

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
August 24, 2022  
6:00 PM

The special meeting of the Baker School Board was called to order by Chairperson Johnna Koenig at 6:00 pm in the Boardroom of Baker High School. Trustees Quentin Burdick, Dalon Dyke, Klint Flint and Samm Schermele were in attendance. Also present were Superintendent Aaron Skogen, Principal Dom Vergera, Vice Principal Bo Lingle, and District Clerk Jennifer Mettler. Guests were Kallie Benter, Tim Robinson, and Trish Barth.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

NONE

**EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACT CONSIDERATIONS**

Mr. Lingle presented to the board the extracurricular hiring recommendations; he is recommending Kallie Benter, Head Tennis Coach and Savannah Gorman, Assistant Tennis Coach.

Klint Flint moved to hire the extracurricular positions as presented for the 2022-23 school year. Quentin Burdick seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

**MHSA 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARTICIPATION – POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

Administration present to the board the policies & procedures developed for the inclusion of 8<sup>th</sup> graders in high school sports as approved by MHSA. Process of participation is as follows:

8th Grade Participation Process

Middle school students can be considered for advancement to high school teams if:

- The advancement is clearly a benefit to the student athlete and the program that he/she would enter.
- Advancement of middle school students to a high school team should be the **exception**, and not be viewed as the general order of doing business.

Process:

1. A Pre-Season Parent Meeting (Grades 8-12) will be held prior to the Fall, Winter, and Spring Sports Seasons.
2. Head coaches will present to all players and parents a team rules document for their program. The Head Coach will outline the tryout criteria and process in which players will be evaluated. The team rules document must be signed by the parent and player to participate in tryouts.
3. 8th graders who sign the team rules form will then have to submit the 8th grade tryout registration form. This form will require signatures by the parent, student, and head coach. The form will then be submitted to administration for final approval.
4. The AD and Principal must sign off on the 8th grade tryout registration form to allow the 8th grader the opportunity to tryout.

This procedure will allow the 8<sup>th</sup> graders to try-out for high school and does not guarantee a spot on the team for the athlete. It will be initiated by the athlete, parents sign off and finally the coach has to approve it; the final step is to take it to the Athletic Director for final approval. They inform the board the process will evolve and change as the process continues.

Discussion followed.

Samm Schermele moved to approve the procedures and guidelines for 8<sup>th</sup> grade participation as presented. Dalon Dyke seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Skogen added with the addition of 8<sup>th</sup> graders to play high school, 6<sup>th</sup> grade should be given the option to play middle school sports as well so it would be a 6-7-8<sup>th</sup> program. With the approval of the board, the administration would start contacting 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents for volleyball, right now, to start participation; they have already visited with the middle school coaches and they want to include the 6<sup>th</sup> graders. This in turn will open up discussion about our 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade basketball program turning it into possibly a 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade program. Updates will need to be done to the handbook as well to include 6<sup>th</sup> grade participation. Board approve the administration to move forward with including 6<sup>th</sup> grade participation in the middle school sports – with exception of football. There being no other business, meeting adjourns at 6:31 pm.

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s/ Jennifer Mettler  
Clerk

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s/ Johnna Koenig  
Chairman