8th Grade Boys Basketball Tryout Information

Basketball tryouts will begin **Tuesday October 22**.

The tryouts will start after school and go until 5:30 pm.

You MUST have a current physical on file in the office in order to participate.

Please wear a shirt that has your last name on the back to help the coaches learn your name. **(Please do not wear your shooting shirts from last year.)**

Please make sure that you will have a ride home at the conclusion of tryouts (5:30 pm) each day.

The coaches will not only be looking at a player’s basketball skills, but also their attitude, effort, and coachability.

In order to represent Smart Middle School Basketball, players must be in good standing with grades and citizenship. Grades and citizenship will be considered in a player’s tryout evaluation.

Tryout Dates:

**Tuesday October 22**

**Wednesday October 23**

**Thursday October 24**

Team Selection will take place at the conclusion of Thursday’s try-out.

Sincerely,

Coach Connell, Coach Wilner, & Coach Howald

8th grade coaches
The 2017-18 Smart 8th Grade Boys Basketball team will be coached by:
Coach Loren Connell (8th grade) will be entering his 14th year coaching basketball for the Trojans. Coach Connell teaches 7th & 8th grade science here at Smart Middle School. Coach Mike Wilner and Coach Neal Howald will assist Coach Connell. Coach Wilner will be returning for his 11th season as assistant coach for the Smart basketball team. Coach Howald will be returning to the court where he coached for 20 years.

The Team:
The team will consist of a minimum number of 15 players after cuts. It is up to the coach’s discretion whether or not to keep players above the minimum 15.

Practice Expectations:
It is expected that players who make the team attend practice each day. Players who miss practice may have their playing time reduced in the game based on the coach’s discretion. If a player is absent from school, they will be excused from practice that day. If you are not able to meet this expectation, please talk to your coach prior to the cut day.

Philosophy of Smart Basketball is to enhance the following qualities:
- Sportsmanship and teamwork
- Positive leadership and communication skills
- Self-discipline, conditioning, and game concepts
- Goal setting and academic performance
- Confidence, poise, and meaningful relationships

Athletic Eligibility Guidelines for Smart Basketball
- An athlete may not have more than one “E” to be remain eligible.
- Athletes must have an average GPA of no less than 2.0.
- Athletes must be in good standing regarding citizenship. Building administration can and will exclude athletes from participation if their behavior warrants it.