

SRR Activities Council
Fall Meeting – Tuesday, November 10, 2015
6:00 pm H.S. Board Room

Sauk Rapids-Rice Activities Mission Statement

“We are dedicated to encouraging students to participate in a variety of activities to explore and develop their full potential to learn, to lead, and to become productive citizens.”

Present: Luke Lutterman, Kade Patterson, Bailey Becker, Jan Solarz, Lisa Braun, Sandi Murphy, Rich Spiczka, Erich Martens, Loren Finlayson, Russ Kath, Brad Becker, LeeAnn Kothenbeutel, Robyn Holthaus

Welcome and Introductions - All of the members present introduced themselves to our new student representatives Kade Patterson and Bailey Becker and the new middle school Activities Director Rich Spiczka.

Review Minutes from Winter 2015 (Attachment 1) - New reclassification cycle with MSHSL process (softball, baseball, football). Clay Target League - reviewed last Spring's participation (went well). There were about 25 students - high school participants only. May open it up to middle school participation. Four additional scoreboards - football/track, soccer, softball and baseball.

1. New Staff

Emma Kramer – Gymnastics Head Coach
Megan Foley – Girls Basketball Head Coach
Rich Spiczka - Middle School Activities Director

2. Fall Season Summary & Report

CLC Standings and Highlights - reviewed from Fall 2015. Overall progress in level of competitiveness. Football ended well winning 3 of last 4 games. Volleyball made great progress. Much success in their home tournaments. Went into playoffs and one first game, losing to Moorhead in second game. Girls Swim/Dive will host the Section Meet Nov. 13 & 14. Cross Country hosted the CLC Meet here in October. Girls Tennis continues to grow. We have 20+ girls in high school participating. Tennis courts for SRR is an on-going discussion. Co-oped with Apollo/Cathedral. Boys Soccer numbers continue to grow (3 teams). First year we have beat Apollo in boys soccer. Girls Soccer had a successful year. Lost in an extremely fun/close game against Sartell in playoffs. Marianna Blair is a member of the All-State Girls Soccer team. Kade and Bailey said students are hearing great things about boys and girls soccer. Nice to see more students attending events.

Participation - discussed the CLC Performers of the Week information. Participation numbers in high school and middle school numbers are up. Approximately 300 middle schoolers participating (50 of them 6th graders). Soccer numbers huge (almost half were 6th graders). Making this a positive situation by bringing in 6th grade participation. Nice to have Rich at the middle school.

Fall Play - Fall Musical is going very well. This year's opening night crowd was the biggest one ever.

3. MSHSL Updates – Mr. Martens - Shared his role on the Board of Directors and the work done at the MSHSL Office. Discussed the realignments of schools/teams to make things a level playing field. Goals - class competition and decision to move schools. Many factors to take into account (enrollment). Co-op sponsorships and how they handle those situations. Enrollment numbers of each school makes the decision to co-op interesting. League has rules to follow along with a set of appeal guidelines. Some states have success factors (schools move up based on winning records). Member schools need to have same rules (brings up the private versus public school challenges). Funding is down because of loss of Metrodome. Will likely continue one more year until new stadium opens. MSHSL governs 10th-12th grade. Considering including 9th grade into the guidelines. Tricky with some sports (wrestling has 9th grade league). MSHSL looks for participation for students - presenting partner with Clay Target League and Robotics. League gets regular requests for other activities. Luke states MSHSL is very consistent with transfers. (Much discussion about transfers and appeal process with the committee) Also discussed random draw versus seeded tournaments. Is it important to continue with Regional representation or allow the best in the state to compete? Discussion followed. One comment is out-state representation would be fair and will continue to give all kids the same opportunities. Mr. Martens asked the committee for feedback and lots was shared.

4. Updates and Impact from Changes – Fall 2015

- Middle School – Activities Director (Rich Spiczka) - feedback on all of the information below has been positive.
- Budget Increases - all activities appreciate the funding returned. Dollars were removed a few years ago, and are being very well spent for our students.
- Lower User Fees - Appreciated by families at the middle school and high school.
- Sixth Grade Activities - going very well. Helpful for these students to make some social connections. Good feedback from parents. The \$10 user fee is well received.
- Website Portal - common platform for all activities to have a one-stop spot to send the public for information.
- Facility Study – Seeking Task Force Applications (3 Meeting Dates) - encourage people to apply for membership on the Task Force.

<http://www.isd47.org/?s=facilities+study>

5. Current Booster Club Information

- Outline of Current Clubs - Luke shared the list he put together of existing organizational booster club assistance, affiliation with youth organizations and fundraising financial hosts.
- Strengths - many hours, time and energy goes into helping the students. Luke is at many of the booster club meetings and gives valuable feedback both ways. (Request made to not combine our groups into one - Luke gave good comments regarding this). Parents are passionate about their individual groups and want to govern decisions.
- Improvements - Financials are budgeted and given up-front of the seasons and is working well.
- Do we have a need to combine into one Booster Club with representation from each activity? Does our culture improve with this idea? Could this make businesses more agreeable to donate knowing all groups would benefit. Would improve consistency among all teams. Don't reinvent the wheel, but have common goals.
- Backcourt Club - liability insurance question. Why are we doubling insurance? Community Ed Director said we should discuss and investigate this area. If an event is run through Community Ed or Recreation, that liability coverage is part of the ISD47 policies. If an outside group runs an event on their own in our facilities, is additional liability insurance necessary? Can groups be added as an additional insurer for special events? This will be looked into.

6. Future Membership - Reviewed list with changes in Student Reps and Middle School Administration. Should we include any Recreation Board attendees? Possibly include more parents to balance out the group. Include an elementary age parent with interest? Seek another parent in the fine arts area. Need passion for activities to be a part of this council.

Future Meeting Date: TBD

Submitted by: Tammy Weis