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00:02:43,210 --> 00:02:46,130

that give you a different perspective on,

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00:02:46,140 --> 00:02:50,550

on why you are involved in in sports and all those,

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00:02:50,560 --> 00:02:54,950

all those lessons and and just things you take away that help you,

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00:02:54,960 --> 00:02:55,260

you know,

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00:02:55,260 --> 00:02:58,090

become a better dad brother friend,

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00:02:58,100 --> 00:02:58,900

all those things.

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00:02:58,910 --> 00:03:05,400

So that's why I continue to do the work and what you know what really launched into where I am today with,

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00:03:05,410 --> 00:03:13,720

with my own family and and watching and helping support coaches and kids try to get the same experience that I,

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00:03:13,720 --> 00:03:14,980

that I had because they were,

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00:03:14,990 --> 00:03:15,270

you know,

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00:03:15,280 --> 00:03:19,760

invaluable lessons and experiences that shaped who I am,

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00:03:19,940 --> 00:03:24,830

that's really where it all came from me and starting a teaching career here,

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00:03:24,830 --> 00:03:25,100

being,

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00:03:25,110 --> 00:03:28,920

being fortunate enough to come back to the place I graduated from,

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00:03:28,930 --> 00:03:31,930

from the school district and spend a lot of time in,

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00:03:31,940 --> 00:03:35,280

at different levels of schools from middle to high Yeah,

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00:03:35,290 --> 00:03:35,460

it's,

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00:03:35,470 --> 00:03:36,870

it's been an enjoyable ride,

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00:03:36,870 --> 00:03:41,930

I know that and frustrating and it runs both sides of the spectrum and everything in between.

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00:03:41,940 --> 00:03:46,880

Well I'm sure we'll get into the frustrating part along with this and the enjoyable part of this as we talked,

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00:03:46,890 --> 00:03:47,650

but Lance,

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00:03:47,650 --> 00:03:48,270

how about you?

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00:03:48,270 --> 00:03:50,580

What did you grow up around sports and athletics?

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00:03:50,590 --> 00:03:54,820

How did you wind up even here today as athletic director from Mountain View High School?

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00:03:54,840 --> 00:03:55,550

Yeah.

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00:03:55,560 --> 00:03:55,800

You know,

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00:03:55,800 --> 00:04:00,730

I grew up playing sports from little League and basketball and I was fortunate enough to have,

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00:04:00,750 --> 00:04:03,110

my parents were a big influence.

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00:04:03,110 --> 00:04:03,260

You know,

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00:04:03,260 --> 00:04:05,550

my dad coached all of my basketball teams,

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00:04:05,550 --> 00:04:08,500

he coached all my baseball teams And you know,

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00:04:08,500 --> 00:04:10,670

I got into athletics at a young age that way.

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00:04:10,680 --> 00:04:11,970

And my mom,

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00:04:11,980 --> 00:04:13,320

she was in public education.

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00:04:13,330 --> 00:04:14,960

She was 35 year educator.

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00:04:15,140 --> 00:04:24,860

And so I kind of grew up in the school system and and playing sports and my story is kind of interesting because when I went through high school I was literally a slacker.

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00:04:24,870 --> 00:04:26,670

I didn't work very hard in the offseason.

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00:04:26,680 --> 00:04:28,370

I found reasons not to do anything.

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00:04:28,380 --> 00:04:35,760

And then I actually went to college to become a health education teacher and I applied for my first coaching job freshman year in college.

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00:04:35,770 --> 00:04:37,030

I called my mom and said,

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00:04:37,030 --> 00:04:37,320

Hey,

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00:04:37,330 --> 00:04:39,550

I'm applying for a coaching job and my mom,

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00:04:39,560 --> 00:04:40,250

that's awesome.

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00:04:40,260 --> 00:04:41,690

But now when she tells the story,

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00:04:41,690 --> 00:04:42,000

she's like,

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00:04:42,000 --> 00:04:44,800

there's no way he's getting this job.

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00:04:44,810 --> 00:04:46,100

It was a small high school,

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00:04:46,100 --> 00:04:46,560

like a one,

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00:04:46,560 --> 00:05:00,710

a school in outside of Pullman Washington and they just needed bodies and so they hired me and my mom was shocked and that kind of got me into the education world with the coaching aspect of it and that's kind of what formed everything.

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00:05:00,710 --> 00:05:12,280

I was lucky enough then to move to a different high school and start getting some mentors and I learned what basically what hard work was and that kind of then formed into my coaching career and learned about putting in the time,

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00:05:12,280 --> 00:05:20,380

putting in the effort and everything and that made for a very successful basketball coaching career that landed me back in Eugene where I originally came from.

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00:05:20,390 --> 00:05:34,280

I was lucky enough to be able to have a high school for 17 years as a classroom teacher and basketball coach and we were successful and got to instill that hard work from being a slacker and who didn't put any time to try to inspire kids to want to put in the effort.

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00:05:34,290 --> 00:05:42,880

And so that was really rewarding and on top of just the classroom and the connections that you make and then the burnout period hit starting at a young age and everything.

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00:05:42,880 --> 00:05:45,710

I got burned out and I thought that was it for athletics.

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00:05:45,720 --> 00:05:56,740

Well I took one year off and got bored and uh my wife wanted to get me off the couch because she was tired of watching me mope around and our athletic director at the time Barry Booking said,

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00:05:56,740 --> 00:05:59,880

why don't you come be an assistant athletic director and see if you want to do this,

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00:05:59,880 --> 00:06:01,600

I'm gonna retire and I was like,

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00:06:01,610 --> 00:06:02,110

sure,

106

00:06:02,120 --> 00:06:02,530

yeah,

107

00:06:02,540 --> 00:06:03,200

sounds good.

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00:06:03,210 --> 00:06:09,960

And from that moment on getting to connect with kids in a different way and like watching them grow and trying to help them.

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00:06:10,040 --> 00:06:19,750

I knew that that could be the next kind of phase of my career and then very retired at Willamette and I was able to be the athletic director there for a couple of years and got a good,

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00:06:19,750 --> 00:06:23,240

solid foundation with some good mentors and then Dave Hood,

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00:06:23,240 --> 00:06:24,420

the Athletic director,

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00:06:24,430 --> 00:06:33,020

former at Mountain View mentioned that there might be an opportunity with him retiring here and my parents had moved over to Eagle Crest and long story short is,

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00:06:33,020 --> 00:06:45,060

is lucky enough to get the job here and it's been great watching this community because this community is huge in sports and the way they support everybody and just happy to be part of it and hoping to continue to send those lessons along to the kids over here.

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00:06:45,070 --> 00:06:45,910

Thanks Lance,

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00:06:45,920 --> 00:06:47,650

let's go back in time both of you.

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00:06:47,660 --> 00:06:59,330

Um let's go back to 2019 and and really kind of framing of before the pandemic hit and I'd love to know what a normal year for an athletic director looks like,

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00:06:59,330 --> 00:07:09,110

What does it look like when sports are part of the everyday environment and and kids and coaches and teachers and parents are the focal points of,

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00:07:09,110 --> 00:07:09,570

how do we,

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00:07:09,580 --> 00:07:11,080

how do we conduct a season?

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00:07:11,080 --> 00:07:15,050

How do you make sure that all the moving pieces are in place?

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00:07:15,140 --> 00:07:19,960

Give our listeners just a little bit of background on the normality of that schedules,

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00:07:19,960 --> 00:07:20,750

coaches,

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00:07:20,760 --> 00:07:21,320

students,

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00:07:21,320 --> 00:07:21,850

parents,

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00:07:21,860 --> 00:07:22,550

et cetera.

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00:07:22,670 --> 00:07:26,630

And then we'll move into what it looks like now and how that may be shifted.

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00:07:26,660 --> 00:07:27,090

Yeah,

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00:07:27,100 --> 00:07:28,020

normal season.

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00:07:28,030 --> 00:07:31,900

Remember any of those from the past certainly becomes a distant memory.

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00:07:31,910 --> 00:07:32,650

You know,

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00:07:32,660 --> 00:07:35,700

typical season take a fall football season,

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00:07:35,710 --> 00:07:38,350

you develop a schedule a year in advance.

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00:07:38,360 --> 00:07:39,290

Sometimes too.

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00:07:39,300 --> 00:07:41,290

You schedule facilities,

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00:07:41,290 --> 00:07:41,410

you,

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00:07:41,420 --> 00:07:43,050

you help coaches,

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00:07:43,050 --> 00:07:45,040

organized preseason workouts,

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00:07:45,070 --> 00:07:47,120

communications with families,

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00:07:47,130 --> 00:07:49,040

all the transportation involved,

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00:07:49,040 --> 00:07:54,460

all the communication with the opposing schools officials associations.

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00:07:54,490 --> 00:08:13,820

Then you launch into your season with the preseason workouts and the start of the actual practicing and you get to your games and you just hope everything goes smoothly and things can be pulled off without any issues and try to stick to your schedule that you've put out to your communities even in a normal sports season,

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00:08:13,820 --> 00:08:15,680

those things don't happen all the time.

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00:08:15,690 --> 00:08:16,210

But that,

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00:08:16,210 --> 00:08:17,120

that's the ultimate goal,

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00:08:17,120 --> 00:08:25,110

is to make it consistent and accessible and everybody being involved at whatever level they want to be with their programs.

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00:08:25,120 --> 00:08:25,730

Exactly.

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00:08:25,730 --> 00:08:25,940

You know,

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00:08:25,940 --> 00:08:27,550

you're just doing a lot of organizing.

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00:08:27,560 --> 00:08:27,960

I mean,

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00:08:27,960 --> 00:08:33,170

we do a lot of the behind the scenes work and then when it's friday night or a thursday night for a volleyball game,

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00:08:33,170 --> 00:08:33,440

you know,

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00:08:33,440 --> 00:08:34,960

it's kind of fun to sit back and watch.

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00:08:34,960 --> 00:08:37,740

Hopefully all that that plan come together and,

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00:08:37,750 --> 00:08:38,020

you know,

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00:08:38,020 --> 00:08:42,150

watch your teams perform and we just want to make sure that make it as easy as possible for coaches,

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00:08:42,150 --> 00:08:47,460

so their jobs to show up and help coach the kids and keep the programs going and we try to take care of everything else for them.

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00:08:47,540 --> 00:08:51,090

And there are things that are not necessarily always in your control right?

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00:08:51,090 --> 00:09:01,420

Like coaches might do something that was unexpected or Spectators not showing up or showing up to earlier or being disruptive at the event or officials,

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00:09:01,420 --> 00:09:04,670

like I know we're struggling sometimes even now still to get officials,

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00:09:04,680 --> 00:09:06,100

that's just part of the job.

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00:09:06,110 --> 00:09:09,740

Like how do you how do you navigate that in the moment of the competition,

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00:09:09,740 --> 00:09:10,350

whichever,

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00:09:10,360 --> 00:09:10,640

you know,

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00:09:10,640 --> 00:09:14,030

if we're talking a volleyball match or we're talking basketball or football,

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00:09:14,040 --> 00:09:17,370

there are so many moving pieces to just pulling off,

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00:09:17,370 --> 00:09:21,150

I think Dave you said hope that everything goes okay in that event.

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00:09:21,160 --> 00:09:22,610

There's a lot of parts to that,

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00:09:22,620 --> 00:09:23,620

there are there's you know,

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00:09:23,630 --> 00:09:28,840

just holding a basketball game and event range from the people at the front gate,

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00:09:28,850 --> 00:09:35,260

inviting Spectators in and then they go from there to the venue to the concession stands,

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00:09:35,440 --> 00:09:40,480

there's a lot of opportunity for things to detour from the plan and you know,

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00:09:40,480 --> 00:09:45,040

just knowing knowing other athletic directors in the way that you organize events,

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00:09:45,050 --> 00:09:47,980

you like to stick to those plans as best possible.

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00:09:47,990 --> 00:09:48,410

But yeah,

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00:09:48,410 --> 00:09:57,910

you get the the fans that are up there yelling at the officials and you get the the coaches that are doing the same and sometimes the officials are yelling back and you know sometimes the I.

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00:09:57,910 --> 00:09:58,090

D.

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00:09:58,090 --> 00:10:16,890

S are yelling at the officials and there's you know there's there's there's just I don't think there are too many unexpected things anymore because I don't know if I've seen it all but pretty close to those things and yeah we've had to ask people to leave or remove coaches from games and those are the ugly things.

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00:10:16,900 --> 00:10:21,570

Those are the things that don't happen all too often but you're not ready for them then.

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00:10:21,570 --> 00:10:24,650

Yeah it can take you by surprise and and it can ruin your event.

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00:10:24,660 --> 00:10:28,840

I mean I've seen some ugliness at some of our events and we've had to make you know,

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00:10:28,840 --> 00:10:34,090

modifications to where people sit and where we sit our student sections.

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00:10:34,100 --> 00:10:48,410

Um there's been some ugliness in the past and and it continues on occasion but yeah we have to modify those plans a lot in order for people to be able to enjoy the event and for the kids that are underneath the lights of friday night,

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00:10:48,420 --> 00:10:50,550

get the best experience that they can.

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00:10:50,740 --> 00:10:51,130

Yeah,

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00:10:51,130 --> 00:10:53,710

I think you have and you know like especially being an athletic director,

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00:10:53,710 --> 00:10:55,310

you kinda have to be a Jack of all trades,

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00:10:55,320 --> 00:10:56,400

you never know all of a sudden,

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00:10:56,400 --> 00:10:57,730

you might have to be the announcer,

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00:10:57,740 --> 00:11:00,520

you might have to all of a sudden find another scorekeeper,

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00:11:00,520 --> 00:11:02,370

you have to jump in and be the clock keeper.

191

00:11:02,380 --> 00:11:02,700

You know,

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00:11:02,700 --> 00:11:04,790

you might have to work the chain crew.

193

00:11:04,800 --> 00:11:07,130

So like Dave said you have the best laid plans,

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00:11:07,130 --> 00:11:17,630

but you you know that that that they can go sideways at any second and then you're just kind of relying on some experience and everything to make those adjustments because you don't want the final product,

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00:11:17,630 --> 00:11:22,390

which is the kids as performance and the kids event to really notice that anything's gone sideways.

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00:11:22,400 --> 00:11:29,230

So I mean it's just a matter of just being flexible and knowing as you come into event you can be as you have every A to B to C to D.

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00:11:29,230 --> 00:11:30,080

All lined out.

198

00:11:30,080 --> 00:11:30,540

But you know,

199

00:11:30,540 --> 00:11:35,420

you might have to go from A to see real fast and you can't let it show it's just the kids with the number one goal.

200

00:11:35,430 --> 00:11:35,690

Okay,

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00:11:35,690 --> 00:11:39,360

let's go back in time when the pandemic first hit March of 2020.

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00:11:39,440 --> 00:11:42,610

I'm betting we all remember exactly what we're doing.

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00:11:42,610 --> 00:11:44,370

When we started to have the conversation.

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00:11:44,380 --> 00:11:45,740

We effectively,

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00:11:45,740 --> 00:11:48,420

I think shut down just about every school in the country.

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00:11:48,490 --> 00:11:54,090

Let's talk just a little bit about your memories of that and how that impacted the athletic programs and athletic,

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00:11:54,090 --> 00:11:54,440

not,

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00:11:54,450 --> 00:11:56,640

not even all sports were in session,

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00:11:56,640 --> 00:12:00,910

but every athletic program was impacted by those decisions.

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00:12:00,920 --> 00:12:02,930

Let's talk a little bit about what that looked like for you all.

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00:12:02,980 --> 00:12:04,400

I just think back to that day.

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00:12:04,400 --> 00:12:11,990

I just remember my phone buzzing right away because it was like leading up to it was all the collegiate sports started canceling tournaments are being canceled,

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00:12:12,000 --> 00:12:12,850

Major league Baseball,

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00:12:12,850 --> 00:12:14,230

everything was all being shut down.

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00:12:14,230 --> 00:12:16,100

So you kind of could feel it coming.

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00:12:16,110 --> 00:12:19,470

And then I just kind of remember getting the call that we were shut down.

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00:12:19,480 --> 00:12:23,140

And it was it was it was strange because I remember taking my laptop out of my office,

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00:12:23,140 --> 00:12:23,920

kind of wondering,

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00:12:23,930 --> 00:12:24,110

oh,

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00:12:24,110 --> 00:12:25,670

we'll be back in like two weeks.

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00:12:25,680 --> 00:12:28,130

And I talked about calling our coaches and just saying,

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00:12:28,130 --> 00:12:28,290

you know,

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00:12:28,290 --> 00:12:33,780

we're gonna be like probably two weeks or so we'll be back and then constantly having to call them again and just say,

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00:12:33,780 --> 00:12:34,100

you know,

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00:12:34,100 --> 00:12:35,140

we're not back yet.

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00:12:35,150 --> 00:12:35,650

And I think,

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00:12:35,650 --> 00:12:35,820

you know,

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00:12:35,820 --> 00:12:40,350

the really the hardest part about it was just seeing like their faces when you told them that,

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00:12:40,360 --> 00:12:44,460

I don't know when we're gonna come back and that at that point we didn't have any ideas.

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00:12:44,470 --> 00:12:46,640

And even when they're in phone conversations,

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00:12:46,640 --> 00:12:50,300

you could just tell how are especially for our spring coaches would say,

232

00:12:50,300 --> 00:12:50,580

you know,

233

00:12:50,590 --> 00:12:54,270

their spirits were just down because they didn't know if they were going to get a season at all trying to,

234

00:12:54,270 --> 00:12:54,530

you know,

235

00:12:54,540 --> 00:13:00,070

keep them moving forward that way as far as I think we're gonna be okay and ultimately it didn't happen,

236

00:13:00,080 --> 00:13:01,390

just trying to bring them back.

237

00:13:01,400 --> 00:13:02,310

But it was hard,

238

00:13:02,320 --> 00:13:07,440

it was hard and I think that's still some with our special spring coaches in our spring programs.

239

00:13:07,440 --> 00:13:07,600

You know,

240

00:13:07,600 --> 00:13:09,540

I still think they're recovering from that last season.

241

00:13:09,560 --> 00:13:09,950

Yeah,

242

00:13:09,950 --> 00:13:10,680

I remember,

243

00:13:10,680 --> 00:13:12,300

I remember that vividly.

244

00:13:12,310 --> 00:13:16,490

I was at the at the five a state basketball tournament as an official and then,

245

00:13:16,500 --> 00:13:16,790

you know,

246

00:13:16,800 --> 00:13:21,700

you could just see the domino effect starting from the NBA and Major League Baseball.

247

00:13:21,710 --> 00:13:33,810

Then the pac 12 tournaments were starting to question things and then the essay started questioning their basketball tournament one day we had full venues with Spectators and the very next day there was no Spectators.

248

00:13:33,820 --> 00:13:35,540

And then I remember walking,

249

00:13:35,540 --> 00:13:38,540

I was the next game up walking out of the locker room,

250

00:13:38,540 --> 00:13:41,750

going onto the floor and they canceled the tournament.

251

00:13:41,760 --> 00:13:46,240

Then my next thought was I gotta get home and start dealing with our programs at our school.

252

00:13:46,250 --> 00:13:48,550

The initial closure came out two weeks,

253

00:13:48,550 --> 00:13:49,680

we're gonna flatten the curve,

254

00:13:49,680 --> 00:13:52,070

We're going to let this blow over,

255

00:13:52,070 --> 00:13:53,870

we're going to just take a break.

256

00:13:53,870 --> 00:13:59,370

And I remember those conversations walking out on the baseball field talking to the team and just like Lance said,

257

00:13:59,370 --> 00:14:00,220

seeing their faces,

258

00:14:00,220 --> 00:14:00,420

you know,

259

00:14:00,430 --> 00:14:01,580

it's just gonna be two weeks,

260

00:14:01,580 --> 00:14:12,360

we're gonna be good And then going on the same thing with the softball on the track in two weeks and then two weeks turned into a month and then a month turned into the rest of the season and those kids lost their season.

261

00:14:12,360 --> 00:14:13,030

I do agree.

262

00:14:13,030 --> 00:14:16,510

I think a lot of programs are still trying to recover from,

263

00:14:16,520 --> 00:14:21,380

from that initial shock and that initial news of of all that and losing that,

264

00:14:21,390 --> 00:14:23,050

you hear that a lot people come back to,

265

00:14:23,340 --> 00:14:24,430

we lost our season,

266

00:14:24,430 --> 00:14:25,530

especially in the spring,

267

00:14:25,540 --> 00:14:28,370

just the extension of those times and,

268

00:14:28,380 --> 00:14:41,010

and seeing the coaches get outside of their traditional box and and get outside of what they normally did and the creativity on how they connected with those kids was unbelievable.

269

00:14:41,020 --> 00:14:43,090

That's what I remember about the first,

270

00:14:43,100 --> 00:14:46,200

the first closure was just all the creativity and,

271

00:14:46,210 --> 00:14:48,960

and keeping kids connected to their programs.

272

00:14:49,040 --> 00:14:56,440

That's what really resonates with me is the fact that that it isn't a dismissing of the seriousness of the pandemic,

273

00:14:56,440 --> 00:15:00,230

but it's the commitment that our folks have had to the kids and you know,

274

00:15:00,230 --> 00:15:03,200

I think back to to my senior year in high school and,

275

00:15:03,210 --> 00:15:09,050

and the last of my sports seasons in high school and think about what it would feel like to have that pulled out from under me.

276

00:15:09,050 --> 00:15:09,800

And I just,

277

00:15:09,810 --> 00:15:19,050

I just have to recognize that the adults commitment to those kids lived experiences as a part of the sports community,

278

00:15:19,060 --> 00:15:19,950

if you will.

279

00:15:19,960 --> 00:15:20,920

And for many of those kids,

280

00:15:20,920 --> 00:15:27,650

it was their last shot and how that how the loss of that opportunity drove much of that behavior you're talking.

281

00:15:28,240 --> 00:15:28,540

Okay.

282

00:15:28,540 --> 00:15:30,180

So I don't want to linger there long.

283

00:15:30,180 --> 00:15:31,770

There's a lot of challenges,

284

00:15:31,770 --> 00:15:32,690

There are a lot of pain,

285

00:15:32,690 --> 00:15:35,190

but I do think it's important for us to set the stage of,

286

00:15:35,190 --> 00:15:35,610

okay,

287

00:15:35,610 --> 00:15:43,810

we lost that we started moving into a time period where we think it's okay to start bringing back sports months later and I wasn't here.

288

00:15:43,810 --> 00:15:54,950

So I'm wondering dave if you could walk us through what it was like as we started to talk about what it was like to bring some of our sports competitions back and how challenging that process was.

289

00:15:54,960 --> 00:15:55,930

I think we had,

290

00:15:55,940 --> 00:16:01,190

we had a great team plan within the high school that developed this plan to,

291

00:16:01,200 --> 00:16:04,340

to bring things back and I believe we did that in early june,

292

00:16:04,660 --> 00:16:07,080

we started developing in early june with workouts.

293

00:16:07,230 --> 00:16:07,660

It was,

294

00:16:07,670 --> 00:16:08,800

it was interesting that,

295

00:16:08,910 --> 00:16:12,080

I mean this has evolved so many different ways over time.

296

00:16:12,080 --> 00:16:25,140

And what we were doing at the very start of of when we brought people back and all of the sanitation stations and all of the Clorox wipes and we were making people,

297

00:16:25,150 --> 00:16:36,210

I mean people were bringing our groceries home and wiping down the groceries with Clorox wipes before we put them in the cupboards and and we were making our baseball programs after every time they would handle the ball,

298

00:16:36,210 --> 00:16:38,950

they'd have to spray them all down with with the,

299

00:16:38,960 --> 00:16:40,160

with sanitizer,

300

00:16:40,170 --> 00:16:41,050
same with basketball,

301
00:16:41,050 --> 00:16:44,700
we're wiping down basketballs after our kids would have to use individual ball.

302
00:16:44,710 --> 00:16:45,060
But yeah,

303
00:16:45,060 --> 00:16:50,600
we slowly started bringing things back in the summertime and our numbers went through the roof.

304
00:16:50,610 --> 00:16:53,350
We had so many kids that were from,

305
00:16:53,360 --> 00:16:55,120
they had come off of what,

306
00:16:55,130 --> 00:17:05,520
three months of doing pretty much nothing come back into the summer programs which all of them are rolling in the summertime and kids were bouncing from track to football.

307
00:17:05,520 --> 00:17:06,260
The baseball,

308
00:17:06,270 --> 00:17:08,330
our numbers were through the roof.

309
00:17:08,340 --> 00:17:14,600
It was really cool to see that and and how coaches and administrators and schools and,

310
00:17:14,610 --> 00:17:21,740

and families came back with everything we had to put in place and did the best they can to to make it work well.

311

00:17:21,740 --> 00:17:22,110

We had,

312

00:17:22,120 --> 00:17:22,320

yeah,

313

00:17:22,330 --> 00:17:32,210

we had families and everything that were just so excited to be back in the summertime and and our coaches were doing an amazing job of checking in with like Dave said all the sanitation wiping down volleyballs,

314

00:17:32,220 --> 00:17:38,010

but I know our participation numbers were as high as they've ever been during the summer and our coaches were being,

315

00:17:38,010 --> 00:17:39,710

were thinking outside of the box,

316

00:17:39,720 --> 00:17:41,580

we have virtual workouts,

317

00:17:41,580 --> 00:17:43,560

they were meeting on zoom.

318

00:17:43,560 --> 00:17:43,850

You know,

319

00:17:43,850 --> 00:17:46,020

to try to make sure that we kept kids connected.

320

00:17:46,030 --> 00:17:49,570

I mean it was pretty amazing that that summer watching everybody get started.

321

00:17:49,580 --> 00:18:02,540

So I imagine you're somewhere in your memory is the first interscholastic competition we had after that pause or one that stands out that I'd love to hear a little bit about that process from both of you.

322

00:18:02,550 --> 00:18:06,680

Well I know I know ours is when we got back and because the seasons all flipped around.

323

00:18:06,690 --> 00:18:11,800

So it was interesting playing football in late february and so you know,

324

00:18:11,800 --> 00:18:17,080

I got to learn how to run a snowblower real quick to help make sure that we could practice.

325

00:18:17,090 --> 00:18:21,060

I just remember that first time that we actually got to tell our kids that you know,

326

00:18:21,060 --> 00:18:25,280

they got to don like their helmets and compete and just their looks,

327

00:18:25,280 --> 00:18:30,520

they were just excited about being back there and then just the feeling of being back out on the field,

328

00:18:30,520 --> 00:18:32,910

not with just the sanitation wipe,

329

00:18:32,920 --> 00:18:45,060

just that there's another team on the other side and we get to go and just the looks on their faces and it was the same with volleyball because at that point we still weren't having any Spectators and scrubbing the floor between matches,

330

00:18:45,070 --> 00:18:46,690
yep Zamboni,

331
00:18:46,700 --> 00:18:47,060
yep,

332
00:18:47,070 --> 00:18:52,240
but both just looking and I remember that first volleyball match that we had just both teams and they were just,

333
00:18:52,240 --> 00:18:55,200
you could see it in the kid's eyes and in our coach's eyes,

334
00:18:55,210 --> 00:19:00,320
just like just glad to be back and it wasn't the same and everybody realized it,

335
00:19:00,320 --> 00:19:05,850
but they were back and they were doing something they love and then you can see why they were back in the summer times too with all those numbers.

336
00:19:05,860 --> 00:19:06,680
I was,

337
00:19:06,690 --> 00:19:06,910
you know,

338
00:19:06,910 --> 00:19:10,310
I was transitioning at the end of that school year,

339
00:19:10,320 --> 00:19:17,840
I was transitioning out of bend high into the role that I currently have and I was outside of the building last school year,

340
00:19:17,850 --> 00:19:22,930

I wasn't overly involved in the event operation during that initial year,

341

00:19:22,940 --> 00:19:33,130

we had a lot of the OSAA called them contingency groups where we were trying to plan for how seasons would look and how you know what a cross country meet would look like,

342

00:19:33,140 --> 00:19:34,650

How we would park the busses,

343

00:19:34,650 --> 00:19:36,820

check the kids and check Spectators in.

344

00:19:36,830 --> 00:19:38,590

What would the start line look like?

345

00:19:38,600 --> 00:19:40,030

What would the finish line look like?

346

00:19:40,040 --> 00:19:42,240

Would we run kids out like a,

347

00:19:42,250 --> 00:19:47,410

like a cross country ski race where we would start one kid and then a minute later start another kid.

348

00:19:47,420 --> 00:19:50,920

There was all kinds of things being thrown around fortunately for me,

349

00:19:50,930 --> 00:19:53,920

I didn't have to pull those events off that initial year.

350

00:19:53,930 --> 00:19:54,660

I just had,

351

00:19:54,740 --> 00:19:55,070

you know,

352

00:19:55,070 --> 00:19:59,980

my role was to help our schools plan how to bring it back and our schools had a great plan.

353

00:19:59,990 --> 00:20:00,890

We got them back,

354

00:20:00,900 --> 00:20:10,070

we got them slowly coming back and then all of our season's got jumbled around and we were playing basketball in the spring and baseball in the winter,

355

00:20:10,080 --> 00:20:11,440

spring and football,

356

00:20:11,440 --> 00:20:12,080

it was just,

357

00:20:12,090 --> 00:20:13,070

it was a mess,

358

00:20:13,080 --> 00:20:20,000

but the resiliency of our kids and families and our coaches was pretty cool that they just kind of rolled with it.

359

00:20:20,010 --> 00:20:21,140

They weren't happy about it,

360

00:20:21,150 --> 00:20:25,190

but they rolled with it and got kids doing those things again,

361

00:20:25,200 --> 00:20:28,180

hoping that we would get to this fall and it would be normal.

362

00:20:28,190 --> 00:20:29,670

Well it's not normal yet,

363

00:20:29,680 --> 00:20:37,360

but we're making it as normal as we can just pressing on and keeping kids active and engaged and access to cool stuff.

364

00:20:37,640 --> 00:20:38,630

So you mentioned normal.

365

00:20:38,630 --> 00:20:38,930

Dave,

366

00:20:38,930 --> 00:20:39,350

let's,

367

00:20:39,540 --> 00:20:40,710

I'm just curious.

368

00:20:40,710 --> 00:20:40,910

You know,

369

00:20:40,910 --> 00:20:47,730

now we're talking about all the things that we've tried and the things that kind of now we continue to still do.

370

00:20:47,730 --> 00:20:49,450

And you talk about that resiliency,

371

00:20:49,460 --> 00:20:50,740

What's it like right now?

372

00:20:50,750 --> 00:20:51,020

You know,

373

00:20:51,020 --> 00:20:51,730

we're two years,

374

00:20:51,730 --> 00:20:55,150

were solid two years and we're about to come up on month 24.

375

00:20:55,160 --> 00:20:58,170

We've essentially got most of our athletic seasons back,

376

00:20:58,240 --> 00:20:59,390

but it's still not normal.

377

00:20:59,390 --> 00:21:00,960

So what's going on right now?

378

00:21:00,960 --> 00:21:06,350

How does this work look differently or similarly to pre Covid if you will.

379

00:21:06,350 --> 00:21:06,880

And,

380

00:21:06,970 --> 00:21:10,730

and I think some of those mitigation strategies are still in place now.

381

00:21:10,730 --> 00:21:13,010

What's it look like today for our listeners?

382

00:21:13,020 --> 00:21:14,040

A lot of disruption,

383

00:21:14,040 --> 00:21:15,260

a lot of distraction.

384

00:21:15,270 --> 00:21:18,860

A lot of interruptions for kids programs.

385

00:21:19,030 --> 00:21:21,900

Covid will hit one program and shut them down and then it will,

386

00:21:21,910 --> 00:21:28,410

it will hit another program and it will only affect a number of kids and having to adjust practice schedules,

387

00:21:28,410 --> 00:21:35,230

Game schedules having to try to get our teams to their competitions has been a challenge.

388

00:21:35,240 --> 00:21:38,700

Those are the things that we've been dealing with for this school year.

389

00:21:38,700 --> 00:21:38,950

I mean,

390

00:21:38,950 --> 00:21:43,590

our seasons are back to to a normal look like we've had five years ago.

391

00:21:43,590 --> 00:21:47,230

And I mean the time span the way we schedule competitions,

392

00:21:47,240 --> 00:21:48,610

it's pretty much a,

393

00:21:48,620 --> 00:21:49,880

I don't want to say a day to day,

394

00:21:49,880 --> 00:21:52,170
but it has been in certain weeks,

395

00:21:52,180 --> 00:21:53,620
you've been day today.

396

00:21:53,630 --> 00:21:54,860
I think you can,

397

00:21:54,870 --> 00:21:59,680
I think you can plan for a week and have the hope that things will stay in order.

398

00:21:59,690 --> 00:22:13,670
But it's been such a disruption for the kids and the families and confusion around how we deal with this certain program has a positive case and how are we dealing with that with the other players and the coaches.

399

00:22:13,680 --> 00:22:20,110
We try to combine programs on some things and we haven't been doing that because we keep them apart,

400

00:22:20,120 --> 00:22:21,260
cohort them a little bit.

401

00:22:21,270 --> 00:22:28,330
It's disrupted a lot of the outside of the playing field or the court activities that programs like to do with,

402

00:22:28,340 --> 00:22:31,060
with building their cultures and they're still doing them.

403

00:22:31,060 --> 00:22:31,650
But it's,

404

00:22:31,660 --> 00:22:32,290

it's on,

405

00:22:32,300 --> 00:22:33,160

it's on a different,

406

00:22:33,170 --> 00:22:34,280

it has a different feel.

407

00:22:34,290 --> 00:22:38,350

And slowly those things will start to come back to what they're used to.

408

00:22:38,440 --> 00:22:38,930

What do you think?

409

00:22:39,100 --> 00:22:39,590

I think.

410

00:22:39,600 --> 00:22:40,160

Exactly,

411

00:22:40,160 --> 00:22:40,370

right.

412

00:22:40,370 --> 00:22:40,530

I mean,

413

00:22:40,530 --> 00:22:42,120

I think from the scheduling side of it,

414

00:22:42,120 --> 00:22:42,290

you know,

415

00:22:42,290 --> 00:22:45,830

we have full schedules were playing now multiple levels of games,

416

00:22:45,830 --> 00:22:47,500

but that's the normal part of it,

417

00:22:47,500 --> 00:22:48,420

but nothing else is,

418

00:22:48,420 --> 00:22:48,610

I mean,

419

00:22:48,610 --> 00:22:51,740

you almost take this year and you break it in in the fall graduates,

420

00:22:51,740 --> 00:22:53,250

outside outside sports,

421

00:22:53,260 --> 00:22:56,130

we had larger capacities were even inside,

422

00:22:56,140 --> 00:22:58,520

but we were able to have larger capacities that way.

423

00:22:58,520 --> 00:23:00,010

So it was more of a traditional field.

424

00:23:00,010 --> 00:23:05,030

So you really thought it got back and then all of a sudden winter came and now we've kind of,

425

00:23:05,040 --> 00:23:06,770

we've got full schedules and playing,

426

00:23:06,770 --> 00:23:08,980

but now we've got different problems with the,

427

00:23:08,990 --> 00:23:09,920

obviously now with,

428

00:23:09,930 --> 00:23:10,180

you know,

429

00:23:10,180 --> 00:23:16,380

some spectator limits and everything and spectator limits in the Salem Keizer school just made everything different again.

430

00:23:16,390 --> 00:23:22,050

So I kind of got back to that part with our coaches where kids where they're constantly changing where in the,

431

00:23:22,050 --> 00:23:23,220

in the fall it was pretty,

432

00:23:23,230 --> 00:23:24,180

it was pretty normal,

433

00:23:24,190 --> 00:23:24,390

you know,

434

00:23:24,390 --> 00:23:24,940

besides like,

435

00:23:24,940 --> 00:23:25,150

you know,

436

00:23:25,150 --> 00:23:25,650
smoke,

437
00:23:25,660 --> 00:23:27,440
but we live with that over here all the time.

438
00:23:27,450 --> 00:23:29,810
But now in the winter now we're back into that,

439
00:23:29,820 --> 00:23:30,450
oh,

440
00:23:30,460 --> 00:23:31,480
we're gonna play today,

441
00:23:31,490 --> 00:23:32,680
is this going to happen here?

442
00:23:32,680 --> 00:23:35,730
And so that's been tough and hopefully here in the spring and a couple of weeks,

443
00:23:35,730 --> 00:23:35,880
you know,

444
00:23:35,880 --> 00:23:36,950
when spring sports start,

445
00:23:36,960 --> 00:23:40,260
we'll get back to that outside and and back to that normalcy.

446
00:23:40,270 --> 00:23:40,600
Yeah,

447

00:23:40,610 --> 00:23:43,360
we are normal but we're really not all the way there,

448
00:23:43,370 --> 00:23:45,010
but compared to a year ago,

449
00:23:45,020 --> 00:23:45,240
yeah,

450
00:23:45,250 --> 00:23:50,800
we're headed in the right direction and I think our kids can see that and I think our coaches can see that too.

451
00:23:50,810 --> 00:23:55,230
It's just now getting over that last hump of trying to get them through there and go,

452
00:23:55,230 --> 00:23:55,380
yeah,

453
00:23:55,380 --> 00:23:58,420
we are thinking about where we went from last year to this year,

454
00:23:58,430 --> 00:23:59,790
what's next year gonna be like,

455
00:23:59,800 --> 00:24:00,450
well it's you're,

456
00:24:00,460 --> 00:24:05,370
you're actually setting up for a big wrestling tournament coming up real soon.

457
00:24:05,370 --> 00:24:05,660
Right?

458

00:24:05,670 --> 00:24:05,840

Yeah,

459

00:24:05,850 --> 00:24:06,210

Today,

460

00:24:06,220 --> 00:24:06,900

three hours,

461

00:24:06,980 --> 00:24:07,460

four hours,

462

00:24:07,470 --> 00:24:08,210

yeah,

463

00:24:08,220 --> 00:24:10,140

start rolling out and that's in about three hours.

464

00:24:10,140 --> 00:24:10,710

So what's that,

465

00:24:10,710 --> 00:24:13,800

what's that look like right now for how that's going?

466

00:24:13,810 --> 00:24:15,260

Dave kind of hit on early,

467

00:24:15,260 --> 00:24:15,550

you know,

468

00:24:15,550 --> 00:24:17,890

it's first is there's just a lot of logistics behind it.

469

00:24:17,900 --> 00:24:23,960

I think we have like eight schools coming in uh for our frosting office wrestling tournament with eight schools coming in.

470

00:24:23,970 --> 00:24:25,780

Now we have spectator limits.

471

00:24:25,790 --> 00:24:28,670

So that means now I have eight guest lists come in,

472

00:24:28,680 --> 00:24:30,960

so making sure that we've coordinated all that.

473

00:24:31,040 --> 00:24:31,340

Then,

474

00:24:31,340 --> 00:24:31,700

you know,

475

00:24:31,700 --> 00:24:35,720

we've got all the safety protocols besides just the normal days of just rolling out the mask,

476

00:24:35,720 --> 00:24:36,800

getting the bleachers out,

477

00:24:36,810 --> 00:24:39,070

how are we gonna keep team space?

478

00:24:39,080 --> 00:24:40,910

We're not gonna stick 100 kids in,

479

00:24:40,920 --> 00:24:41,260

in,

480

00:24:41,270 --> 00:24:42,410

in a weight line anymore.

481

00:24:42,410 --> 00:24:44,740

How are we going to space out the weigh ins?

482

00:24:44,750 --> 00:24:56,920

How are we going to make sure that when we're not actively participating are wearing our masks with coaches and players and then just the logistics of just making sure that the event still continues to run.

483

00:24:56,930 --> 00:24:57,220

So,

484

00:24:57,220 --> 00:24:57,390

you know,

485

00:24:57,390 --> 00:24:58,980

you put all those things on there and it's just,

486

00:24:58,990 --> 00:25:08,310

it just becomes what used to be a hard event just becomes a little harder because there's just so many unknowns and then the same thing about right now we've got full,

487

00:25:08,310 --> 00:25:08,540

you know,

488

00:25:08,540 --> 00:25:09,970

we might have 18 kids,

489

00:25:09,980 --> 00:25:11,000

but in three hours,

490

00:25:11,000 --> 00:25:12,700

maybe all of a sudden the team might drop.

491

00:25:12,710 --> 00:25:13,220

So you know,

492

00:25:13,220 --> 00:25:14,620

you just have to be really flexible,

493

00:25:14,630 --> 00:25:16,630

but it just adds a few layers more,

494

00:25:16,640 --> 00:25:17,800

more logistical.

495

00:25:17,810 --> 00:25:19,080

The kids are still doing their thing,

496

00:25:19,080 --> 00:25:20,310

the coaches are still doing their thing.

497

00:25:20,310 --> 00:25:20,900

It's just more,

498

00:25:20,910 --> 00:25:22,540

there's just more logistics involved.

499

00:25:22,550 --> 00:25:25,610

So it's just a tremendous amount of additional work.

500

00:25:25,620 --> 00:25:26,470

I got to ask,

501

00:25:26,470 --> 00:25:28,480

I mean this is the first thought that comes to my mind.

502

00:25:28,490 --> 00:25:32,580

What keeps you engaged in it and what keeps you motivated to do it.

503

00:25:32,580 --> 00:25:33,260

I mean the,

504

00:25:33,440 --> 00:25:39,910

the challenge that comes along with current conditions and how hard and difficult it is to add all these pieces in.

505

00:25:39,920 --> 00:25:40,700

Why do it.

506

00:25:40,710 --> 00:25:44,500

I sit there and I tell our coaches and everything that's going to get better.

507

00:25:44,510 --> 00:25:52,460

And then I watch our coaches just go out there and absolutely try to give our mountain view kids the best experience possible and our coaches do that.

508

00:25:52,470 --> 00:25:55,920

And then you watch the kids are great examples are frosting office today.

509

00:25:55,930 --> 00:25:57,040

This is a big deal for him.

510

00:25:57,040 --> 00:25:58,850

I mean it's kind of like their district tournament,

511

00:25:58,850 --> 00:25:59,070

you know,

512

00:25:59,070 --> 00:26:06,380

they're gonna get a chance to tournament bracket on in and get a chance to maybe bring home a certificate and the looks in their eyes.

513

00:26:06,390 --> 00:26:22,610

Last time we had it two years ago we had a kid and watching him actually win some matches and the look on his face and then you look into the crowd and his mom and dad were just so excited that he was excited and that was the connection that kept that kid in school was just this wrestling event asking my coaches,

514

00:26:22,610 --> 00:26:22,830

you know,

515

00:26:22,830 --> 00:26:23,600

it's gonna get better,

516

00:26:23,600 --> 00:26:26,440

watching them put in the effort and then watching those kids faces.

517

00:26:26,450 --> 00:26:26,800

I mean,

518

00:26:26,800 --> 00:26:28,490

that's that's what we do it for.

519

00:26:28,500 --> 00:26:28,780

I mean,

520

00:26:28,780 --> 00:26:30,030

I think it's just like teachers,

521

00:26:30,040 --> 00:26:30,350

I mean,

522

00:26:30,350 --> 00:26:30,510

you know,

523

00:26:30,510 --> 00:26:32,890

they're looking for that light bulb moment in the classroom,

524

00:26:32,900 --> 00:26:40,060

we have those light bulb moments out there with our coaches and individuals and then watching the family's smile because I mean families have been through a lot too,

525

00:26:40,140 --> 00:26:46,130

a lot of change and with school and athletics and then watching them get to watch them compete and then have some success.

526

00:26:46,140 --> 00:26:47,270

It's what drives you.

527

00:26:47,280 --> 00:26:47,540

I mean,

528

00:26:47,540 --> 00:26:48,250

it's it's a kid,

529

00:26:48,260 --> 00:26:49,490

it's a kid driven world.

530

00:26:49,500 --> 00:26:49,750

You know,

531

00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:57,010

you mentioned that sometimes athletics might be the single thing that's keeping a kid functioning in the classroom.

532

00:26:57,010 --> 00:26:57,530

And I just,

533

00:26:57,540 --> 00:27:02,930

I just wonder about there's so many years of experience and you both have seen a lot,

534

00:27:02,940 --> 00:27:05,040

I think about the power of engagement.

535

00:27:05,040 --> 00:27:12,170

Athletics as a motivator and as a an opportunity for students to have a place to be connected.

536

00:27:12,170 --> 00:27:20,180

I just wonder what you've seen and what you think about the power of that engagement and the power of athletics and how that can be a but a change maker for a kid.

537

00:27:20,310 --> 00:27:20,650

Oh,

538

00:27:20,650 --> 00:27:21,660

it definitely can.

539

00:27:21,660 --> 00:27:23,320

I don't and I wouldn't just,

540

00:27:23,330 --> 00:27:25,430

I wouldn't just put it on athletics,

541

00:27:25,430 --> 00:27:26,320

there's so many,

542

00:27:26,330 --> 00:27:32,330

so many opportunities for kids that are high schools with clubs and activities and athletics there,

543

00:27:32,330 --> 00:27:36,110

I mean there's literally if if they want to engage,

544

00:27:36,110 --> 00:27:38,460

there's literally something for everyone.

545

00:27:38,470 --> 00:27:40,960

I mean there's a Bigfoot club at one of our high schools.

546

00:27:41,040 --> 00:27:43,830

There's there's clubs that,

547

00:27:43,840 --> 00:27:55,880

that just outside of the box stuff that just kids come up with these clubs and they organize groups of kids and they go to the activities director and they just become connected to what's happening at the school.

548

00:27:55,890 --> 00:27:57,440

Athletics is a big part of that.

549

00:27:57,440 --> 00:27:58,980

I mean that's out in the public eye,

550

00:27:58,980 --> 00:27:59,830

it's out in the,

551

00:27:59,840 --> 00:28:00,440

in the,

552

00:28:00,450 --> 00:28:00,700

you know,

553

00:28:00,710 --> 00:28:01,770

everybody sees it,

554

00:28:01,780 --> 00:28:06,920

they don't see all the little clubs that are going on and all those kids coming to school because of that.

555

00:28:06,930 --> 00:28:07,430

But yeah,

556

00:28:07,440 --> 00:28:09,010

the athletics is a huge connection.

557

00:28:09,020 --> 00:28:10,500

I mean it's what connected me to school.

558

00:28:10,500 --> 00:28:10,990

I wasn't,

559

00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:12,950

I wasn't an overly great student,

560

00:28:12,960 --> 00:28:13,740

good student,

561

00:28:13,750 --> 00:28:13,940

you know,

562

00:28:13,940 --> 00:28:16,400

that that's what kept me coming the friday nights,

563

00:28:16,400 --> 00:28:16,860

the,

564

00:28:16,870 --> 00:28:17,240

you know,

565

00:28:17,240 --> 00:28:18,620

the saturday doubleheaders,

566

00:28:18,620 --> 00:28:21,140

the trips on the bus with the basketball team.

567

00:28:21,140 --> 00:28:24,560

Those are the things that that bring a lot of those kids into our buildings,

568

00:28:24,570 --> 00:28:25,050

I think,

569

00:28:25,060 --> 00:28:26,210

I think you nailed it right there,

570

00:28:26,210 --> 00:28:29,600

it's that it's I mean athletics and clubs in general,

571

00:28:29,610 --> 00:28:32,680

it's besides competing and I know we all win and lose,

572

00:28:32,680 --> 00:28:34,310

but really it's the social aspects,

573

00:28:34,310 --> 00:28:41,580

I mean there's a lot of kids that love to play sports just because of the connection with their friends or they get to meet new friends that way,

574

00:28:41,590 --> 00:28:43,680

and I just think it's it's invaluable,

575

00:28:43,680 --> 00:28:45,090

I mean we just started the other day,

576

00:28:45,090 --> 00:28:46,430

you're talking about Bigfoot club,

577

00:28:46,440 --> 00:28:50,040

I mean we had a group of kids now that have already come up with like a pickleball club,

578

00:28:50,050 --> 00:28:50,360

you know,

579

00:28:50,360 --> 00:28:56,520

and here's this group of kids now that they're bonding and now that they're learning life skills now they've learned to try to start something and so,

580

00:28:56,520 --> 00:28:56,740

I mean,

581

00:28:56,740 --> 00:29:02,160

I just think the lessons and connections that athletics and clubs and all that puts together is just invaluable,

582

00:29:02,160 --> 00:29:05,790

I mean it's just taking the classroom and moving it into another,

583

00:29:05,800 --> 00:29:06,200

you know,

584

00:29:06,200 --> 00:29:06,860

another round,

585

00:29:07,040 --> 00:29:07,310

Okay,

586

00:29:07,310 --> 00:29:10,460

so we're asking this question of everybody that's on the podcast this year,

587

00:29:10,470 --> 00:29:12,030

especially under the conditions,

588

00:29:12,030 --> 00:29:13,270

were kind of working through,

589

00:29:13,340 --> 00:29:17,080

I just love to know what is giving you both hope right now,

590

00:29:17,090 --> 00:29:18,450

What gives me hope is just,

591

00:29:18,460 --> 00:29:22,010

is watching our coaches work with with the kids,

592

00:29:22,020 --> 00:29:30,380

giving them these continued experiences and access to so many things that they don't get outside of our buildings,

593

00:29:30,390 --> 00:29:32,130

a safe environment,

594

00:29:32,140 --> 00:29:34,670

a competitive nurturing environment,

595

00:29:34,740 --> 00:29:42,550

kids can take away and become better citizens and thrive in our communities and I mean that's those are the things that I think of,

596

00:29:42,560 --> 00:29:43,080

I mean sure,

597

00:29:43,080 --> 00:29:43,430

yeah,

598

00:29:43,440 --> 00:29:47,310

heck we're going to go out and try to win games and do all those things,

599

00:29:47,310 --> 00:29:57,300

But really that is beside the point to why we offer what we do and I think you go back to you asked a question a while ago about what was it like when the shutdown happened?

600

00:29:57,300 --> 00:30:04,900

I go back to that point when I was grabbing the laptop and everybody's going home and telling everybody that we're back in two weeks to months to where we are now,

601

00:30:04,910 --> 00:30:06,290

we're back having schedules,

602

00:30:06,300 --> 00:30:07,510

kids are competing,

603

00:30:07,520 --> 00:30:08,550

coaches are coaching,

604

00:30:08,560 --> 00:30:10,040

kids are back in the classroom,

605

00:30:10,050 --> 00:30:11,300

study halls are happening,

606

00:30:11,300 --> 00:30:13,720

clubs are going and it's not normal yet,

607

00:30:13,730 --> 00:30:18,770

but it's moving that direction and kind of leads me back two years ago when it was just a normal season.

608

00:30:18,780 --> 00:30:19,770

So I'm just,

609

00:30:19,780 --> 00:30:23,480

I think we're headed that way and that's what keeps giving hope and we're just gonna keep plugging along,

610

00:30:23,490 --> 00:30:23,740

wow,

611

00:30:23,740 --> 00:30:24,290

that's awesome.

612

00:30:24,300 --> 00:30:25,020

Thanks for that.

613

00:30:25,030 --> 00:30:25,900

Thank you both.

614

00:30:25,910 --> 00:30:26,640

I want to,

615

00:30:26,640 --> 00:30:37,470

I want to thank my guest Dave Williams Lance cause for sharing the life of athletics and activities often in our schools and the work that you both do or it's think back to my experience.

616

00:30:37,470 --> 00:30:44,390

Some of the most meaningful memories I have from my high school time was come came from my relationships to my coaches,

617

00:30:44,390 --> 00:30:47,110

my co competitors and the athletes I was a part of.

618

00:30:47,110 --> 00:30:48,070

So thank you for this.

619

00:30:48,100 --> 00:30:49,260

I appreciate your time.

620

00:30:49,270 --> 00:30:49,930

Thanks for having us.

621

00:30:50,740 --> 00:30:51,220

Alright folks,

622

00:30:51,220 --> 00:30:52,360

this is a new podcast at.

623

00:30:52,360 --> 00:31:01,080

Bend- La Pine Schools were over a dozen now we hope that you're checking in on those if you're pleased with the work we're doing on these podcasts also share them on facebook twitter and instagram.

624

00:31:01,080 --> 00:31:01,560

Additionally,

625

00:31:01,560 --> 00:31:03,310

if there are topics you'd like us to tackle,

626

00:31:03,310 --> 00:31:07,740

please send us a note at [podcast at bend dot k 12 dot org](mailto:podcast@bend.k12.or.us).

627

00:31:07,750 --> 00:31:08,770

Us also,

628

00:31:08,770 --> 00:31:10,460

please let us know your thoughts and feedback.

629

00:31:10,460 --> 00:31:11,950

We're always grateful to hear from you.

630

00:31:12,240 --> 00:31:20,340

Thanks for listening to Supe's On and please remember to always support public education.