

 **McClusky Public School****Home of the Coyotes**

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Lee Kelm-Superintendent  
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NDHSAA Board of Directors:

The reason for this letter is to request that McClusky's participation in the existing football co-op with Tri-County be dissolved and that McClusky be allowed to join the Central McLean football co-op. The current co-op of Tri-County (Drake, Anamoose, McClusky and Goodrich) would lose only 1 McClusky football player. Losing only 1 student would not have a negative impact on the co-op. Tri-County would still be able to play their full schedule next season. There is also no guarantee that the one student will even go out for football next season. As a matter of fact, McClusky's participation in the football co-op has been steadily declining every year mainly due to the distance. It is McClusky's understanding that co-ops were designed to increase student participation. Several more students would participate in football from McClusky if the co-op was closer.

Currently, anyone participating in football must ride the bus on gravel about 45 miles for every practice and home game. That is about two hours spent everyday for travel time. If McClusky's athletes would be allowed to participate with Turtle Lake-Mercer, the travel distance is about 23 miles all of which is pavement. This would mean the student athlete would spend about an hour less on the bus everyday for practice and home games. This would also allow the student athlete to get home at a more reasonable time and give them more time for school work, to do chores or just more family time.

McClusky is currently in a co-op with Turtle Lake-Mercer in boys' basketball and cross country. McClusky is also in a co-op with Central McLean in track. McClusky will be co-oping with TL-M in volleyball and girls basketball next year. It would be nice to have all the co-ops with the same

school(s). This would give McClusky more of an identity. Currently we are a coyote in volleyball, girls basketball, and cross country; a raider in football; a trojan in boys basketball; and a cougar in track.

In conclusion, McClusky is requesting that its participation in the existing football co-op with Tri County be dissolved and that McClusky be allowed to join the Central McLean football co-op for the following reasons:

- More participation by student athletes
- No negative impact on the Tri-County co-op
- Less travel time to practices & games
- Better & safer road conditions
- Having all our coops with the same school(s)
- A school identity
- Cost savings to our school district

Thank you for time and consideration,



Dan Klemisch  
McClusky Principal & AD