



MUSTANGS

*Harney County School District U.H. No. 1*

AND/OR

*Harney County School District No. 4*

P.O. Box 828  
Crane, Oregon 97732

*Phone (541) 493-2641*

*Fax (541) 493-2051*

Dear Elementary School Families,

We are writing to inform you of an upcoming schoolwide change to our middle school athletics program that will take effect beginning in **August 2026**.

Starting with the 2026–2027 school year, **middle school sports will be offered exclusively to students in grades 6 through 8**. Fifth grade students will no longer participate on middle school athletic teams. We will be exploring other options for our 5th graders which will include adding them to the Rural Basketball Program, and/or potentially joining the Park & Rec League.

This change allows us to better align our athletics program with developmental readiness and scheduling consistency across grade levels. It also ensures that our student-athletes have age-appropriate opportunities that support both skill development and overall well-being. There are very few other schools in our area that allow 5th graders to participate which creates a competitive disadvantage for our younger kids.

We recognize that families plan ahead for their children's activities, and we want to provide ample notice so you can prepare for this transition. Additional information about athletic opportunities for younger students, when available, will be shared as plans are finalized.

If you have questions or would like further clarification, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your continued support of our students and school programs.

Sincerely,

*Jamie Siegner*

Jamie Siegner  
Crane Schools Athletic Director  
jsiegner@craneedu.org