

Extra-Curricular Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

4:00 pm

Brimfield High School Library

Present: Marcy Burdette-Steele, Patrick Meyer, Katie Kappes, Todd Johnson, Jason Snyder, Brandon Porter, Kevin Kreiter, Kurt Juerjens, and 33 visitors. Updyke joined at 4:31pm.

Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Chad Wagner - on behalf of the Elmwood board to approve COOP as it exists. Given copy of numbers as they exist at EHS. Golf and Volleyball breaking out - 2 year analysis first. Our coaches have requested we wait two years if BHS wants to break out of baseball. Coop exists to give kids opportunity. Without coop with BHS, Elmwood cannot have a baseball or softball team. Do not have facilities. Thank you.

Meyer - if BHS pulls out of baseball and softball - Elmwood would pull out of COOP?

Wagner - I cannot state what my board will do. I cannot speak for my board.

Snyder - EHS open to discussing numbers in baseball - would allow cuts??

Wagner - if we have 40 kids we need more coaches?

Snyder - could EHS host a freshmen baseball team? Intergovernmental conversation b/c we do not own our facilities?

Wagner - dropoff - feeling of opportunity and included.

Dutton - kids not feeling welcome to play baseball. Dialogue with board members apples/oranges due to positions on field and open substitutions. Every two years this is a conversation.

Krieter - to Chad - IHSA wants COOPs done all same time. Used to be able to vote independently. How did they all get lumped together. Response - IHSA requires us to vote differently now. Likes idea of a extra-curricular committee (two BOE, admin, AD, etc.).

Johnson asks Wagner - numbers and facilities are both reasons why EHS cannot host own team without COOP.

Al Cornish is happy with district and what is offered; he says he has worked in education and it was his responsibility to provide opportunities for kids, whether it is BHS or EHS. He believes that when opportunities are being eliminated, you need to take a long look at it. He believes a freshman coach should be added as well as a freshman team, rather than eliminating a COOP. In two years if it's a different situation – then he suggested we consider a different direction.

Is there a deadline when this needs to be decided? At what point will this be decided? A discussion will take place with EHS at BOE meeting on Monday. Then we would have to schedule a special meeting or approve at our next scheduled meeting.

Creating a COOP committee, BOE members from both schools, a couple parents...meet twice a year to discuss and constant analysis of numbers at each school. Will recommend at next BOE meeting to form committee.

Set a recommendation to vote at next BOE meeting. (Collectively or individually)

Porter Numbers:

2022 - 27 BHS kids, 7 EHS

2021 3 EHS

2020 - 8 EHS

Currently JV and Varsity teams: Porter, two coaches from EHS (two assistant coaches)

Four volunteer coaches - not there all the time (rotate)

Tucker - paid JV coach, one assistant

Potentially - next year - how many kids going out - potential of 32-34 kids (if EHS gets all 10 - over 40 kids possible)

Hovering around 25 Brimfield kids - if we get 10+ from EHS - that field needs to get built. There's not enough practice facilities. Want to give kids opportunities and chance to play - with that many kids we cannot do it. With 2 JV teams playing somewhere, with softball too - that's a lot of buses.

If we keep COOP - what do we need to make it better - someone at Elmwood (a coach), representation at both buildings in all sports.

Softball numbers fluctuate. Get players from both schools. Most years players play JV and Varsity. It hard to know what the numbers will be moving forward. What improvements do you see that we need - we rely on volunteer help. Couldn't do it without them. 3 paid coaches.


Synder clarified - Brandon - 7 total coaches - 3 paid positions.

Kevin Kreiter - anything from AD perspective - facilities and transportation are major concerns. Another field is a logical step. Get Matt Cox available at next meeting. See more indoor facilities - cages, flooring, etc.

****Recommendation for COOP/extra-curricular committee for next BOE meeting.****

****Recommendation at next BOE - add a paid coach position to baseball.****

Meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm



Board President



Board Secretary