

**ATHLETIC COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
MAY 31, 2017**

The Canton Area School District Board of Education held an Athletic Committee meeting on, May 31, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. in the Administration Conference Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Mike Herman, Mr. Bill Holland, and Mr. Denny Sourbeer.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Eric Briggs, Superintendent; Mr. Craig Coleman, High School Principal; and Mr. Bob Rockwell, Athletic Director.

SESSION CALLED TO ORDER

Committee Chairperson, Mr. Mike Herman, called the meeting to order.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

COACHING VACANCIES – We currently have three coaching vacancies (Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Head Cross Country Coach, and Junior High Girls Basketball Coach). It was shared that there was one applicant per position and the committee decided to move forward with interviews. The district also received word late yesterday afternoon that the Junior High Volleyball Coach has resigned. The district will advertise for this vacancy next week. The committee also expressed concern with the frequent turnover of coaches in the athletic department.

RANDOM DRUG TESTING POLICY – Mr. Briggs and Mr. Jannone contacted local school districts in Bradford and Lycoming County to see if they have a random drug testing policy for extracurricular activities in their schools. Two districts responded (Loyalsock and Williamsport). Mr. Briggs shared both school districts' drug testing policies with the athletic committee. The committee discussed the positive and negative consequences of adopting such a policy. Positives included a deterrent to drug use, it would give more "teeth" to the current practices in place regarding drug and alcohol use, and it would hold students who participate in extracurricular activities to a higher level of accountability. Potential negative consequences to the district included potential liability to the district, cost of covering the drug testing protocol, and getting commitment to such a process from students, and parents of students, participating in extracurricular activities. The committee determined further research needs to be done on this topic. Mr. Briggs said he would reach out to Loyalsock and Williamsport school districts to obtain further resources. The committee plans to reconvene in the late summer/early fall to further discuss the matter.

ATHLETIC CUT POLICY – Mr. Briggs developed a table identifying the projected athlete participation for the 2017/2018 school year. Mr. Briggs shared that he felt the purpose of high school athletics was to build athletic programs in the district that are competitive in a yearly basis while enforcing the values and mission of PIAA. Although the policy would cover all sports, the committee felt only four sports would be directly affected due to current participation numbers (football, baseball, volleyball, and basketball). Because all athletes get to participate in track and field, this sport would never be faced with having to cut. The process for determining cuts will involve the coach, Athletic Director and High School Principal. Finally, the committee recognized the potential cost savings that could result due to a cut policy such as a decrease in uniform purchases, a decrease in gear purchases, and a decrease in transportation costs.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Briggs
Superintendent