Community Announcement - October 13, 2023

Re: Klickwood Athletic Cooperative – Girls Basketball

Klickwood Athletic Cooperative schools, Glenwood & Klickitat, have together been preparing for the coming high school boys and girls basketball seasons.

The co-op schools have heard from coaches, athletes, & others in the community expressing concern about participant numbers for high school girls’ basketball; questioning if between the two schools, there are a sufficient number of girls interested in basketball to field a team.

This month, each school's athletic director completed an anonymous survey of their respective high school student-athletes to determine individual interest and genuine commitment to participating in girls' basketball this season.

Yesterday, superintendents and athletic directors met to go over the results of that survey and together determined that for the 23-24 basketball season there are insufficient numbers between the schools to put forth a consistent and competitive team. However, each school does have girls desiring to compete in basketball this season.

While in prior years the Klickwood teams may have had some competition days with a limited roster, or the least possible 5 players to start a game on the basketball court; there has not been a co-op precedent of starting the season and generally competing with such few numbers. This presents as a significant disadvantage in the team’s ability to compete and fulfill our obligation to field a team on all scheduled dates.

Not having sufficient participation between the two schools is new territory for the Klickwood Cooperative. As a result of the meeting, the schools have mutually agreed to put forth an amendment to the co-op agreement before each district’s school board. The proposed amendment establishes that if co-op teams are not able to mutually put forth the minimum numbers requisite of a competitive team, prior to the season start, the co-op schools may independently pursue competition options otherwise for their players outside of the co-op. This proposed amendment, and any forthcoming proposal for how athletes may compete outside of the co-op this season, are both subject to each district's school board approval.

The proposed amendment, and other possible recommendations related to girls’ basketball this season will be on each district's October board agenda – Klickitat’s meeting will occur on Wednesday, October 25th, and Glenwood’s on Thursday, October 26th.

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