

Student Activities and Athletics Committee
May 9, 2022

Attendance

Jean Lucasey	BOE Member
Massimo Bufalini	BOE Member
Andrew Klaich	Athletic Director
Lisa Brady	Superintendent

Shortage of Officials

The committee was informed by Mr. Klaich that there is a severe shortage of officials in Westchester county at the present time. Officials as assigned and coordinated through BOCES and not by the District. In general, varsity sports always get preference when officials are being assigned, followed by JV and then modified. The shortage of officials may result in JV games only having one official and modified games being canceled or being officiated by the coaches. None of this is optimal but it is a Westchester County/BOCES issue for all schools.

Transportation/Busing Challenges

Transportation continues to be a problem due to the driver shortage which is affecting just about everything this school year. Buses are arriving to pick up athletes later and this causes the games to start later. Things tend to be a little better now that the time has changed. The transportation issues are affecting all schools this year.

Fall Coaches

Finding coaches for all teams at all levels is difficult. The fall coaching appointments are on the May 10th agenda. The Committee discussed how coaches are recruited and the many roadblocks that can keep qualified coaches from actually accepting coaching positions. All fall coaching positions are currently filled and Andrew will begin to work on securing Winter coaches.

Bowling

We had one student who bowled this year on a combined team with Irvington. The student has requested that Dobbs Ferry form a bowling team. Andrew will communicate with the student about how a process like this would unfold, starting with a better understanding of student interest. Opportunities for merged teams is the way that the District provides an avenue for participation when only a few students are interested in a sport.

Equity between Girls and Boys Programs

Jean raised a concern that has been raised by some parents of female athletes related to equity between boys and girls programs in the District. Andrew explained to the Committee that all boys and girls programs are funded equally in the District.

The Committee also discussed concerns about attendance at games by school administrators. Different programs have different success with fan attendance and the kind of season that a team is having also is a factor. For example, as teams move along in the section with a winning season fan attendance tends to increase.