

**SRR Activities Council**  
**Winter Meeting - January 5, 2017**  
**7:00 pm H.S. Career Center**

**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:** Erich Martens, NaDean Schroeder, Phillip Klaphake, Jeff Hille, Sandi Murphy, Ryan Butkowski, Robyn Holthaus, Bailey Becker, Brad Becker, Lisa Braun, Joel Asp.

**Welcome and Introductions** - Handout of council member contact information. NaDean and Phillip introduced themselves and the council did the same. Erich gave a brief overview of the purpose and history of the Activities Council (what brought this group together).

**Review Minutes from Spring 2016** -

- Activities Handbook Review -

**Staff**

- Head Coaches - presented list of current head coaches - many new, young coaches.
- Continuing to strive to hire district staff for coach & advisor positions. Builds connection and consistency for our students.

**Winter Season**

- Discussion of current season - many CLC Athletes of the Week (coach nominated)
- Results and standings are available on the Central Lakes Conference website.

**Fall Season**

- Pretty middle of the pack in our programs. Had a couple new head coaches. Reviewed positive aspects of each sport - football (new coach), volleyball (hosted two successful tournaments), girls swim/dive - good season with young athletes (Anna Lucas breaking many records) with eight girls at the state meet, cross country teams finished strong (Sam Ringger finished 4th in conference), boys soccer (new coach, Chris Rothstein) had a good season, girls soccer had a great season with many returning starters, girls tennis is partnered with Apollo and Cathedral and played well while showing much improvement. Had many sports with athletes on the All Area Teams in the St. Cloud Times.

**Participation**

- High school numbers are up in many programs. Middle school participation numbers have also been strong along with the addition of sixth graders in some activities.

- Should we start looking at the top down versus how many total athletes we have. Are we producing varsity caliber teams. How we get to the result will be tough so how will we get there? What is the balance? The students need to have a positive experience and play if they are on the team. NaDean will look at the analysis of the teams in depth.
- Middle School numbers are up. Phillip is making a positive influence by encouraging kids to try activities. Consistently trying to find middle school coaches. Hoping to hire staff to coach and advise. This provides consistency and success. Challenging if coaches do not stay more than a year or two. Parents do help as needed.
- Fine Arts - Robotics is going strong! They have taken first in all competitions and have qualified for the State Tournament. Totally self-funded with the assistance of company sponsors. Elementary students have had exposure from this group as well. Hopeful to start a middle school Robotics team. Culinary was named NCHS Elite 50 for 2017. Only Minnesota school in the top 50 list (last four years). Drama had Seussical the Musical this fall with the opportunity for the Elementary schools to come and watch a performance. One Act is performing Anne of Green Gables this winter. They will be hosting Section competition. Pep band is showing a strong presence at our home games. Band is hosting a large group competition in February. Choir had a caroling group this winter. Knowledge Bowl, Math League and Speech will have home events. Also Drumline and Winterguard shows.

### **MSHSL Update**

- Regulating Officials - must present identification at events. Important that they are part of an "official" directory.
- Co-ops have had discussion - how do they run post-season competitions. If it does not put together a powerhouse team, let the co-ops compete together. At what point do schools need to have their own programs. Renewals come up every year with current teams.
- Mr. Martens is no longer on the MSHSL Board. He states that it is in the mind of the MSHSL to put the best teams on the playing field. Size does make a difference and is an ongoing discussion with co-op teams.

### **New Business**

- Golf programs - we are looking for head coaches for boys and girls. Apollo has approached us to co-op with them. Their boys and girls numbers are very low with very good, talented coaches. Our numbers have not been stellar in past years. Our boys numbers are higher than our girls (19-6). Another reason for a change is that Oak Hill Golf Course (new ownership) is now welcoming us back to the course this Spring. Apollo utilizes Territories Golf Course and will have room for us due to expanded facilities. We will probably go into a contract with Territories regardless. NaDean sees benefits of a co-op with Apollo. Dr. Bittman and Kim Eisenschenk have been in these discussions. The group had discussion - why wouldn't we? How much guarantee do we want about our qualified varsity players getting those spots. We do want to have a good rotation if

we co-op. Territories will have practices for the non-meet golfers and want the youth out at their course having tee times.

**Future Agenda Items**

- Membership of this committee - term limits and representation, are we properly staffed.
- Activities Handbook review - look at one element for updating (Lettering Policy is up for discussion)
- Academic Policy - middle school specifically. How does the checking of grades line up. Impacts the 7-12 programs.

**Items from the Council**

- How is our Lettering Policy stated in the handbook? Reviewed.

**Future Meeting Date:** March 30, 2017

**Submitted by:** Tammy Weis