

RECREATION COMMISSION

Due to the unfortunate COVID-19 Pandemic, much of our recreation program was canceled or limited, keeping the safety and health concerns of all students, coaches, and family as our top priority. Throughout the year, I met with local officials and other area recreation department heads to assure all recreation decisions made, were consistent and in the best interest of our Plainfield residents.

We finished the 2019-2020 basketball season in February. The 1st and 2nd grade group of 13 students worked on learning basic skills at the PES gym. Our 3rd and 4th grade boys group of 11 and a group of 11, 3rd and 4th grade girls, practiced and played several games with local towns during the season. Focus was put on individual skills, playing as a team, and sportsmanship. Practices and home games were held at PES. Both the 3rd and 4th grade boys and girls ended the season with a tournament in Hanover.

Throughout the spring and summer we unfortunately had to cancel our baseball and T-ball programs along with our annual fishing derby, Fourth of July parade and activities, and then Spirit Day.

The soccer program in the fall included the 3rd and 4th grade boys' team made up of 18 boys and the 3rd and 4th grade girls' team made up of 17 girls. The 1st and 2nd grade had three teams made up of a total of 23 players. We had 11 kids that participated in the kindergarten group. All teams this year were an in house program and practiced in Plainfield working on individual and team skills with some scrimmages.

In October, I had the pleasure to work with our Human Services Director, Stephanie Schell, who led the organization of a safe alternative to the towns traditional door to door trick or treat. Many volunteers came together to help provide a drive through trunk or treat at the Plainfield School where many children enjoyed a safe drive through to receive treats on Halloween. It was fun to see people from the community set up their stations, and to see many children dressed up in costumes. Thank you to all that made this a successful event.

The 2020-2021 basketball season was unfortunately canceled due to COVID-19 safety reason. I would like to thank our many volunteer coaches, officials, and helpers that provide an opportunity for our local youth to participate in the sports programs that we offer. It is a combination of many volunteers that make these programs and events available and successful.

As we begin a new year, I reflect on the challenges that we have faced in the past year, and how we have come together as a community with patience and understanding. If we have learned anything this past year, it would be don't take anything for granted. Moving into 2021 our hope is that we can soon move ahead with all the programs that we have had in the past. We will take on the challenges, hopefully better prepared. I look forward to a healthier and safer 2021.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel P. Cantlin ,
Recreation Director