

The article reviews middle school sports programs in and around Worcester. The city of Fitchburg is detailed as an example. The article cites the lack of middle school programming in the city compared to suburban towns. It highlights the re-initiation of middle school sports in Worcester through the pilot of City Hoops, a joint effort with Recreation Worcester and the Worcester Public Schools. The article reviews the pre-planning between community stakeholders, volunteers and funders of the program as well as the vision going forward.

Since the article was written, the middle school sports program in Worcester has developed into a three season offering and is in response to students interests. Community members, the coordinator, the athletic director and Superintendent Binienda meet regularly for updates and monitoring of the program.