



**Our
Redeemer's
Christian School**

September 12, 2016

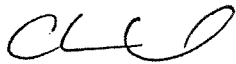
NDHSAA Board Members,

This letter is accompanying our request to dissolve a 17-year co-op with Berthold Public Schools in the sport of football. Berthold Public School has been wonderful to work with and we feel blessed to have had this opportunity for participation for our athletes. However, over the last few years we have noted a significant decline in our student participation levels and believe that travel distance and time may be a significant factor affecting our student's desire to participate. We recognize that our joint enrollment numbers are continuing to force the existing co-op into the 11 man division, but current and projected participation levels are placing undue strain on coaches and players trying to participate at that level. Recent student surveys have indicated that we may see even greater decline in student participation next year unless we are able to begin a new co-op closer to Minot.

I recognize that the deadline has passed for the dissolution of co-ops, however our loyalty to Berthold's program and our longstanding relationship blinded us from seeing what seems clear now. Continuing this co-op handicaps Berthold's program due to our low participation numbers and is hindering participation from our students.

If the board of directors feels that the deadline for dissolution must be enforced above all other factors. We would wish to continue to provide Berthold as an option for our few participating football players, if they will have us. We fully recognize the difficulty we place upon their school in adding our enrollment numbers to theirs, but not producing many participants. In recent discussions with Berthold, we believe that the dissolution of this co-op will be mutually beneficial for participants from both schools.

Cordially,



Charles Strand, Administrator
Our Redeemer's Christian School

Our Redeemer's Christian School is a ministry of Our Redeemer's Church.

"Proclaiming God's love in the good news of Jesus Christ every day and everywhere!"

700 16th Avenue SE • Minot, ND 58701 • Phone: 701.839.0772 • Fax: 701.858.0994 • www.orcsknights.org

• FB PLAN DEADLINE JUNE 1
• CURRENT 7-12 COOP IN FORCE
LAC - BERTHOLD
LAC - NORTH SAGE
OUR REDEEMERS

Lewis & Clark School District #161



Berthold, Makoti and Plaza Schools
Brian Nelson, Superintendent
401 4th Avenue NE
Berthold, ND 58718



Lewis & Clark—Berthold
Berthold Elem. and High School
P.O. Box 185
Berthold, ND 58718
453-3484

Lewis & Clark—Plaza
Plaza Elementary
P.O. Box 38
Plaza, ND 58771
497-3734

September 13, 2016

North Dakota High School Activities Association
Attn: Brian Bubach
P.O. Box 185
Valley City, ND 58072

Mr. Bubach and NDHSAA Board:

The following is from the regular Lewis & Clark School District #161 Board meeting held September 12, 2016:

"Motion by Hennessy/Engelhard that Lewis & Clark District accept the dissolving of the Lewis & Clark/Our Redeemers football co-op at the end of this (2016) year. All yes. MC."

Respectfully,

Peggy Person
Secondary Principal
Athletic Administrator
Lewis & Clark--Berthold

