

TUHSD Athletic Council

NOTES

Tuesday, April 18, 2017

Present: Americ Alvarado, Christina Amoroso, Lars Christensen, Chris McCune, Jessica Peisch, Larry Pratt, David Rice, Dan Sapp (Tam), Nate Severin, Jen Tippett (Redwood), LaSandra White, Sue Chelini

Guests: John Chelini, Kim Stibich (Tiburon Peninsula Soccer Club), Peter Serchia (Novato HS), John Tantum (Redwood parent)

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1. Introductions

2. Athletic Trainers Update (Americ):

- UCSF Contract: We are finishing our 2nd year of a 3-year contract with UCSF to provide athletic trainers for TUHSD schools. For 2017-18, the District will be assuming the full cost of the contract. Next year, the booster clubs will be off the hook financially. We will need to review the contract beginning mid-year and bring a new contract proposal to the Board for 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 in early spring semester.
- AB 1510: Currently, ATCs are not licensed in the State of California. We require our athletic trainers to hold NATA Board Certification as an ATC. California is the only state that does not require licensing for athletic trainers. Anyone can claim to be an athletic trainer without certification if California does not have any standards for the profession. Our trainers would like as many parents or athletes as possible to send letters to the governor as it is currently on his desk. Feedback from Governors office is that he feels such licensing would impede on physical therapists as competition. CIF, NCAA and other athletic organizations are in full support.
- UCSF Play/Safe Cardiac Physicals: Free physicals are offered at UCSF. Tam and Redwood have provided busses. ATCs are pushing for fall players to get this done on Saturday, May 6. Space still available. Times are dedicated for Redwood at 10:00, Tam at 12:00 and Drake all day. There will be a full screening with follow-up with their primary care physicians if needed. Redwood athlete found in screening several years ago with a serious heart issue that could have ended in Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Instead, after surgery, he was able to return to full athletic activities.
- Jessica Dominigues, ATC, has been with Tam since mid-Fall. Andrew Blood, ATC, is now "full-time" at Drake. Drake previously had two athletic trainers. The ATCs have full time positions between UCSF (15 hours/week) and Tam District (25 hours/week).

3. Freshman Soccer (Sue/Lars/Chris):

Sue gave background for the need for adding freshman soccer teams. With so many cuts at Redwood and Tam, a freshman soccer staffing plan was proposed in mid-February that would cover six teams of both genders.

A meeting of key players in the soccer community was held in early March. At that meeting, independent freshman teams seemed out of the question. Drake girls' soccer coaches started a "Freshman Academy" for skill development and playing of some games. Players were told that they were not technically on the team, but they are there to work on skill development and could be "brought up" if needed. The JV coach had room in the schedule so arranged some "freshman friendlies" that counted as JV contests, but were freshman only. The girls' program had a lot of success because the coaches were so committed to making it work. The boys' program at Drake tried it, but did it a little differently and didn't have as much success. The soccer community thought it might be feasible to do community fund-raising that would pay for an extra part-time coach to work with the 'freshman academies'.

Lars and the ADs met subsequently. Lars thinks what the Drake program does is commendable and creative, but the District needs to respect what the ADs and individual programs can reasonably accomplish. Lars said that no one is taking any pleasure that we don't have the wherewithal to make this program work at this time.

John T. was disappointed that the District is not going along with the 'freshman academy' idea. He said there was a lot of support for funding a half-time JV coach from the community. It would only be about \$15,000 for 6 part-time coaches. We shouldn't let this funding stop about 100 more kids from playing.

Jessica mentioned that it would set up a precedent for other sports to add more teams the same way. Dan: We don't want to get into the likelihood of private teams at public schools.

Drake has exceptional opportunities with 3 large synthetic turf spaces: the football field, Red Hill field and the entire baseball field.

Jen T: The District facilities meeting talked about how they are going to jostle everything to add more space for portables for five or more years, which at Redwood, would be taking black top space. Already three portables will be placed there this coming summer.

Lars: The hardest thing is to argue about fewer opportunities for kids. We can't have existing coaches to embrace the whole idea of having more players. Existing staff, from ADs on down, have to say they want to do this. If they are told to do it and don't buy in, it is doomed to fail.

John T's 9th grade son was cut. His son wouldn't care if he only had a little bit of practice/playing time on black top, grass or turf. With the coaching turnover, why not mandate freshman "academies" when hiring new coaches for the good of those kids? Jen T: It is really hard to find good coaches even for the teams that we have. If it were a mandate to run a "Freshman Academy", we may not be able to fill that job. This year, both Tam and Redwood hired JV coaches a week before the season this year.

Christina: Not doing it well could create a huge issue. The timing is not workable right now. Tam doesn't have a JV G Lacrosse coach right now with the season already in progress. Dan: We don't want to dilute the program for the varsity and JV players.

Nate: Some very small things made a big difference about the success of the freshman academy of the girls' vs. the boys' teams. Drake girls also had several volunteers who were committed to helping.

Dan was a lower level football coach for 4 years. For every hour spent with kids, there is usually another hour in planning and organizing.

John C: CYSA under 19 games are just as challenging as varsity or even college games. What is happening with club high school age programs? Kim: It exists, but their playing season is mostly in the fall. Most of those who were cut do play club or recreational soccer teams. Most of the clubs take a break in the winter. Kids want to play for their school. John C: It is a "fact of life" in the sports world that athletes get cut. Lars: Point well taken.

John T: We should design our program to accommodate the most kids possible. He plans to get a group of parents to go to the school board directly. He is frustrated because the optimal situation for the kids is not being taken into consideration. Jen T: Academics are the priority and this Board is trying to keep that as at the highest level possible. Dan: There are structural impediments to actually adding teams.

Lars is saddened that John T was so frustrated. There are practical reasons why we can't increase opportunities at this time. One is the internal capacity of our staff to actually do this. Sometimes we just have to say we can't. We can't work in isolation. It is not about choosing coaches over kids. John T: As long as there are kids who want to play, the District should make it happen whatever team it is.

Dan: The AC has made a determination that we can't do it. Money is not the primary issue. If there weren't other structural impediments, we would love to pursue this further.

4. MCAL Update:

- Three new schools will join NCS beginning in 2018-19. Napa, Vintage and American Canyon High Schools were assigned to the Marin-Sonoma-Mendocino Conference. Jesse Bethel and Vallejo High Schools were assigned to the Bayshore Conference. Benecia HS was assigned to the Valley Conference. Conference meetings will take place

in May and August to reconfigure leagues. Gil Lemmon, NCS Commissioner, has offered five proposals for new leagues, all of which leave Justin Siena out of the MCAL at their request. Option 5 has Novato and San Marin going north and leaving our league. Other options may also be proposed. The MCAL will support whatever options that Justin Siena, Novato and San Marin want. Justin does want to leave MCAL. Novato and San Marin want to stay. Next year is the planning year. Selfishly, MCAL schools will have much less travel time and cost without traveling to Napa for every sport. A new water polo league has been formed with Cardinal Newman, Ukiah, Sonoma and Marin Academy, so they will no longer be in a MCAL supplemental league. (Update: The MSM Conference meeting will be held on May 22, 2017.)

- MCAL: MCAL would like to consider criteria for adding new schools to the league. The NCS Realignment Committee makes recommendations to the NCS Board of Managers as to how leagues should be arranged. MCAL has representatives on the NCS BOM. The MCAL Board of Managers and ADs should inform the MCAL representatives how they should vote

5. 2016-17 Board Report: Tuesday, May 23: Sue is preparing the Board Report for the May 23 Board meeting. At that meeting, Coaches of the Year, MAF Outstanding Student Athletes and other significant athletic award winners will be recognized. Sue will send out the written reports to the AC members prior to the meeting. We may reprise the "Day in The Life of an Athletic Director" PowerPoint that Jessica and Christina will update.

6. Weight Rooms/Bridge Athletics Update (Nate): Tim Parnow, Drake weight room manager reports lots of water polo, baseball, swimmers, football have been using the weight room. It is packed in morning. Drake now has a yoga room as well. A parent volunteer is helping. Groups of 3-4 are pairing up and sharing equipment. No teams have gone to the next phase of paying extra and getting team workouts. Bridge Athletics did High Performance Night with 40-50 kids attending. Everyone very pumped up about it. There were about 4 basic training plans which were assigned to athletes based on their current fitness level. Most are starting on basic plan. There are a lot of girls, which is why the yoga room was opened. Everything Nate has heard so far has been positive.

Dan: Tam has found teacher supervisors who are staffing weight room in evenings and working to develop contracts for year round plan. The Boosters will be paying for program development. Tam Boosters are paying \$ 25/hour for supervisors. Ripped Body is putting together the program. They work with professional athletes and community athletes. The program will include strength and conditioning for athletes, but wellness conditioning for everyone. Tam's program does not include an app. The primary goal was to have supervised access to the weight room after school. The Tam Boosters wanted professionals developing the year round program. Hours: After school until 6:00 and 3 hours on Saturday. The Boosters will be financing that program through the summer as well.

7. Unified Teams Spring Update: Thursday, May 4 will be quad track meet for unified athletes at Tam beginning at 3:00. Terra Linda, Tam, Redwood and Drake will participate. Redwood's unified basketball team was invited to a Warriors camp at Liberty HS recently. Every school in that league has unified basketball, so there is a full unified schedule. Redwood unified players attending received jerseys, took pictures with Warriors, etc. It was a great experience for all.

8. Winter/Spring Season Sports Updates:

- **Redwood**
 - a) Some sports are almost getting into playoffs.
 - b) Will host MCAL swimming and diving. Also will host NCS track meet.
 - c) Cheer tryouts starting today.
 - d) Hopefully every team will qualify for NCS.
 - e) Did get approval for the Gary Cassasa Softball Complex
- **Drake**
 - a) Winter: All winter teams qualified for NCS and MCAL. G soccer went on to NCS semis. Wrestling went to NCS. Scholastic pennants for wrestling and g basketball.
 - b) Spring: B lacrosse has gone up and down in numbers. G lacrosse is at lower end of pack.
 - c) Baseball is starting well
 - d) B volleyball is doing well.
 - e) Not hosting anything for spring playoffs.
 - f) First year without Coach Bill Taylor in 40 years. Bill Taylor Track and Field Festival is the new name for the All-Comers Meet. They released a pigeon at the ceremony and Bill was there to say a few words. Many community members came out. Bill is taking a group of students to Greece this summer. He is officially retiring. There will be a party for him in August.

- g) Drake has hired a new football coach recently. Roy Giorgi is a 1980 Drake grad. He has good coaching experience. Nate was really excited that he just walked in when they needed him.
- h) Millie Heim, ticket taker extraordinaire, is retiring. She has been nominated for the MAF Special Recognition.

- **Tam:**

- a) Winter wrap up: B basketball was NCS DII runner up and qualified for NorCals. G basketball won the MCAL pennant back to back years. B soccer won NCS pennant. G soccer qualified for NCS playoffs.
- b) Wrestling: Karim Shakur won NCS 195 lb. weight class. He qualified for CIF and did well. He was named the MCAL Wrestler of the Year.
- c) Unified track meet will be at Tam May 4.
- d) Scholastic pennants: G V Basketball and Wrestling.
- e) Sylvia Goodman, Cross Country coach, was named an NFHS State Honor Coach.
- f) Spring Updates: Tam expects to qualify for baseball playoffs. Any one of the three teams could win it. B golf and B tennis are currently tied w/Redwood for 1st.
- g) G lacrosse: We have a JV LAX program! They played Novato (powerhouse).
- h) Softball: Highlight was Tam/Redwood game in Gary Casassa's honor to respect what he has done for the softball community.
- i) G Swim coach was ecstatic to have beaten Redwood for the first time in 10 years or more!
- j) Track & Field are having a meet today against Novato. The tri-meet May 4 will be huge.
- k) B volleyball has about half of the boys' basketball team on it.
- l) Tam has hired new football coach: Matthew LemMon.
- m) Tam's MAF Outstanding Student Athletes are Connor Norton and Elizabeth Labeeuw-Anderson

9. Additional items that may come up:

- **Peter S:** What are the chances of getting soccer genders playing back to back rather than varsity or JV playing back to back? Jessica: This coming year will be the same as last year. Due to change in NCS calendar for 18-19, MCAL will be making other changes in the soccer schedules and this idea can be considered.

Confirm future meeting dates:

Athletic Council: Tuesdays, 2:30-4:00, Carlisle Creekside

Athletic Directors Only, Mondays, 12:30, Creekside
May 8, 2017

Marin Athletic Foundation

Golf Tournament: Monday, April 24, 2017, Indian Valley Golf Club
Outstanding Student Athlete Dinner: Monday, May 8, 2017, Embassy Suites

NCS Athletic Directors' Association (NCSADA)

Monday, September 18, 2017

National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA)

Orlando, Florida, December 9-12, 2017, Phoenix AZ

California State Athletic Directors' Association (CSADA)

San Diego, April 19-23, 2017, Reno NV