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WILLIAMS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

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February 17, 2020

To: Matt Fetsch, Executive Director NDHSAA

Brian Bubach, Cooperative Sponsorship Liaison

NDHSAA Board of Directors

Re: Williams County District 8 (WCSD8) Activities

Dear Mr. Fetsch,

In August, 2019 the WCSD8 school board was informed that Williston District 1 would no longer be accepting our 9-12 students as of August, 2020. In October, WCSD8 Board voted to expand from K-8 to K-12 beginning in the 2020-21 school year. In December, Rob Turner resigned as the WCSD8 superintendent. January 6, 2020 I started work as the interim superintendent.

I am writing you on behalf of the 2020-21 WCSD8 high school students. The uncertainty of where they will attend school next year, coupled with whether or not WSCD8 will be able to offer extra curricular activities is causing a great deal of stress for these students. Our intention is to offer the following sports beginning in Fall, 2020: Boys: football (cooperatively), cross country, basketball, baseball, wrestling (cooperatively) and track (cooperatively); Girls: cross country, volleyball, cheerleading, dance line, basketball, softball and track (cooperatively). Additionally, we plan to offer speech, drama, music and possibly other activities.

WCSD8 is requesting to be placed in the appropriate districts and regions for these sports and activities. There are approximately 200 District 8 students attending District 1 High School. In 2020-21, approximately 225 students living in WCSD8 will be in grades 9-12; they will not have the opportunity to participate in NDHSAA activities if this request is denied.

Given the late announcements regarding the formation of WCSD8 High School there may be additional students from surrounding districts who wish to attend WCSD8's Missouri Ridge High School, but who miss the open enrollment deadline. Therefore, we are also requesting the NDHSAA Board waive the eligibility rule for any students choosing to attend Missouri Ridge High School during the 2020-21 school year.

Darryl LaDue, WCSD8 Activities Director, will be the primary contract for our NDHSAA activities. He can be reached at 701-651-7082.

For our kids, our future,

Beth A. Zietz Superintendent

Williams County School District 8

Cell: 218-370-2392

cc: Darryl LaDue, WCSD8 AD