

SMSD Athletics & Student Activities Committee Meeting Minutes

SMSD Board Room

July 25, 2022 – 6:00pm

Members Present: Robin Scherer (chair) and Rodney Wagner

Members Absent: Terry Draper

Administration Present – Brad Group (Ex-officio member), Rachel Boyle, Ryan Frey and Lindsay Kint

Teacher Rep Present – None

Public Attendance – Sophia Bounds, Mike MacIvor, Dean Clepper, Jim Decker.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business:

An inquiry was recently received via email regarding the formation of a tennis team. Rachel Boyle presented information regarding what would be needed to implement a team such as identifying the need, facility, funding, coach, etc. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of students playing on teams of nearby districts. The committee recommended future exploration of a team formation.

Rachel Boyle presented the Athletic Director's Report as well as the Coaches Blueprint. She described the market analysis that was done (high school level only) and how the stipends were determined. The blueprint was done in conjunction with SMSD Administration to ensure all stipends were kept within the current budget. A discussion ensued regarding proposed post-season coaching stipends and the challenges that have presented in the past with individual versus team sports. Lindsey Kint indicated based on last season's numbers it would cost approximately \$3380 for post-season coaching stipends. The committee referred this as a discussion item for the next budget. A short discussion was held on volunteer coaches. Rachel indicated they are vetted the same as paid coaches.

Rachel continued to review the Athletics Committee Report. She indicated she is working on a Mentorship Program and would like to monitor student academics year-round as opposed to just within their sports season. Those present also discussed outreach programs and a student athlete services program. Rachel stated she has established an Alumni Hall of Fame Committee. She presented information on student interns Adam Sheaffer and Alanna Robinson, who will be reporting on athletic events.

Rachel reported the coaching staff is almost complete. She is still working on a throwing coach for Track & Field and an Assistant Volleyball coach. She is hoping to have all coaches approved at the next BOD meeting scheduled for 8/1/2022. A discussion ensued regarding coaching concerns and how student athlete concerns should be addressed. Rachel will be holding a meeting for coaches on 8/7/2022 and will put this item on the agenda.

The group discussed feeder programs and the involvement of some of our present coaches in those programs. Rachel indicated youth event outreach is developing and building.

A brief discussion was held regarding stadium signage.

A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of installing a second turf. It would not be a simple process but worth investigating. Rodney Wagner suggested a potential partnership with South Middleton Township (SMT). Since he is the liaison with SMT, Rodney will reach out to them and report back at the next board meeting.

Old Business:

The group discussed the community turf usage. It has been open for student athlete usage Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. This will be in place until 8/5/2022. Pre-season workouts start 8/8/2022, which means the turf will be occupied most of the time. Ryan Frey indicated this seems to have been working well and there weren't any concerns or damage. Discussion ensued regarding rental of turf by outside entities versus use by student athletes. A community member brought up a concern regarding safety and liability usage during a storm. A community member expressed rental of facilities by Younger Eagle FC teams, who have rented SMSD fields for many years. They are different from the USL Women's Soccer League. Discussion ensued regarding the reservation process. It has been reviewed. There will be a coordinated process utilized moving forward to ensure problems are not repeated. It was noted that it would be helpful to have an individual present to oversee rental of facilities in the event of any problems.

A discussion was held regarding coaches' access to the facility reservation system. Rachel is working on a spreadsheet for Ryan to help determine which coaches need access to which facilities. A community member brought up a concern regarding the propping of doors especially in the swimming and locker room areas.

There was nothing to report on the band/theater arts/clubs/other.

Rachel Boyle presented information from Dr. Hain to indicate they are interviewing for Dr. Weary's replacement. The High School will utilize the new resource schedule when school resumes and all extracurricular positions have been filled.

Public Comment:

Public comment was offered during throughout the meeting and is referenced within the minutes.

The next Athletics Committee meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Scherer, Chair