

FOUR START CONCEPT
(Not Final Proposal – Using 2009-10 Dates)

SEASON 1 - AUGUST START

Practices:

<u>Football</u>	16 th Monday before Thanksgiving	Aug. 10, 2009
<u>All Others</u>	16 th Wednesday before Thanksgiving	Aug. 12, 2009

MHSAA Finals:

<u>Tennis (B-LP/G-UP)</u>	6 th Saturday Before Thanksgiving	Oct. 17, 2009
<u>Golf (G-LP)</u>	6 th Saturday Before Thanksgiving	Oct. 17, 2009
<u>Cross Country (B & G)</u>	4 th Saturday Before Thanksgiving	Oct. 31, 2009
<u>Soccer (B-LP/G-UP)</u>	3 rd Saturday Before Thanksgiving	Nov. 7, 2009
<u>Swim & Diving (G-LP)</u>	2 nd Saturday Before Thanksgiving	Nov. 14, 2009
<u>Volleyball (G)</u>	1 st Saturday Before Thanksgiving	Nov. 21, 2009
<u>Football</u>	Saturday after Thanksgiving	Nov. 28, 2009

SEASON 2 - NOVEMBER START

Practices: All Start 3rd Monday Before Thanksgiving Nov. 9, 2009

MHSAA Finals:

<u>Swim & Diving (B&G UP)</u>	15 th Saturday After Practice Begins	Feb. 20, 2010
<u>Skiing (B & G)</u>	Last Monday in February	Feb. 22, 2010
<u>Wrestling (Team/Individual)</u>	15 th & 16 th Saturday After Practice Begins	Feb. 20/27, 2010
<u>Basketball (G)</u>	16 th Saturday After Practice Begins	Feb. 27, 2010
<u>Bowling (B & G)</u>	17 th Saturday After Practice Begins	March 6, 2010
<u>Ice Hockey</u>	18 th Saturday After Practice Begins	Mar. 13, 2010
<u>Gymnastics (G)</u>	18 th Saturday After Practice Begins	Mar. 13, 2010

SEASON 3 - DECEMBER START

Practices: All Start 3rd Monday After Thanksgiving Dec. 14, 2009

MHSAA Finals:

<u>Swim & Diving (B-LP)</u>	14 th Saturday After Practice Begins	March 20, 2010
<u>Competitive Cheer (G)</u>	15 th Saturday After Practice Begins	March 27, 2010
<u>Basketball (B)</u>	16 th Saturday After Practice Begins	April 3, 2010

SEASON 4 - MARCH START

Practices: All start 10th Monday before Memorial Day March 22, 2010

MHSAA Finals:

All conclude during the 2nd to 3rd Saturdays after Memorial Day during "MHSAA Finals Festival." June 12 -19, 2010

KEY FEATURES OF 4-START CONCEPT

1. There would be the same amount of overlap of girls volleyball and girls basketball seasons as now (which is less overlap than between those sports prior to 2007-08).
2. Girls and boys basketball “offset” increases from 1 to 5 weeks, i.e., 4 fewer weeks of overlap.
 - Girls would have 5 weeks before boys practice starts. (Nov. 9-Dec. 13)
 - Boys would have 5 weeks after girls tournament ends. (March 1 – April 3)
 - Between would be 11 weeks of overlap:
 - The first 2, boys are only practicing. (Dec. 14-27)
 - The last 3, girls are in MHSAA tournament. (March 8-27)
 - Net is a reduction to 6 weeks of head-to-head scheduling of regular season contests. (Dec. 28 – Feb. 7)
3. Sport practices start one week later and spring tournaments end in a highly promoted, 8-day “MHSAA Finals Festival.” Last day of MHSAA tournaments does not change.

ADVANTAGES OF 4-START SETUP

1. Decreases classroom conflicts for fall and spring sports.
2. Reduces the number of MHSAA tournament conflicts with high school graduation ceremonies.
3. Improves practice and competition conditions:
 - a. Some fall outdoor sports end earlier.
 - b. All spring sports start later.
4. Reduces overlap of winter season events, easing pressures on facilities and local event management and promoting greater attendance and media coverage.
5. Reduces need for early morning and late night basketball practices in the winter.
6. Improves efficiency of use of facilities, coaching personnel and officials in basketball.
7. Restores some of the local revenue for girls and boys varsity basketball games.
8. Facilitates more predictable nights for basketball contests during some of the season.
9. Spreads out MHSAA administration of fall and winter tournaments and MHSAA need for local facilities, and allows for better promotion of each MHSAA tournament.
10. Creates a climactic end to the school sports year with special promotion of often forgotten spring sports.

4 START MODEL FOR 2009-2010

	AUGUST			OCTOBER		NOVEMBER							DEC		FEBRUARY			MARCH					APRIL		JUNE						
	Mon 10	Wed 12	Mon 17	Sat 17	Sat 31	Sat 7	Mon 9	Sat 14	Sat 21	Thu 26	Fri 27	Sat 28	Sat 12	Mon 14	Sat 20	Mon 22	Sat 27	Sat 6	Sat 13	Sat 20	Mon 22	Sat 27	Sat 3	Sat 24	Sat 12	Mon-Sat 14-19					
START 1	Golf: LP Girls								T H A N K S G I V I N G																						
	Tennis: LP Boys & UP Girls																														
	Cross Country: LP Boys & Girls																														
	Soccer: LP Boys																														
	Swim & Dive: LP Girls																														
	Volleyball																														
						Football																									
START 2						Wrestling: Team																									
						Skiing																									
						Wrestling: Individual																									
						Basketball: Girls																									
						Bowling																									
						Gymnastics																									
						Hockey																									
START 3						Swim & Dive: LP Boys																									
						Competitive Cheer																									
						Basketball: Boys																									
START 4						Track & Field																									
						Lacrosse: Boys & Girls																									
						Soccer: Girls																									
						Tennis: LP Girls & UP																									
						Baseball																									
						Softball																									
						Golf: LP Boys & UP																									