



Four Winds Community High School
FORT TOTTEN PUBLIC SCHOOL
DISTRICT #30

P.O. BOX 239
FORT TOTTEN, NORTH DAKOTA 58335
Phone 701-766-1400 FAX 701-766-1475

ADMINISTRATION

Jeff Olson
Superintendent
701-766-1435
Stacy Benz
Principal
701-766-1450
Rick Smith
Athletic Director
701 - 766 - 1469

SCHOOL BOARD

Ivan Lovejoy, President
ReNa Lohnes, Vice President
Debbie Chaske, Member
Lynette Lovejoy, Member
Cindy Thomas..., Member
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December 3, 2020,

Dear NDHSAA Board of Directors,

I am writing you this letter on behalf of the Four Winds Public School. I would like to NDHSAA Board of Directors to investigate, a possible by-law change for the 2020 – 2021 academic year. With the COVID-19 pandemic going on in our state it has been very difficult to get and keep student/athletes to participate in sports. We have seen it more probably on our reservation schools in the state. We have so many parents in our reservation schools that will not even let their child attend school or participate in athletics because of COVID-19. It has been very difficult to get the numbers that you need to have teams. This is being seen more in our jr. high and elementary sports. There are many schools not having jr. high or elementary athletics because of this. The Four Winds School decided to continue with jr. high sports. The problem that we are having is getting several participants to field teams. We do not want to cancel games for the student/athletes that are there practicing. We know that jr. high athletes can be moved up to a freshmen/C squad team, but for 7th grade students this would be too much of a leap for them to participate in. They would not only be competing with 8th grade students, but freshmen and sometimes sophomores also. The request that I have for the NDHSAA Board, would be to grant 6th grade students to participate at a jr. high level. 6th grade students would be a better fit playing with 7th grade students, then 7th grade students playing against 9th or 10th grade students. The rule below in your by-laws states that 6th grade students can participate in jr. high athletics, with the exception of tackle football and wrestling, if your school has an enrollment of not over 75. We are requesting that by-law be changed for the 2020 – 2021 academic year only, to all Class "B" schools. To allow the use of 6th grade students in jr. high athletics, no matter what the schools' enrollment. This would allow the schools to complete jr. high teams that are struggling with very low participation levels. We hope that you consider our request and hope to move on the change of this by-law for the 2020 – 2021 academic year only. Thank you for your time and continued health for everyone during these frustrating and trying times.

Sincerely,

Rick Smith, Athletic Director
Four Winds High School
Ft. Totten, ND 58335
701- 766 – 1469
rick.smith@k12.nd.us

PART IV JUNIOR HIGH AND SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE BY -LAWS (Effective July 1, 1969) NOTE: Unless otherwise specified in the rules which follow, the rules and regulations of the North Dakota High School Activities Association for regular high schools apply to junior high schools.

Article I: General Philosophy and Aims to be Considered in an Interscholastic Athletic Program for Junior High Schools

Section I: The program should be suited to the needs of students at junior high school age. It should provide as broad and varied an athletic program as is possible with an equal opportunity for participation on an equal basis for all students.

Section II: The interschool program should grow out of and be operated from as broad a base as possible to offer experience to many students. Experiences in inter-squad competition should be made available to all.

Section III: The Association favors an interscholastic program but feels that this program should be very carefully controlled, regulated, and limited. Section IV: The program should place considerable emphasis on companionship, sportsmanship, physical skills and techniques and training.

Article II: Recommendations

Section I: Most athletic contests should be played between the hours of 4 - 6 P.M.

Section II: When athletic contests are played during school time or in the evening, student pep groups and bands should not be encouraged to follow the visiting team to the host school.

Article III: General Regulations

Section I: Competition is limited to seventh, eighth and ninth grades, except as hereinafter provided. Public and private elementary schools not accredited or organized as junior high schools must be members of the NDHSAA and abide by these junior high school rules to participate in the program.

Section II: Elementary schools in school districts not operating a high school, having seventh and eighth grade teams must join the Association in order to play seventh and eighth and/or junior high school teams of member schools by paying the regular membership fee of twenty (20) cents per pupil in grades seven and eight with a minimum fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). (January 2004)

Section III: If the total enrollment of the seventh and eighth grade pupils in a school or cooperative sponsorship school is not over seventy-five (75), the fifth and sixth grade pupils of the school may be permitted to participate on all the junior high teams except tackle football and wrestling. Note: The total enrollment count must take place at the beginning of each season in which this rule is applied. (Oct. 2017)