

## Stapleton and McPherson County Proposed Cooperative Agreement

**Propose:** The Cooperative is designed to give the best opportunity for the student athletes at Stapleton Public Schools and McPherson Public Schools. The duration of the cooperative agreement shall last for the first (1) year for all activities discussed below.

### **General:**

1. Athletic Directors
  - a. There shall be no less than one in person meeting between the athletic directors once per month.
  - b. The primary decisions makers of the cooperative shall be the athletic directors.
  - c. The head athletic director will be determined by the following, with the first step trumping the second step and the second step trumping the third step:
    - i. Years as athletic director in the Coop
    - ii. Years as an athletic director
    - iii. Years involved in the Coop
      1. Head athletic director will prepare and send out contracts for schools and officials. They will also receive all contracts.
2. Co-op Committee
  - a. The co-op committee will consist of the following:
    - i. Two board members from each school
    - ii. Superintendents from both schools
    - iii. Athletic directors from both schools
  - b. The co-op board shall meet at minimum one time a semester.
  - c. There must be an agenda that is agreed to by both superintendents before a meeting can take place.
  - d. Additional meetings may be requested by an administrator from either school but both superintendents must agree to the agenda before the meeting can take place.
3. Audit
  - a. The superintendents and bookkeepers of each district will review the cooperative fund each year.
4. Eligibility
  - a. This will need to be agreed upon by both schools.
5. Lettering
  - a. This will need to be agreed upon by both schools.
6. 30 minutes wait time-will be used as a study time for students waiting on the other school
7. Uniforms/Mascot/Colors: The students of Stapleton and McPherson County will decide the mascot and colors through a submission of idea and a voting process, three (3) from each school. Once decided, McPherson County School and/or private funding will pay for one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the uniforms.

## **Junior High School Athletics:**

1. Participants: will consists of 7th and 8th grade.
2. Students will wear a Co-op uniform
  - a. It can be a simple reversible with a number on it. (Priced earlier this year right around \$18.) Getting more quotes.
3. Gates
  - a. No money will be taken at the gate, unless it is classified as a Junior High Tournament, then the co-op board can make a decision to have a gate.
4. Practice- Proposal 1
  - a. Practice will be held together twice a week. One time in Stapleton and one time in Tryon after school hours.
    - i. Practice times after school would begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed from traveling school.
    - ii. Practice on travel days would last for one and one-half hour.
    - iii. Students that live in North Platte could ride after activity bus to North Platte from Tryon. (Would Stapleton be willing to run activity bus??)
    - iv. The other three days, students would practice at their home school and get on after school bus.
    - v. Shared practice days will be determined before each season.
    - vi. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
5. Practice-Proposal 2
  - a. Practice will be held together twice a week. One time in Stapleton and one time in Tryon.
    - i. School traveling would leave at approximately 2:30 p.m. (Could this be Stapleton's WIN time for Jr. High, Tryon?) start practice at 3:00 and when school is dismissed, North Platte students can ride North Platte bus back to Cody Park from either school. (If route kids want to ride to NP then get on their school bus to be dropped off on way back to home school?)
    - ii. The other three days, students would practice at their home school and get on after school bus.
    - iii. Shared practice days will be determined before each season.
    - iv. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
6. Coaches
  - a. Each school will supply one coach for each team/season.
7. Expenses
  - a. Will be decided when both schools hire a superintendent for their school.(Kept by both schools and divided equally? 50/50)
8. Scheduling

- a. Both athletic directors will work together to come up with a combined schedule from both schools.
    - i. Junior High are allowed 6 football games, 14 volleyball games, 12 basketball games, 8 wrestling meets, 8 track meets.
9. Travel
- a. If Tryon has to travel through Stapleton to a game, then Tryon will pick Stapleton up and they will ride together.
  - b. If Stapleton has to travel through Tryon to a game, then Stapleton will pick Tryon up and they will ride together.
  - c. If both schools have to travel and there is a central spot to meet, for example North Platte, then they will meet in North Platte and alternate who drives the rest of the trip.
  - d. Schools will keep track of all related costs of travel, and it will be turned in at the end of each season to be audited by both schools and split equally for reimbursement/payment.
10. Games
- a. Home games will be split 50/50.
    - i. If there is an odd number of home games, the last home game will be played in Stapleton.
    - ii. Games will be played during the school day starting no sooner than 1:00 pm central time, so students can ride after school bus.
11. Football
- a. Depending on number of participation, we could go either 6-man or 8-man, but will let Co-op committee decide with input from coaches.

## **High School Athletics**

1. General Stipulations
- a. Selection of head coaches will be made with an agreement of the superintendents, with athletic directors input, at each of the schools participating in the cooperative with the premise that the best coaches will be hired for each sport.
    - i. If there is a disagreement between the superintendents with a head coaching assignment, the athletic directors will break a tie. In the event a tie cannot be broken, priority will be to the coach with more years of experience in the sport in question and level (example: head coach, assistant coach) of coaching. If both coaches are considered equal the school with the higher percentage of students participating will make the final decision.
    - ii. Head coaches will then give input on who assistant coaches shall be. Athletic directors will recommend to the superintendents and the superintendents will decide. If there is a disagreement with the assistant

coaching assignment, the athletic directors will break a tie. In the event a tie cannot be broken, priority will be to the coach with more years of experience in the sport in question and level (example: head coach, assistant coach) of coaching. If both coaches are considered equal the school with the higher percentage of students participating will make the final decision.

- b. There shall be a cooperative fund maintained with equal payments made to the account when expenses are greater than receipts.
- c. Gate receipts will be placed in the Cooperative Fund where items such as, but not limited to the following shall be paid: uniforms, game balls, cooperative supplies, officials, etc.
  - i. Gate will be charged for varsity games only.
    1. Conference passes will be accepted by both schools.
      - a. Family passes or other passes will be determined by the co-op committee and prices will be set and honored at both schools.
    - ii. The exception to the gate would be JV Tournaments.
  - d. Concessions shall be the responsibility of the school hosting the event.
  - e. Official game schedules will be placed on Stapleton Public Schools and McPherson County Schools websites.
2. Busing
  - a. No later than August 1st, the athletic directors shall present a list of activities with recommendations for departure times and departure locations.
  - b. Athletic directors will strive to make the total miles driven each year as equal as possible for each school.
  - c. At the end of each year, athletic directors will get together and add up the mileage for each school. The school with less miles will reimburse the school with more miles.
  - d. Drivers shall be assigned by the departing locations.
  - e. It will be recommended that all coaches have a bus CDL license.
3. Homecoming
  - a. The date of homecoming shall be scheduled by both athletic directors.
  - b. The location of homecoming shall alternate between the schools.
  - c. Schools will let students participate in Homecoming activities, unless deemed ineligible.
4. Parents' Night
  - a. The date and time of Parents' night for each activity shall be determined by the athletic directors.
5. Football
  - a. Practice
    - i. All practices will be held in Tryon with the exception of Stapleton hosting the game that week. Then practice will be in Stapleton.

- ii. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
- iii. Regular practice will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed.
  - 1. In the event, either school has an early out schedule due to high temperatures, coaches will be permitted the following options with approval of each school's administration:
    - a. Morning practice beginning no earlier than 5:30 am and ending no later than 7:15 am.
    - b. Late practice beginning when the heat is no longer an issue.
      - i. Athletic directors will refer to NSAA guidelines for practicing in poor weather conditions (high temperatures) and refer a heat index chart for guidance. The starting time temperature and humidity reading used to determine the heat index reading shall be predicted from a reputable weather forecasting website.
    - c. Practice at regular time but with no pads and coaches must practice extreme caution.
    - d. If agreed upon by administration from both schools, practice before heat conditions are an issue (ex: 10am or 11 am).
    - e. No practice
  - 2. Morning practice shall be used in extreme weather conditions only and with consent of both schools administration.
  - 3. All practices must conclude at 6:15 pm, so students may board bus back to home school by 6:30 pm.

b. Game

- i. Regular season games will be split between both sites.
- ii. Playoff games will be split between both sites.
  - 1. If the opposing school cannot make an afternoon game work, then Stapleton will host a night game.

6. Volleyball

a. Practice

- i. Practice will be held in Tryon. However, the day before a home game in Stapleton, practice can be held in Stapleton.
- ii. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
- iii. Regular practice will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed in Tryon.

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      - i. Athletic directors will refer to NSAA guidelines for practicing in poor weather conditions (high temperatures) and refer a heat index chart for guidance. The starting time temperature and humidity reading used to determine the heat index reading shall be predicted from a reputable weather forecasting website.
    - c. Practice at regular time but coaches must practice extreme caution.
    - d. If agreed upon by administration from both schools, practice before heat condition are an issue (ex: 10 am or 11 am)
    - e. No practice
  - iv. Morning practice shall be used in extreme weather conditions only and with the consent of both schools administrations.
  - v. All practices must conclude by 6:15 pm so students may board bus going back to home school by 6:30 pm.
- b. Games
    - i. Games will be split between both sites. The games will be scheduled by both athletic directors and direction of teams will also be a determining factor.
    - ii. Conference tournament games hosted by either school will be held at school site.
7. Cross Country
    - a. Practice
      - i. Practice will be held in Tryon. However, due to the individual nature of the sport, coaches can have athletes practice on their own as seen fit.
      - ii. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
      - iii. Regular practice will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed.
        1. In the event either school has an early out schedule die to high temperatures, coaches will be permitted the following options with approval of each school's administration:
          - a. Morning practice beginning no earlier than 5:30 am, and finishing by 7:15 am.



b. Games

- i. Varsity contests will be split equally and location of opponent will be determined in the split of games.
  - 1. If the season has an odd number of home contests, then Stapleton will host the extra game.
- ii. Conference and district games hosted by either school will be held in Stapleton.

10. Wrestling

a. Practice

- i. Wrestling practice will take place at McPherson County
- ii. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
- iii. Regular practice will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed.

b. Meets

- i. Meets will occur in McPherson County
- ii. Conference wrestling tournament will take place in Stapleton or another suitable venue.
- iii. Changes to the game schedule must be approved by both athletic directors

11. Track

a. Practice

- i. Track practices will be held independently at each site.
- ii. Joint practices may be scheduled by the coaches with both athletic directors approval.
  - 1. If joint practices, regular practice will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed.

b. Meets

- i. Track meets will be held in venues deemed acceptable by both athletic directors.
- ii. These meets will be ran jointly by both schools.

12. Boys Golf

a. Practice

- i. Practice will be held in Stapleton at the local golf course.
- ii. Changes to the practice schedule must be approved by both athletic directors.
- iii. Regular practices will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed.

b. Meets

- i. Stapleton will host all meets.

13. Cheer/Dance

a. Practice

- i. Cheer/Dance practice will be scheduled by the cheer coach, with approval of each school's activities director.

**Discontinuation of Agreement**

1. This agreement is for the first year.