

LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL

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New Castle, Pennsylvania 16101
(412) 658-9056

(1996) 1063

MICHAEL J. KROL
Principal



ANDREW J. TOMMELLEO
Assistant Principal

March 20, 1996

COPY OF
RESPONSE FROM
1996 REQUEST

Dear Mr. Bernie Muckian:

Enclosed with this letter is a summary of my presentation to the Laurel Board of Education on Wednesday, March 6, 1996. The Board and Administration are aware of your interest in pursuing the initiation of Soccer into the Varsity Interscholastic Athletic Program. Please keep us informed relative to progress of the Laurel Soccer Program.

If you have any questions relative to this summary, please contact me at 658-9056.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Krol

Michael J. Krol
Principal

MJK:gg

cc: Mr. Rich, Superintendent
Mr. Stach, Athletic Director

(1996) 2063

Introduction:

The following is an outline of the meetings during which Soccer was discussed:

- January 16, 1996 Initial meeting including Mr. Muckian, Mr. Stach and Mr. Krol. Proposal given to Mr. Rich for distribution to Board members.
- February 12, 1996 Mr. Muckian presented initiation of Soccer at the public Board meeting. Mr. Muckian's request is referred to Administration and the athletic committee of the Board.
- February 26, 1996 Mr. Muckian met with the Athletic Committee, Mr. Stach and Mr. Krol to discuss details of Soccer.
- March 6, 1996 The Administration and Athletic Committee recommend that Soccer not be initiated as a Varsity Sport.

Recommendation:

During the meeting of the Committee of Whole on March 6, 1996, the High School Principal did not recommend the initiation of Soccer as a Varsity Interscholastic Sport. (Mr. Muckian was aware of the recommendation). The program was not recommended for the reasons listed below:

Co-Ed Team

After examining the sign up sheet, 35% of those expressing interest were female. The Administration and Board does not look favorably with girls competing with boys in a contact sport; of the 34 students interested, only 8 students previously played in the program. Varsity Interscholastic Sports are classified according to the WPIAL as either a Boys Sport or a Girls Sport.

Budget

Mr. Muckian estimated that it would cost \$4,400.00 to initiate the program. The Administration estimated that it would cost \$6,400.00 An assistant coach's salary created much of the increased cost. Mr. Muckian's cost were established considering an exhibition schedule; the Administration costs out of a WPIAL schedule.

Fields

Presently the district has no field available for Soccer (practice or game). The football field can not be made available for Soccer (because the field is too small for Soccer). The fields available for Soccer are at the Lawrence County Fairgrounds. These concerns were established:

1. students crossing Rt. 108.
2. possible rent and maintenance.
3. what happens when the Lawrence County Fairgrounds Association says no to use of the fields.

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Facilities

In the fall sports season the boys and girls locker rooms are fully in use after school. The Administration believes that some type of locker room facility should be available for practices and games. Throughout the school year, storage space is a premium. Presently, there is not enough storage space for the existing programs.

Conclusion:

Initiating a Soccer Program was not recommended at this time due to the previously mentioned concerns. The High School Principal also indicated that in his opinion neither the Laurel School District nor the Laurel Soccer Association was ready to start this program at this time.