

Wrestling Cooperative Sharing Agreement

Background:

Expecting only eight to ten wrestlers on our varsity squad next winter, we have some patrons who would like us to send our wrestlers to another program. At the same time, there is a faction in the community who does not want us to share wrestling, or perhaps any sports.

Head wrestling coach David Butler believes participation may be stronger than immediately apparent. He writes,

“The numbers for wrestlers coming back next year is 10 plus 2 managers with 2-3 junior high wrestlers coming out and the possibility of 5-6 high school students coming out or back out.

“I have also been in contact with the 15-20 female students at BK about wrestling with a verbal commitment of 8-10.

“Mr. Jass had 9-10 JH wrestlers out last season.”

Additional Factors:

For the upcoming season, there is an additional factor. Girls wrestling will be a sanctioned sport. That means girls will no longer be able to compete as part of a boys wrestling team. They may only compete on a girls team.

Meanwhile a new issue has presented itself to us. A neighboring school is expecting small numbers in their boys wrestling program, and unbelievable participation in girls wrestling. Informally and confidentially, they have approached us with the proposition of them sending their boys wrestlers to us, and us sending our girls wrestlers to them.

C-G-D Response:

On June 16 of this year, the Board voted 4-3 to request the opportunity to enter a shared program with Clarion-Goldfield-Dows (CGD).

However, CGD declined our request to enter a cooperative program with them for wrestling. Their feeling is that they currently have a good program by themselves, and they do not want dissent or opposition to interfere with their program.

At this time, West Fork is unlikely to have a boys program this coming season. Hampton-Dumont has no interest in receiving our wrestlers. Garner-Hayfield-Ventura has some interest.

Recommended Action:

I recommend the Board move to continue with our existing program for another year under the leadership of Head Coach David Butler.