Methacton High School | Athletics & Activities

Strategic Framework for a Premier Program

This presentation will:

- Share what research and comparable programs say defines a “premier” athletics & activities program
- Define what Methacton currently does.
- Launch a community-driven process — pillar committees — to identify OUR priorities and how much improvement is needed
- Lay out the timeline for that process, from formation through recommendations

Why This Matters

- ✓ **Athletics & activities are an extension of our educational mission.**
- ✓ **Experiences shape character, leadership, and belonging.**
- ✓ **A shared framework ensures:**
  - ✓ **Consistency**
  - ✓ **Equity**
  - ✓ **Sustainability**

What Defines a ‘Premier’ Program?

Where This Information Came From

These characteristics were compiled and cross-checked against multiple outside sources:

Interscholastic Athletic Standards

Criteria consistent with NIAAA athletic-administration leadership standards, NFHS learning priorities, and PIAA/state-association requirements for coaching, safety, and compliance.

Benchmarked Programs

Cross-referenced against publicly available practices at recognized programs — including Bedford, Arrowhead Union, North Allegheny, and Haddonfield.

AI-Assisted Research, Staff-Reviewed

AI tools helped compile and organize the research; every item was reviewed and adapted by the Athletics & Department for Methacton's Activities specific context.

This is a starting framework, not a finished scorecard. The committees ahead will tell us which of these matter most at Methacton — and how far we have to go.

Premier Program Pillars

Six pillars created from all characteristics. Each one could have a community committee to evaluate what we do and set our priorities.

1. **Student Experience**
2. **Coaching & Advisor Excellence**
3. **Program Growth, Diversity & Success**
4. **Facilities**
5. **Community Engagement & Communication**
6. **Rules, Regulations & Governance**

PILLAR 1

Student Experience

WHAT PREMIER PROGRAMS DO

- Opportunities open to all students, not just top performers
- Academic accountability paired with real support
- Student voice, wellness, and a sense of belonging
- Real leadership opportunities for students

WHAT METHACTON DOES TODAY

- Annual Athlete Code of Conduct
- Leadership programs: PAC Leadership, PIAA District 1, NFHS Student Leadership courses, team captains
- Weekly academic eligibility monitoring with proactive family communication
- Access to wellness & mental health support
- Athletics & Activities Fair for incoming students

POSSIBLE QUESTION FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS: *What does a great experience look like for OUR students — and where are the gaps today?*

PILLAR 2

Coaching & Advisor Excellence

WHAT PREMIER PROGRAMS DO

- Student-centered coaching philosophy
- Ongoing professional learning, not one-and-done training
- Ethical leadership and real mentorship
- Advisors who are trusted by students and families

WHAT METHACTON DOES TODAY

- Coaching & Advisor Handbook, updated annually
- Seasonal coaching evaluations
- Minimum 5 hours of annual PD per coach
- NFHS & SafeSchools certifications; CPR-certified staff
- Student input into club leadership selection

POSSIBLE QUESTION FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS: *What do our students and families need most from coaches and advisors right now?*

PILLAR 3

Program Growth, Diversity & Success

WHAT PREMIER PROGRAMS DO

- Opportunities at every level: high school, middle school, youth
- Sustained — not one-off — competitive performance
- Deliberate development pipelines over time
- Programs that reflect student interest and demand

WHAT METHACTON DOES TODAY

- Feeder-program coordination with youth & middle school programs
- Structured offseason development plans
- Annual tracking of participation and postseason results
- New programs considered based on student interest

POSSIBLE QUESTION FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS: *Which programs or offerings should grow first — and why?*

PILLAR 4

Facilities

WHAT PREMIER PROGRAMS DO

- Safety as the non-negotiable baseline
- Equitable access across all programs
- Facilities that support performance and school pride
- Well-maintained, modern spaces

WHAT METHACTON DOES TODAY

- Facility maintenance planning
- Uniform & equipment lifecycle planning
- Title IX facilities equity audit
- Emergency Action Plans, updated and practiced
- Consistent Methacton branding across venues

POSSIBLE QUESTION FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS: *Which facility needs matter most to our community right now?*

PILLAR 5

Community Engagement & Communication

WHAT PREMIER PROGRAMS DO

- Transparency that builds trust
- Strong partnerships that strengthen programs
- Visible celebration of students and traditions
- Real two-way communication, not just announcements

WHAT METHACTON DOES TODAY

- Weekly Athletics & Activities newsletter
- Expanded social media presence
- Booster club coordination
- Partnerships with youth teams & local groups
- Alumni and Hall of Fame visibility

POSSIBLE QUESTION FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS: *How can we do a better job including families, alumni, and the wider community?*

PILLAR 6

Rules, Regulations & Governance

WHAT PREMIER PROGRAMS DO

- Fair access for every student
- Strong oversight and accountability
- Safety and integrity built into every program
- Consistent, well-communicated enforcement

WHAT METHACTON DOES TODAY

- Title IX compliance reporting
- Equity scorecard
- Risk management & injury protocols
- Updated handbooks and codes of conduct
- Coach/advisor compliance checks against district guidelines

POSSIBLE QUESTION FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS: *Are our current rules and expectations communicated clearly enough? What's unclear?*

Committee Formation & Purpose

ONE GROUP PER PILLAR

- Parents, coaches, students, and staff — not administration alone
- Recruited from the February parent meeting, coach feedback, and open sign-up
- Each committee owns one pillar from now through March

WHAT EACH GROUP WILL DO

- Review the research and what Methacton does today for its pillar
- Identify the top one or two priority areas for improvement
- Recommend action steps — with cost, budget impact, and timeline

The committees will provide recommendations for improvement.

Timeline

September	Set up meetings with coaches/advisors, parents and students for feedback on each pillar
November	Formation of committees of pillars based on feedback meetings
January	Pillar committee meetings to discuss top one or two areas of improvement per pillar
March	Present findings (cost, budget, timeline, other factors) for implementation

What Data Will We Use?

Not a scorecard we hand down — a set of listening channels that feed the pillar committees.

Pillar Committees (parents, coaches, students, staff)	**Student Feedback**	**Parent Feedback**	**Satisfaction Surveys**	**Participation & Access Data**
Academic Performance	**Safety & Wellness Data**	**Equity Indicators**	**Staff Quality & Retention**	**Competitive Results**

Our Commitment

- Student-centered
- Academically aligned
- Equitable and ethical
- Community-connected
- Built for long-term excellence