

## **St John-Endicott-LaCrosse Cooperative Sports Boards Meeting**

Thursday, August 10, 2017  
LaCrosse High School Library  
7:30 PM

LaCrosse Board Chair Terry Miller, St. John School Board Chair Janet Leifer and Endicott School Board Vice Chair Nancy Anderson called their respective boards to order and jointly opened the sports board meeting at 7:30 PM.

Michael Stubbs led the flag salute.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### Endicott School Board

Nancy Anderson  
Debbie Schlomer  
Greta White  
Marvin Schmick

#### St. John School Board

Janet Leifer  
Alan Blumenshein  
Jim Rogers  
Shantyl McGuire

#### LaCrosse School Board

Terry Miller  
Michael Stubbs

Others In Attendance: Doug Curtis, Suzanne Schmick, Bruce Porubek, Jeff Pietila, Mark Purvine, Billy Ray Jr, Ken Gering, Sandy Martin and Dana Crider.

Terry Miller welcomed everyone to the Sports Board meeting of the LaCrosse, St John and Endicott School boards.

Michael Stubbs moved and Alan Blumenshein seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2017 meeting. All sports board members agreed.

### **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REPORTS**

#### **Summer Stipends**

Athletic Director Ken Gering provided information regarding the payment of summer stipends to coaches. Contact was made with area schools (Colfax, Rosalia, Tekoa, Colton, Garfield/Palouse, Liberty) and none of them pay summer stipends to their coaches. Discussion was held concerning the reason coaches offer summer activities, which is to provide opportunities to grow their program. Also discussed was possible out of pocket expenses for coaches, the time commitment involved and possible time away from work to attend summer activities. All sports board members agree to table and revisit the topic of summer stipends at a later date. In the meantime, there are non-monetary ways we can show our appreciation to the coaches.

#### **Season Pass Coordination**

To allow SJEL sports fans to travel freely between the districts, a list of season pass holders will be shared amongst all three districts. The office secretaries will generate a list of season pass holders as they are purchased at their respective schools. They will

provide the updated list to their AD who in turn will share with the other AD's in the sports cooperative.

### **ASB Cards Coordination**

LaCrosse will no longer offer ASB cards to their middle school students. High school students at SJE and LaCrosse that have purchased an ASB card for the current school year, will be allowed entry to all games in either district.

### **Physical Requirements and Coordination**

Per WIAA recommendation, sports physicals will be required every two years.

### **Impact Test – Protocols and Procedures**

Discussion was held regarding concussion protocol and baseline testing. Concussion baseline testing is completed every two years prior to the start of an athletic season. The recommendation for moving forward is to update the Coaches Handbook to direct coaches to follow the physician's orders as prescribed. Once a doctor has cleared the athlete, the districts' "Return to Play" protocol will be followed as listed in the Coaches Handbook.

### **Forms for Parents and Athletes**

Athletic directors have worked together to coordinate athletic forms. Much of the concepts between the three districts are the same but there are some differences. After review, the athletic directors decided to use LaCrosse forms because they are streamlined and cover all requirements.

### **Coaches Evaluation Criteria and Tool**

New this year will be the use of observation and evaluation forms. The Coaches Handbook contains these forms along with the job description for the Athletic Director. The athletic directors will be observing coaches throughout their season. This enables the coaches to make adjustments or modify their program during their season rather than at the end. This is one more tool to help the coaches improve their programs. Athletic directors will observe/evaluate head coaches. Head coaches will observe/evaluate assistant coaches.

### **Eligibility Procedures and Requirements**

Currently the athletic handbook states "Grade checks will not occur during the first 3 weeks of a new quarter." Concerns were heard regarding this 3 week "free" time and how to keep the students from getting too far behind so it is difficult to get themselves back on track before the 3 week period is over. After discussion, it was determined that grade checks will be performed every week and parents will be notified when a student is failing or grades are slipping from previous grade checks. In the athletic handbook, item #8 of Scholastic Eligibility will be changed to read: "Eligibility checks will not occur during the first 3 weeks of a new quarter."

### **Athletic and Coaches Handbooks Updates**

The athletic director's job description has been added to the Coaches Handbook. This provides coaches with what the role of an athletic director entails so there are no surprises if an issue arises. Another topic of discussion was expecting more involvement of the high school basketball coaches in the elementary program. At this time, the elementary teams are parent driven and expecting a high school coach to "take over" the program per se, may create conflict between the coaches and the parents. This is not the relationship we want to create. Item #4 under Competencies/Expectations for Coaches will have the addition of "High School and Middle School coaches are also encouraged to support elementary programs."

Item #3 of Coaches' Hiring Policy is a duplication and will be removed. Advertising for open coaching positions will be posted both in-house and out of house concurrently.

Discussion was also held regarding teams supporting each other i.e. the football team attends home volleyball games and vice versa, teaching kids what school spirit really means, having the assistant coach responsible for checking athletes out to parents after away games and concerns about the procedure for expressing concerns.

### **PERSONNEL**

Athletic Director Ken Gering announced the hiring of Mario Adams as the high school head boys basketball coach. Also, upon board approval, Chris Stach as his assistant. To date, no applications have been received for middle school girls basketball assistant coach or high school football assistant. There will be no fall cheerleaders due to lack of students interested. However, there may be enough interest for winter cheerleaders. The following were announced as 2017-18 HS coaches for SJEL: Ken Gering – head football coach, Ron Pitts – assistant football coach, Megan Dorman – head volleyball coach, Jenn Johnson – assistant volleyball coach, Mike Maloney – HS/MS cross country coach, Mario Adams – head boys basketball coach, Chris Stach (upon board approval) – assistant boys basketball coach, Jay Mills – head girls basketball coach, Amy Swannack – assistant girls basketball coach, Richard Behrens – head track coach and Stacie Archer – assistant track coach.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

On August 14<sup>th</sup>, athletic directors and coaches will meet at 6 pm to discuss the Coaches and Athletic Handbooks, job responsibilities, observation and evaluation procedures and required paperwork from our athletes. Then at 7 pm on the same night, coaches will meet with parents and athletes to provide information about their respective programs along with parents/athletes completing the required paperwork. The MS and HS football teams along with coaches will travel to Whitworth University to watch them play at 11 am. The players/coaches were invited by Whitworth's head football coach during HS summer camp.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation Supervisors Gail Larson, Tim Stamper and Ken Gering are working together to efficiently provide transportation for SJEL students for practices and games.

Athletic Director Ken Gering is drafting an all sport calendar that will include both HS and MS events. Once complete, the calendar will be posted to our websites.

The SJEL sports board members commended the athletic directors for all of the work they have done, in a very short time frame, to prepare for this meeting along with the parent/athlete meeting.

**NEXT MEETING DATE/SITE/TIME**

The next meeting of the SJEL Sports Board is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2017 in Endicott at 7:00 pm.

**ADJOURN**

LaCrosse, St. John and Endicott board chairs closed the sports board meeting at 9:15 pm.