

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 be 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-could will be used as a study time for students waiting on the other school

Junior High School Athletics:

1. Participants: will consists of 7th and 8th grade.
2. Students will wear a Bronco uniform
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
 - a. McPherson County Junior High Boys and Girls will go to Stapleton for all sports.
5. Games
 - a. All games will be in Stapleton.
 - b. Stapleton will take care of officials and help for all Junior High sports.
 - i. Games will be played during the school day starting no sooner than 1:00 pm central time, so students can ride after school bus.
 - c. Stapleton will provide transportation to all away contests.
 - d. If both schools have to travel and their is a central spot to meet, for example North Platte, then they will meet in North Platte and Stapleton drives the rest of the trip.
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. Uniforms
 - a. If both schools agree, a cooperative uniform could be purchased with both schools splitting the cost.
9. 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.
 - ii. For football, 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 having practices on Mondays.
 - ii. 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, AccuWeather.
 - 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 afternoon 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 in Tryon with one game held in Stapleton (decided by the Athletic Directors).
 - ii. Playoff games will be held in Tryon.
 - iii. All players will wear Longhorn uniforms.
 - iv. McPherson County will take care of officials and help for all of the games, except for the one in Stapleton.
 - v. Games will be played during the school day starting no sooner than 2:00 pm central time.
 - c. McPherson County will provide transportation to all away contests.
 - i. If both schools have to travel and their is a central spot to meet, for example North Platte, then they will meet in North Platte and McPherson County drives the rest of the trip.
 - d. Uniforms
 - i. If both schools agree, we could purchase cooperative uniforms for the team. Each school splitting the cost.
6. Boys Basketball
- a. Practice
 - i. All practices will be held in Stapleton.
 - ii. Regular practice will begin no earlier than 30 minutes after school is dismissed.
 - b. Games
 - i. All games will be in Stapleton.
 - ii. All players will wear McPherson County Longhorn uniforms.
 - iii. Conference and district games hosted by either school will be held in Stapleton.
 - iv. Stapleton will take care of officials and help for all of the games.
 - c. Stapleton will provide transportation to all away contests.
 - i. If both schools have to travel and their is a central spot to meet, for example North Platte, then they will meet in North Platte and Stapleton drives the rest of the trip.
 - d. Uniforms
 - i. If both schools agree, we could purchase cooperative uniforms for the team. Each school splitting the cost.