



Foley Public Schools Activities Department Update
September 15, 2025 School Board Meeting

Greetings from the Foley Public Schools Activities Department,

Potential Addition to the Granite Ridge Conference

Discussion has persisted about the possibility of adding Pillager to the Granite Ridge Conference for the 2027-28 school year. Below you will see information regarding steps that have been taken, benefits, potential challenges, enrollment, and travel information. This is not official but I just wanted to keep the Board informed and provide as much information as possible.

Steps Taken

- Multiple discussions at several meetings by current Activities Directors within the Granite Ridge Conference since the departure of Mora
- Conversations and a meeting with the Superintendent and Principals
- Conversations and a survey to gather information from coaches and advisors of MSHSL activities for grades 7-12
- Providing information gathered to the School Board

A Few Quick Pros

- Would expand the GRC back to 8 Schools
- Scheduling for all activities becomes easier and eliminates the need for more non-conference games
- Pillager is already a part of Section play in Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Baseball, Softball (potentially a few more)
- Would increase and fill out JH Schedules

A Few Quick Cons

- Travel Distance
- Potentially more early releases from class



Current Granite Ridge Conference Schools

- Albany
- Foley
- Little Falls
- Milaca
- Pequot Lakes
- Pierz
- St. Cloud Cathedral

Granite Ridge Conference Schools in other sports

- Mora
- Aitkin
- Pine City
- Crosby-Ironton
- Ogilvie/Mora

*There are other Districts that opt into the GRC in Hockey, Gymnastics, and Soccer but Foley does not have those activities

MSHSL Enrollment Size - Current GRC

<u>School District</u>	<u>MSHSL Enrollment</u>
Little Falls	647
Albany	553
Foley	533
Pequot Lakes	527
Milaca	425
Pierz	383
St. Cloud Cathedral	307



MSHSL Enrollment with Pillager

<u>School District</u>	<u>MSHSL Enrollment</u>
Little Falls	647
Albany	553
Foley	533
Pequot Lakes	527
Milaca	425
Pierz	383
Pillager	322
St. Cloud Cathedral	307

Travel Distance/Time - Proposed GRC

<u>School District</u>	<u>Travel Distance (Miles)</u>	<u>Estimated Travel Time (Minutes)</u>
Pequot Lakes	84.8	89
Pillager	67.1	70
Albany	38	52
Little Falls	37.6	42
Pierz	29.2	34
St. Cloud Cathedral	15.5	21
Milaca	13.9	17

Activities Ofference by Pillager

Boys & Girls Cross Country, Girls Volleyball, Boys & Girls Basketball, Baseball, One Act Play, Large Group Band & Choir, Wrestling, Softball, Boys & Girls Track, Boys & Girls Golf, Knowledge Bowl, and Speech

Thanks You,

Eric Inglis