SMSD Athletics & Student Activities Committee Meeting Minutes

SMSD Board Room

November 1, 2022 - 6:00pm

Members Present: Robin Scherer (chair) and Rodney Wagner

Members Absent: Terry Draper

Administration Present - Brad Group (Ex-officio member), Rachel Boyle, Dr. Joel Hain, Dr. Jesse White, Dave Yinger

Teacher Rep Present - None

Public Attendance – Paul Walters, Trevor Byers

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

New Business:

The process of selecting coaches was discussed. Along with that, the process of coach evaluations was discussed along with adding a student evaluation component. Dr. Hain indicated seniors are required to complete a survey for graduation and it may be an easy way to get feedback from senior athletes.

The group discussed donations and sponsorships for various athletic programs. Rodney Wagner expressed concern about the signs posted in the stadium, wondering who solicited the donations and who the sponsorships benefit as it relates to Board authorization of all signage (Policy 702). The Committee suggested the Facilities Committee take up this topic. In the meantime, Rachel Boyle will reach out to coaches to find out more about booster clubs. Rodney Wagner recommends a community-based fundraising committee so we can get the most out of our efforts. It was suggested that members of the various booster clubs be brought together for a meeting or be invited to the next Athletics & Student Activities Committee Meeting.

A brief discussion was held regarding wrestling mats - new mats and disposal of old mats. The Bubbletown Mat Club just purchased new practice mats. Rachel Boyle has the disposal of the old mats on the next Board agenda.

A discussion ensued regarding student uniforms and the possibility of student athletes purchasing their own uniforms through an established online store. The Committee ran out of time to complete this discussion, so will continue the conversation at the next meeting.

Old Business:

The group discussed the community turf usage. Rachel Boyle indicated the summer usage went fine. The reservation process was also discussed. Rachel Boyle indicated it is a "work in progress," but she will be working with fall coaches to be sure all student athlete summer turf time will be reserved as soon as possible to ensure student athletes will have the turf available as needed. Discussion ensued regarding the need for district supervision for rentals to outside organizations, so the keys are not being handed out. The Facilities Committee has discussed stadium entry so this committee will allow the Facilities Committee to continue the discussion.

A discussion was held regarding Varsity and JV coaches' access to the facility reservation system Rachel Boyle stated she will communicate the permission for access to the Facilities Department.

Rachel Boyle presented the Athletics Department Report as of November 1, 2022. That report is attached with the minutes. She noted Winter Coaching positions are filled and there will be a Signing Day for fall student athletes who have committed to playing a sport in college.

Mr. Yinger reported Iron Forge had 90, fourth grade beginning band members and 5, beginning fifth graders. This is the highest number of new band members. The Iron Forge Band Concert is scheduled for 12/8/2022 @ 7:00 p.m. The high school band had a very successful season with a strong and balanced group of students. They participated in four parades in addition to football games. Mr. Yinger was very proud of how well the students represented the district at all events. The High School Band will also be participating in some holiday events coming up in December and continues to prepare for their trip to Disney 2/16/2022 – 2/20/2022. They will also be transitioning to concert band and have a concert scheduled 2/5/2023. The Yellow Breeches Middle School Band participated in two parades in addition to the parade at Rice Elementary.

Mr. Yinger reported the Music Department has been working on this year's combined Middle and High Schools production of "Matilda" with show dates on 12/3/2022 and 12/4/2022. Several students have been selected and will be participating in District and County Chorus events in January 2023. The Concert Choir will be performing for Veterans as well as having a combined middle and high school concert on 12/15/2022.

Dr. Hain updated the committee on clubs. He indicated students will have the opportunity to change clubs mid-year. The Link Crew helped freshmen as they transition from middle to high school. There have been lots of Mini-Thon Activities happening as well. Dr. Hain mentioned Spirit Week is 12/19/2022 - 12/22/2022. He also mentioned Junior Achievement will be presenting a Money Matters Clinic for 11^{th} graders in the near futures and in the spring a 9^{th} grade STEM Day.

Dr. White stated the Middle School Cross Country Team did well and the Middle School Band gained a lot of new members. A Mini-Mini-Thon event will happen on 11/4/2022. Spirit Week was held last week.

Public Comment:

Public comment was made by Paul Walters and Trevor Byers to introduce the Committee to a new Girls Wrestling Club. Paul Walters and Kyle Dayhoff will coach the club team. It was noted girls wrestling is the fasted growing female sport. There were 16 girls at the first club meeting and lots of additional interest. The Club is working through many details and hope to have things up and running soon. The Committee recommends the Girls Wrestling Club to the SMSD Board of Directors for approval. Discussion ensued regarding the club and the future of an official school affiliated girl's wrestling team.

The next Athletics & Student Activities Committee meeting date will be posted on the district's website once the 2023 calendar is established.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Scherer, Chair