

Dear School Board,

The purpose of this letter is to request a change for the upcoming football season. I am requesting an additional stipend for our football coaching staff.

I would like to request a coaching stipend to hire an academic coach for our Spartan Football program. We currently have a coach who is a volunteer for our freshmen coaching staff and he helps our student athletes with their academics. He has worked with our freshmen for the last two years and acts as a liaison between the student and teacher. In the two years he has been involved in our football program we have had less ineligible freshmen than on the junior varsity and varsity levels combined.

I would like another stipend to pay this coach for the time he is putting in helping these student athletes in the classroom. I plan to increase his role from solely being involved with the freshmen to being involved with all levels of the football program including freshmen, junior varsity and varsity. His role would serve as a coach to athletes who are struggling in the classroom. These duties would include: helping with missing assignments, keeping track of ineligible athletes, and acting as a tutor for our athletes.

The goal of our academic coach will be to reduce the amount of student athletes on the grade list in the fall and to produce better study skills in the classroom. The number one goal in Spartan Football is to ensure that every athlete graduates from Minico High School. With the continued academic support of the entire coaching staff an academic coach will further help our football program work to achieve that goal and help better our student athletes in the classroom. He has done a great job with our freshmen class this past year and has reduced their grade problems significantly. The table below outlines last year's ineligibility numbers.

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
Varsity/JV	11	15	15	11	10	9	13
Freshmen	2	3	6	2	0	3	0

The academic coach will be implemented week one. We plan to take the athletes that are academically ineligible and have them meet with the coach every day for the first 45 minutes of practice until the grade is passing. It is important to our program that these athletes understand that they are students first and they have to be academically sound before they are athletically sound.

The reasons above outline why the addition of an academic coach will benefit our student athletes. Please take the time to consider this request and if you have any questions please call me at (208)-670-4215.

Thank You,  
J. Keelan McCaffrey  
Football Head Coach