

Pairing Committee Meeting

Monday, April 15, 2013

Minneota and Ivanhoe Schools

6:00 p.m. in the Minneota High School Library

Minneota school board members present: Larry Buysse, Doug Spanton, Earl Skaar

Ivanhoe school board members present: Gene Panka, Marty Rost, Steve Citterman

Athletic Directors present: Harlen Ulrich & Craig Midtaune

Superintendents: Dan Deitte & Michelle Mortonsen

1. Welcome & Introductions- No decisions will be made at this meeting as it a committee meeting only
2. Recap of current athletic pairings between Minneota and Ivanhoe Schools

No games have been played yet due to weather. There is an emergency Camden Conference meeting scheduled on Wednesday to discuss options. The bussing is going well.

Softball- Canby is included in softball too. The number of girls participating is in the mid 40's in grades 7-12.

Baseball-The number of boys participating is in the low 30's in grades 7-12.

Football-We had a great season. Lincoln HI has had a positive experience being involved in the football program.
3. MSHSL school enrollment numbers and class competition assignments for 2013-2014

The 9-12 grade enrollment from Minneota and from Lincoln HI plus the formula used with free and reduced lunch places our enrollment at 205. To be classified as a class a football team the enrollment can be no greater than 204. The MSHSL has changed the number a few times but this is where it currently stands. Harlen has sent a letter to the MSHSL to appeal this decision but has been denied. We have asked the MSHSL to double check the numbers. They have and they are correct.
4. Future football pairing discussion- We didn't ever anticipate the numbers being a problem. If we decide to dissolve the football pairing we need to have discussions regarding baseball and softball as well. This football pairing has been great for our kids, but unfortunately it is bigger than that. There are many positives when you look

forward with this pairing and there is much to possibly gain. There are avenues to work through this. Would we cut ties with the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade programs as well? If we decide to continue the pairing for one more year and then dissolve Minneota would go back to 1A, but what kind of message is that sending our kids? We need to stay focused on keeping our school going and there is an advantage to our school district to work with Lincoln HI.

5. Other possible future pairings- If we paired for basketball that would also place us in class 2A. We haven't really looked at or discussed basketball. Right now we're concentrating on football. Lincoln HI would like to see things keep working, but they realize they don't have a vote. They'll just have to wait and see what Minneota decides.

6. Wrap-up and planning of any additional meetings- The Minneota School Board will meet on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. The Ivanhoe School Board will meet on Thursday, April 18, 2013. Whether or not there are any future pairing meetings will depend on what is decided at the school board meetings.