


From:  Dan Ninham

Friday, February 05, 2016 8:48:48 AM  

Subject: Bemidji Lacrosse at February School Board Meeting

To:  James Hess

Supt. Hess,

We request Bemidji Lacrosse Club Status to be placed on the February School Board Agenda. The following are details related to our request. There may be some players and family members who want to address the school board during our presentation.

Dan Ninham

Bemidji Lacrosse

Interest in Lacrosse in Community:

Bemidji Lacrosse has been in existence for two years. The Bemidji Lacrosse program started in 1995 and ended in 2000 with up to 70 players at the middle and high school level. We currently have 30-35 players in our lacrosse program and expect the number to grow from kindergarten to 12th grade with club status granted with the school district. The current Winter Wednesday Night Program at BHS has 70 to 110 kids playing per night from Bemidji and as far as 60 miles away. We expect Bemidji to be the hub of north central Minnesota lacrosse.

Expectations from ISD 31 and Activities Department:

We need facilities both inside and outside at no charge and to be covered under district liability insurance. We don't charge admission for events.

Club Financial Picture:

We have two parents who want to lead a booster club. The club will have minimal road trips with a spring league being hosted at Bemidji. Parental transportation will be encouraged when we go on the road and overnight trips are not planned. We have outstanding gear support from contacts throughout the country. Players buy their own jersey and may provide their own gear. Coaches receive a \$500 per season stipend with three coaches needed at this time. We have charged individual participation fees the past three years but will not charge in the future.

Program Logistics:

Players need to be students in good standing at ISD 31. Coaches are certified teachers from Bemidji or Cass Lake Bena. We will have club registration with waivers signed by parents. Each player will be responsible to pay an annual fee of \$12 for club insurance through the National High School Coaches Association. Facilities needed are the middle school soccer and football fields from April through mid October and district gymnasiums during the school year. Practice from March to June will be held on Monday and Thursday from 6 to 7:30 pm so as not to conflict with players participating in seasonal school sports and we will host a league on Wednesday from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. A few road day trips will be planned within 100 miles of Bemidji. North Central Lacrosse began last fall with the goal to have 15 new clubs organized by April 2016 and we have 10 within a 60 mile radius of Bemidji.