

**To:** Dr. R. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent of Schools,

Dr. Shelley Wagner, Assistant Superintendent

**From:** Rebecca Hoffmann-Karr, District Athletic Director

**Date:** 4/29/24

**Re:** Flag Football Coaching Staff

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### **Background**

Harlem High School participates in twenty five (25) recognized IHSA sports with seventy three (73) competitive teams. The IHSA recently passed through their Board of Directors, a State Series for Flag Football making it an officially recognized sport in Illinois. Harlem participated in Flag Football through the Rockford Park District in 2023. We had over 25 girls participating in the competitive activity.

### **Request**

This is to formally request four (4) stipend coaching positions at Harlem High School. One head coach and 3 assistant level 1 coaches. The following information outlines the need for such a request.

### **Rationale**

Our participation in the Park District league led to over 25 girls participating in the activity. HMS Night at the high school yielded a dozen more names interested in participating as well as additional girls that will come out now that Flag Football is an official sport. We will have a Varsity and a JV team. Each team, for best practice, should have 2 coaches.

The NFHS and NIAAA have put together 14 legal duties of a coach/athletic administrator through years of Supreme and Appellate Court cases. One such duty is a duty to supervise the appropriate amount of students, as well as the duty to properly instruct.

<https://www.nfhs.org/articles/essential-legal-duties-for-athletics-directors-and-coaching-staff/>

Having between 40-50 girls participating in Flag football would be too many for 2 coaches to properly supervise and instruct.

### **Considerations**

A conference schedule is currently being developed by a committee. Schools are allowed up to 25 games per level by the IHSA. Collective Bargaining Agreement- Differentials are the same for sport by gender. Boys sports=Girls Sports payment.

### **Strategic Plan Association**

**Goal #3** - Create an environment that promotes the social, emotional and physical growth of all students and staff.

**Goal #4** - The District will effectively and efficiently communicate with all stakeholders in a transparent and inclusive environment.

### **Projected Cost Breakdown**

The cost of the positions under the current Collective Bargaining Agreement is: Head football coach: \$ \$5,423 years 1-4 and assistant coach \$ \$4,000 x 3.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that we add 4 coaches for Flag Football. (One Head 3 Assistant LV 1)