

# Athletics News

FALL SPORTS



Roma Coleman,  
Director of Athletics



Priscilla Breitbeil, '23, warming up before a volleyball game

As our students enter the middle school preteen years, they begin to value the wisdom of their peers more than that of the adults in their lives. As educators and coaches, we cherish the moments when we witness those lessons that we, as adults, hear ourselves repeating over and over again being demonstrated through their actions.

Our middle school cross country team did just that during their GHAC Conference meet. A St. Mark's student was the last runner to cross the finish line at the meet on Thursday, October 10. On their own accord, the entire team rallied around their teammate after their races to help them complete the final leg of the race. Our students ran with their teammate through the end of the race, cheering them on every step of the way.

This is a prime example of what we want our students to do for one another

and exemplifies our philosophy of "Don't strive to be the best on the team, but to be the best for the team!" A St. Mark's middle school mom, Dr. Allison Pritchett, said, "our kids showed that they care for and support each other above and beyond how the team finishes or their individual race times. Every runner worked really hard and improved throughout the season, but this really shows that even the last (literally the last) man in is important! Thanks for creating a culture of positive sportsmanship at our school."

As the Director of Athletics, I would love to be able to take the credit for this, but the credit truly lies within the partnership that the athletic department, its coaches, the athletes, our families, and the community as a whole are working to create and maintain. Go Lions!