Sticking together, the Bison work to see each other succeed on and off the court

he crowd roars, players dialed in as the clock ticks down. Protecting the ball on offense, the Boy's Varsity Basketball team kept the lead. Winning their first game of the season by six points in overtime, the Bison continued to push each other every day at practice.

"I feel like our mentality has stayed the same from last season," **Zachary Zrust** '22 said. "We talk about executing throughout the whole game and getting the job done and are always going into every game trying to win and that's the main goal."

With multiple seniors graduating last year, players such as **William Pool** '22 and **Antonio Bluiett** '22 stepped up to fill some big shoes. They did just that in the first game of the season with 24 points from Pool and 26 from Bluiett.

"Last year, I did not feel like I was in as much of a leadership position as I am this year," Pool said. "I was trying to learn more, and this year I'm doing more teaching and leading to younger guys."

Along with demonstrating leadership, the boys also had to learn how to hold each other accountable. Teamwork was the key to the bison's improvement this season.

"We have a very great group of guys who really want to see each other succeed on the court," **Cameron Green** '21 said. "It doesn't matter who scores the most points or plays the most minutes. We push each other to get better every day, and that's all you can ask for."

This mentality was strong throughout the team as all the boys strived to work in unison.

"We need to play as a team, have good team chemistry, and give 100% effort each game to get better for the next," **Carter Jackson** '22 said. "We also need to learn from our mistakes and have the mindset that we want to accomplish bigger goals for the season."

"We make sure we keep each other in the game and that we are all-in," Zrust said. Keeping a good mentality and holding each other to high standards, the boy's Varsity Basketball team strives for greatness.

- Lindsay Hartman

Life Lessons Attacking the hoop, Luke Gunderson '21 drives to the basket against STMA's defense. Growing up playing basketball, Gunderson learned life long lessons. "It's taught me to never give up and have your teams backs and they will have yours," Gunderson said. *Photo by Eric Lynch*

