



Seymour Board of Education

ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 7, 2019
Seymour High School Cafeteria
5:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Kristen Harmeling
Ed Strumello
Jen Magri, BOE Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Pete Kubik

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Mike Wilson, Superintendent
Tara Yusko, Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
Jim Freund, Principal SHS
Jay Hatfield, BOE Member (5:35p.m.-6:30p.m.)
Pat Boyle, Board Clerk

Diane Valdes	Aimee Cronin
Erin Cronin	Lisette Alves
Lisa Collins	William Collins
Michael Dion	Cynthia Dion
Dominick Violano	Tina Coughlin

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:30p.m.

II. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Review of Championship Banners

Mr. Strumello said he liked the look of the Championship Banners. He stated that some schools had so many banners it was hard to actually see the championship ones. He asked about the 1000-Point Scorer banner as we will likely have a student this year. Ms. Yusko said the banner was full and we would need to purchase another banner. Ms. Harmeling asked about the disposition of the old banners. Ms. Yusko said that someone would need to reach out to the Father's Club, as was discussed, to auction them off with the proceeds going to the sport's programs. Mr. Strumello asked where we were getting the Basketball Jersey properly displayed and until then could we put the piece of paper back up with the player's name so spectators were aware who the jersey belonged to. Mr. Freund said the lockers for the Hall of Fame are being built and as soon as they are complete the jersey would be added to the locker but he would put the piece of paper back up until then.

B. Update on procedural changes based on LTC/CAA designation.

Ms. Yusko presented the list of LTC (Leadership Training Courses) that were not required but that she took through her own initiative during her four years as the Athletic Director in an effort to make the athletic program stronger both academically and athletically. Some of the things that were started as a result of these courses were an updated athletic handbook, Family-ID online registration, resurrection of the mandatory pre-season coaches meeting, generic head coach log-ins for coaches, change to the athletic training and standing orders protocol, concussion management protocols, Emergency Action Plans, academic time for athletes after school, and an increase in the academic expectations for eligibility to play. In Ms. Yusko's tenure we had 7 NVL Championships, 7 State Championships, 63 All-State athletes, 2-1000 point scorers, and 4 Sportsmanship Awards as selected by the officials. Ms. Yusko also presented a list of participants in sports for the last five years. Most of the sports have remained static in numbers with the exception of Boys' Soccer and Wrestling which has declined. Girl's Swimming and Girl's Track has seen an increase in participation. Ms. Harmeling said that looking at these numbers the statement about the athletic program at the high school declining is a fallacy. Ms. Yusko said that is correct.

1. Locker Room Supervision

"IT'S ALL ABOUT STUDENT LEARNING"

The coach is the now the last one to leave. Opposite sex coaches are stationed outside the locker room door in the office to afford the students privacy while monitoring what is going on in the locker room.

C. Status of Spring Sports

The Spring schedule is complete. Family ID is open for both middle school and high school registration. The May coach's meeting is already scheduled. There will be only JV and Varsity Baseball this year. This is not because of declining numbers but due to the new CIAC rules governing pitch-counts. Seymour is not the only school that has eliminated Freshman Baseball. Mr. Yakushewich will be assisting both JV and Varsity Softball so they will not be able to play on the same day. A Head Coach for Outdoor Track has been hired and one Assistant Coaching candidate looks promising. The new track coach is also reaching out to coaches with which he has previously worked.

D. Discussion of Soccer Forfeiture

Ms. Yusko explained that a player may not be rostered on two teams during the same playing season. Six female athletes were playing JV Boys' Soccer. This makes them ineligible to play on Varsity Girls' Soccer. Inadvertently, the coach played two of the girls in two Varsity Girl's contests. When Ms. Yusko found out she self-reported the infraction and the two games were by CIAC rules forfeited. Ms. Magri said we can't go backwards to fix this issue but what can be done to prevent it in the future. Ms. Yusko said that while it is brought up at the coaches' and parents' meetings in the fall and explained, perhaps more examples could be used to clarify the rule.

III. **REPORTS**

A. Chairman's Report

Mr. Strumello discussed the self-evaluation that is being offered by the CIAC. He thinks that this would be something that we should look into. Ms. Yusko said it takes about 6 months to complete. Ms. Magri felt this would give us areas to work on much like NEASC and would be a good project for the new person. Ms. Magri also stated that she can't believe any other district's athletic director has done this much work. Ms. Magri thanked Ms. Yusko for all of this. Ms. Harmeling asked Ms. Yusko if she could take the LTC courses and highlight and prioritize which ones would be the most useful for the new athletic director.

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling /sec.Mr. Strumello) to bring to the full board the CIAC Self-Evaluation program to move forward when the new athletic director is in place.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

Passed: 2-0

B. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wilson wanted to take a moment to thank Ms. Yusko for her years of service as both an administrator and as the athletic director and for the passion and heart she brought to both. He said he feels that he speaks for staff, administration and the central office team. Mr. Wilson closed his report with "you will be missed".

Mr. Strumello stated that from a Board perspective they agreed with Mr. Wilson's comments.

IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: (Ms. Harmeling /sec. Mr. Strumello) to adjourn the meeting at 6:53p.m.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

Submitted by:
Pat Boyle

"IT'S ALL ABOUT STUDENT LEARNING"