

MINUTES

ATHLETIC & STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF 02/10/2020

A meeting of the Athletic & Student Activities Committee was held at the South Middleton School District office at 7:00 p.m. on February 10, 2020.

Members Present: John Greenbaum, William Hartman, Jonathan Still

Members Absent: None

Administration and Staff in Attendance: Joel Hain, Karl Heimbach, Dr. Matthew Strine, Dr. Jesse White, David Yinger

Members of the Public in Attendance: Sophia Bounds

Athletics: Mr. Heimbach provided information to the Committee on the following topics:

Budget: There are some large ticket items on the athletic department list that will likely be affecting the budget in coming years, including: a new pool scoreboard and timing system (current system has reached the end of its useful life); scoreboards at YBMS; systems to raise and lower baskets and move bleachers at YBMS; replacement of equipment and enhancement of athletic training facilities. Also affecting the budget will be increases in fees for game officials and increases in dues for Mid Penn and District 3. Mr. Heimbach indicated that there is a desire from some teams at YBMS and some parents to participate in more scrimmages and tournaments, but participation in these events can be very costly. The Committee discussed options, such as asking booster clubs or other outside sources pay for some or all of the cost associated with these events. Mr. Heimbach also indicated that having additional transportation resources, such as owned or leased vans, could lower transportation costs when smaller teams or groups participate in athletic events. Ms. Bounds asked that the district provide parents with more options and/or information related to parental transportation of students to and/or from athletic events. Mr. Heimbach informed the Committee that the high school gym is at full capacity during many athletic events and that the District may want to consider options for a larger facility in the future.

Policy: Mr. Heimbach asked that the Committee consider enhancing and/or clarifying policies or administrative procedures related to 1) coach hiring; 2) outside conditioning programs, and 3) athletic eligibility (Policy 123.1). The Committee will work with Mr. Heimbach and the Administration on refining policies and procedures in these areas.

Other: Mr. Heimbach discussed the advantages of having an “umbrella” booster club for athletic teams in SMSD so that resources, such as purchasing of items for concession stands and staffing concession stands, can be used more effectively. Mr. Heimbach, Dr. Strine, and Mr. Hain indicated that umbrella booster clubs functioned well in districts in which they had previously worked. The Committee expressed interest in consulting and cooperating with existing booster clubs on this idea.

Music Program: Mr. Yinger provided information to the Committee related to the music programs available to students. He indicated that participation in the elective music programs had dipped somewhat during a time of staffing transitions, but based on current trends he anticipates strong growth in the band and chorus programs in the coming years. Mr. Yinger informed the Committee that the change in school start times had a small impact on YBMS rehearsal times (was 42 minutes, now 38

minutes), but having rehearsals at the beginning of the day rather than the end has greatly reduced conflicts with athletics/early dismissals and that overall the change has been net positive for the music program. At the high school, rehearsal time has dropped slightly from 80-77 minutes, but having the morning collaboration time for the department has been beneficial.

Budget/Wish List: Mr. Yinger indicated that items that may affect the budget in coming years are: 1) purchase/lease of new musical instruments; 2) replacement of band uniforms; 3) possible expansion of use of technology in the music program; 4) possible expansion of music department offerings to students. Mr. Yinger reported that Mr. Weary, director of the choral program, is very interested in musical theatre and will likely be active in supporting that student activity in the coming years.