To: Prospective Indiana Academy Students  
From: Chad Wlodarek, Director of Athletics  
EMAIL: crwlodarek@bsu.edu phone: 765-285-8607  
Re: Student Participation in extracurricular Athletics

FOR ALL INFORMATION ABOUT BURRIS ATHLETICS, GO TO http://www.burrisathletics.com or follow us on twitter #BurrisAthletic1

Dear Academy Student,

The amount of time an individual has to put toward academics and other parts of school life are always concerns of Academy students and their parents when they arrive. We certainly believe that academic achievement is the primary reason you apply to the Indiana Academy, however it has been shown time and time again that students need a “release”; activities that help them become well-rounded individuals. We feel that the athletic program we offer to the students is very worthwhile and extremely important in the development of the young men and women both physically and mentally. If you do ultimately apply to, and enroll in the Indiana Academy, I would wholeheartedly encourage each of you to give consideration to becoming involved in the athletic program we offer to our students at Burris and the Indiana Academy.

Our coaches and staff have developed a keen sense of awareness in relation to the needs of the Academy student. We, as a staff, have worked with the students to meet their needs in both athletics and academics. Of course practice for events is very important, however this area illustrates an example of the flexibility our staff has developed to help all student needs. If a lab, test, makeup work, extra help, tutoring, .......etc. need to be completed, our staff will work with athletes to make sure this work is done first and other practice arrangements will be made.

Indiana Academy student/athletes have been integral members of each of our athletic teams. In volleyball, girls have the opportunity to participate at the highest interscholastic level possible. Our volleyball teams have won 22 Indiana
State Championships and have been declared the **NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPION** four times, while finishing in the runner-up position five times. Academy athletes have helped our tennis team to within a step of the state finals. The Burris / Indiana Academy girls track team has consistently performed well in the sectional tournament. In each year of existence for the Academy, student athletes have played important roles as members of the baseball, boys and girl’s basketball, track, swimming and diving, cheerleader, cross country, golf, and soccer squads.

One question is always raised pertaining to sports that Burris does not offer. If Burris does not offer the sport, a student **cannot participate** for another school that does offer the sport. According to IHSAA mandates, a student cannot participate for any school other than the school in which they are enrolled.

We are deeply committed to athletics as an important part of the lives of all of our students. We put great pride in the efforts of our students and will make sure that they get the best instruction, with modern equipment.

Burris / Indiana Academy is considered by the IHSAA to be in class 2A and is a proud member the Pioneer Athletic Conference (PAAC). We will compete against Liberty Christian, Anderson Prep, Greenwood Christian, Crispus Attucks, University, International, Seton Catholic, Indianapolis Shortridge and Central Christian.

The home site for volleyball and basketball is Ball Gymnasium. Other home sites include the Ball State University track, Cardinal Hills Golf Course, Cardinal Creek Tennis Center, B.S.U., Burris Soccer Field, Lewellen Aquatic Center and Thomas Park in Muncie for baseball. We have use to some of the finest facilities in Indiana and Ball State University has been extremely cooperative in meeting our athletic needs for facilities.

If you would like to participate in a sport as an Owl during the **upcoming school year**, and **AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED AT THE INDIANA ACADEMY**,

I. Complete the information page included with this letter and return to **my office** as soon as possible. This is for our information purposes and in no way is a binding agreement; it just states your interest in possibly being a member of an athletic squad sometime during the year. This will also give our coaching staff an idea of the athletic interest from students entering the Indiana Academy. The coaches take a great interest in making sure potential athletes get information in a timely manner pertaining to preseason conditioning, practices.... etc.
II. If you plan on participating in athletics you should meet with the guidance department and let them know your plans so that your scheduled can be completed with this in mind. Our practices begin at 4:00 each day and it will be VITAL that if you are to be a member of any team, you are capable of being at practice at 4:00 sharp. Sometimes, depending on classes, this has been a problem that we have had to work out with the athlete, however, in most cases the counselors at the Academy, if they are made aware of your intentions, can make every attempt to complete your schedule to allow for this participation.

III. Another very important item is your IHSAA physical. The physical you get for entrance to the Academy DOES NOT suffice for the Indiana High School Athletic Association participation rules. An official IHSAA form must be completed, (after April 1, 2015) and be on file in the Owl athletic office prior to the first practice session. Please send this directly to Chad Wlodarek, Burris Athletics, 2201 W. University, Muncie, Ind. 47306. DO NOT SEND TO THE ACADEMY OFFICE.

IV. An area of concern in regards to scheduling athletic events is attempting to coordinate athletic schedules with the school schedules of both Burris and the Indiana Academy. Of course, this is impossible to do and still allow for every individual need to be met for every student and family. It is therefore very important to understand that the Owl Athletic Department will require the attendance of participants on the roster of the team at all athletic events for that team. This includes those events, which are scheduled over break periods such as Christmas, Thanksgiving, in the spring after Academy classes end, May Term, or extended weekends for the Indiana Academy students. We will not require the participant or parents to drive back during those break periods for practices, but the tradeoff is that the participant will be required to be in attendance for the scheduled athletic events. To be part of a team, the participant has the responsibility to teammates, the schools, and the community to be at all scheduled events in which their team takes part. This needs to be taken into consideration when going out for any team in the athletic program.

Practices for all sports at Muncie Burris will start in Early AUGUST. Understandably, you may not be arriving at the Academy until a later date. Therefore, it becomes even more important that you get your information back to our athletic office as soon as possible. Our coaches can then contact you with all the information about who to see when you get here, where to go, how to contact the coach, what you should be doing prior to arriving at the Academy, .................etc.
V. When students change school and want to participate in athletics, the Indiana High School Athletic Association has a strict policy about eligibility to participate in athletics at the new school. **ALL** incoming Academy students, who plan on athletic participation, must complete the IHSAA transfer document. This document, and information concerning the document may be downloaded from either the Academy website (student life, athletics) or the Burris Athletics website (under forms). This document, with first page completed, and second page signed, must be brought to **THE ATHLETIC OFFICE**. From there, the Athletic Director completes the form on-line and sends to your home school. PLEASE DO NOT ASK YOUR HOME ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT FOR THIS DOCUMENT.

If you have any questions on this issue, please contact me right a way.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call my office at 765-285-8607.

Chad Wlodarek

Chad Wlodarek
Burris & Indiana Academy Director of Athletics
BURRIS / INDIANA ACADEMY PARTICIPATION FORM

NAME __________________________________________________________
(PLEASE PRINT)
(FIRST) (MIDDLE) (LAST)

ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________
(STREET) (TOWN) (ZIP)

AGE: _______ TELEPHONE: __________________

PRESENT SCHOOL: ________________________________________________

PARENT OR GUARDIAN: __________________________________________

Email: _________________________________ (please print)

I PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING SPORTS AT BURRIS / INDIANA ACADEMY DURING THIS SCHOOL YEAR:

VOLLEYBALL, BOYS SOCCER, GIRLS TRACK, BOYS TRACK, BOYS TENNIS, GIRLS TENNIS, BOYS BASKETBALL, GIRLS BASKETBALL, BOYS AND GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING, BOYS GOLF, BASEBALL, BOYS CROSS COUNTRY, GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY, GIRLS SOCCER...........

***CHEERLEADER*** (SEE NOTE)

IF YOU PARTICIPATED ON A VARSITY OR JUNIOR VARSITY TEAM AT YOUR PRESENT SCHOOL, PLEASE GIVE THE NAME OF YOUR COACH AND THE SPORT.

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*Tell about your sport(s) season, key stats, accomplishments: __________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

________ I DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS AT MY HOME SCHOOL (CHECK IF APPLICABLE)

PLEASE RETURN THIS INFORMATION TO MY OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU,

CHAD WLODAREK
Owls ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT