Conneaut School District Athletic Committee Meeting Minutes for November 18, 2019

Conneaut School District Athletic Committee

November 18, 2019

The meeting of the Athletic Committee was called to order at 6:30 pm on November 18, 2019 as advertised in the CASH library. Present for the meeting were Directors Don Ellis, Kathy Klink and Dorothy Luckock; Superintendent Jarrin Sperry; and Athletic Director John Acklin. Also present were Principal Kevin Burns, Assistant AD at CVMS Brian McCall, various coaches and 1 member of the public.

This being an in-between season meeting the coaches and AD were asked for any updates or concerns. It was noted that the soccer field only had one bad area left to be addressed and Mr. Acklin felt that it was on the list with Buildings & Grounds.

Visitor Recognition – Mrs. Betsy Sperry was present and asked about the status of her family request regarding a cooperative agreement between Conneaut as the host school and Mercyhurst Prep for Boys Volleyball. Mr. Acklin read from an email the previous Friday to/from the AD of MP in regard to this matter. Based on direction from our solicitor, we are not to proceed until a formal request comes in from the other school. It was noted the following for everyone’s understanding:

- Cooperative agreements on sports are legal documents between the 2 schools and must be for a minimum of 2 years.
- That it would have to be open to all students (in this case boys) of that school asking to participate; cannot be restricted such as living in Crawford County.
- The PIAA guidelines that have been followed by CSD in the past are that these types of agreements are between 2 public schools that share a common border. Mr. Acklin confirmed that a private school such as Mercyhurst Prep does not have boundaries.
- That the board’s priority must be to our students within our public school.
- It was confirmed to Mrs. Sperry that the procedure if/when a formal request is received that it goes through this Athletic Committee prior to consideration by the full board.

Jarrin Sperry updated on the after-school meal opportunity for athletes. Mr. Acklin was getting feedback from the coaches; and administration also from the principals. This will be especially helpful for those away games.

Coach Christine Krankota spoke regarding the Junior High Girls Volleyball program. Based on evaluation of the program with respect to the past year; discussions amongst coaches and AD, etc. they have prepared and evaluated several scenarios for improvement. She would like to maintain the separate teams at CLMS and CVMS but combine their practices. This would permit equity in skill teaching, drills and the like. The grades 7 & 8 season runs from March 2 – April 22, a short season. There currently is a shuttle that runs from CV to Lake for other teams. Contact and discussion will be held regarding the movement of students from Lake to Valley and the costs. The coach and assistant AD will touch base with the business office regarding any additional budget needs. The committee was in favor of approval.
Coach Scott Shannon asked again on ideas to get kids interested in other programs especially during the winter season. One area noted was the large turnout for volleyball (just as an example) and introducing other opportunities for those who may be “cut”.

Brian McCall has new banners to recognize CVMS athletic teams such as Girls basketball and wrestling. But the “old” CVHS banners are still up in the competition (downstairs) gym. Being that all those recognitions were incorporated into the new combined banners in the CASH gym, the consensus of the committee was to transition both the CV and CL middle schools to the accomplishments of the middle school teams. Discussion was held about whether to consider putting any in the upstairs (old) gym, but with the limited wall space and the age/condition of the old banners we did not feel it was practical. Dot is to reach out to CV Alumni and we will try to locate someone from CL Alumni to see if they was to assume ownership of these banners or whether to offer them to the respective historical societies. It was noted that all the Linesville banners came down when the combined banners were put up.

A question was asked on who to contact to update the district Facebook page with athletic results, especially over the weekend. Mr. Acklin said to contact him and he will see it gets done.

The meeting was adjourned and all thanked for attendance and input.

Mrs. Dorothy Luckock, President and Committee Chairperson

Mr. Greg Mayle, Board Secretary