

## Permission to Compete for CGD Wrestling

### **Background:**

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.

### **State Rules on Sharing:**

The state rules have changed regarding dissolving an athletic program and letting student-athletes play elsewhere.

In the spring of 2020 when the pandemic struck and Wright County was hit so hard, we shut down our baseball and softball programs. The rule at that time was that our athletes could play anywhere—each athlete choosing his or her own school and team.

The rule now is that when a school board dissolves a program, student-athletes may play elsewhere. But they must all compete for the same school and team. So, our wrestlers must all compete for CGD or all for some other school or not at all.

Although CGD rejected our request to cooperatively share a program with them, they have indicated they will accept our wrestlers in a shared program with our program dissolved.

### **28E Sharing Agreement:**

*Code of Iowa* Chapter 28E provides the ability for governmental entities to enter into contracts with one another. The purpose of the law is to “permit state and local governments in Iowa to make efficient use of their powers by enabling them to provide joint services and facilities with other agencies and to cooperate in other ways of mutual advantage.”

Schools that wish to share sports programs are required to enter into a 28E sharing agreement.

### **Recommended Action:**

I recommend the Board move to approve a 28E sharing agreement with the Clarion-Goldfield-Dows Community School District for the purpose of allowing our wrestlers to compete as part of their school wrestling program.