



RIVER TRAILS SCHOOL DISTRICT 26

MEMO

TO: Dane Delli
FROM: Steve Kosmicki and Lyndl Schuster
DATE: April 28, 2010
SUBJECT: IV. CONSENT AGENDA
D. RTMS Wrestling Mats

Background:

The administration wants the Middle School to be considered a contender in all aspects from academics to athletics. The River Trails Middle School Principal has made it a priority to update several components regarding the athletic program. The program lacks appeal in some respects. One area that will provide a much needed facelift to the program is the wrestling mats. The current mats are 20 years old and have been refurbished and repaired several times. They are now damaged and worn beyond repair.

Safety:

Our Middle School students set up and breakdown the wrestling mats after each practice and competition. The new mats will be ultra light and portable. The mats can be set up, rolled up and packed away by one person as opposed to the awkward maneuvering of several people. Flexi-Roll has superb shock absorbency. This is a plus for the impact that the students sustain during normal wrestling falls.

Reliability:

The new mats come with a five-year warranty as opposed to a one-year warranty offered by other traditional mat companies. The material will not wear and tear like traditional mats that require reconditioning every two years; Flexi-Roll mats do not require reconditioning. They are extremely durable. They don't harden or shrink like traditional mats.

Cost:

3 Traditional 36 foot mats: \$12100
3 Flexi-Roll 36 foot mats: \$15100

Budget:

The RTMS budget has \$7,600 in unused funds for these mats. The remaining \$7,500 will come from the 2009/2010 O&M budget.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends that (3) new wrestling Flexi-Roll mats be purchased from Dollamur Equipment, the only vendor offering this mat, for a total cost of \$15,100. The five year warranty along with less maintenance and superior student safety justify the additional \$3000 expense. This is a great investment that will impact students and provide a much needed upgrade to the RTMS Athletic program.