WEST FARGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS PETITION FOR EXCEPTIONAL ATHLETES

Student's Name_____ Date_____
Grade_____ Age_____ Height_____ Weight_____ GPA_____
Head Coach_____ Sport_____

Procedure to be followed in petitioning the exceptional athlete:

Step 1. Confer with the building Activities Coordinator and present your rationale for this position.

Step 2. Confer with the Middle School coach of the athlete to be petitioned (when applicable).

_____ _____
Middle School Coach Date Conferred

Step 3. Confer with the Middle School principal to investigate the prospective student's citizenship and academic eligibility.

_____ _____
Middle School Principal Date

_____ _____
Approved Not Approved

Step 4. Confer with the Middle School Guidance Counselor to investigate the prospective student's emotional maturity.

_____ _____
Middle School Counselor Date

_____ _____
Approved Not Approved

If steps 1, 2, 3 and 4 have all been approved, the coach will proceed to the next step in order of petitioning. If all steps have not been approved, a conference with the High School Principal, Activities Coordinator, and District Activities Director may be requested.

Step 5. Parent permission will be requested so that they are aware that their child is being considered for advancement to a higher level of competition.

_____ _____
Parents Date

_____ _____
Approved Not Approved

(Petition Continued)

Step 6. Present the petition to the Activities Coordinator

Activities Coordinator _____ Date _____

Approved _____ Not Approved _____

Step 7. Present the petition to the District Activities Director

District Activities Director _____ Date _____

Approved _____ Not Approved _____

Step 8. Present the petition to the high school principal. The principal will then confer with the Activities Coordinator, District Activities Director, and Coaches before rendering a decision.

Principal _____ Date _____

Approved _____ Not Approved _____

Exceptional Athlete Petition Questions to be Considered During Interview

Questions from the counselor to both the parent and athlete:
1. How does the athlete feel about leaving the relationships with their peers?
2. How does the athlete feel they will adjust to being with older students?
3. Are you able to get to the high school practices and meet transportation needs?
4. How do your parents feel about you competing on the V level?
5. Do you want to compete at the high school level?
6. Do you understand the additional pressures and expectations that accompany playing at the upper level?

Questions to coaches:
1. Is there a mentor or support for the younger athlete if they are to compete at the upper level?
2. Will there be substantial playing time for the petitioned athlete?
3. What is your assessment of the athlete's playing ability?
4. Do you believe this individual is truly exceptional? If so, is this the best position for this athlete?