

ATHLETIC UPDATE

Executive Summary: Athletic /marching band programs are terminated

District staff has been directed to pursue opportunities/options for students when athletic / marching band programs are terminated due to low participation numbers.

The good news is that the fall sports are funded and time now can be spent raising funds for the winter and spring athletic seasons. It has been an interesting and exciting learning curve for everyone that was involved in the process. Communities and schools should be proud of how they stepped up to meet the budget challenges presented to them.

Most of the students will only be required to pay is the activity fee (\$50/\$25). Booster groups, community members, students and coaches have done an outstanding job raising funds and trimming budgets so that these activities can continue with a minimal cost to the students and their families.

Principals and athletic coordinators are monitoring participation numbers to locate potential activities that may need to be evaluated. Options are being developed for students to pursue in the event a program is eliminated due to participation numbers.

Background Information:

Policy 10465

"Minimum participation levels required to support athletic teams and marching bands sponsored by schools of the Warren County School District are provided ..."

Options/Opportunities:

- Marching Band
 - Students will have the opportunity to participate with another marching band within the District
 - Transportation to the other school will be the parent's responsibility
- Athletic Team
 - Cooperative sponsorship of a sport:

The time factor is of major concern when putting these agreements together. In most cases it would take up to a year to get the cooperative agreement in place. Planning and timing are important when considering this as a possibility

Transportation to the other school will be the parent's responsibility

- Participate as an independent:

This is an option for those students to participate if the school does not offer the sport. They would compete as a one person team with other schools that have competitions. The student would have to qualify if standards are established for post season tournaments or events

Students would compete wearing their school name and colors

Transportation to these events will be the parent's responsibility

- Athletic transfer:

PIAA has established procedures for students to transfer to another school for athletic reasons. The guidelines are clear: the school terminated the sport for budgetary reasons, the student must have been a member of the dropped sport the previous year, a transfer waiver must be requested through PIAA, and the student must transfer to the school that is sponsoring the sport.