

Attachments

Tue, Jun 28, 11:26 PM

to matt.fetsch@ndhsaa.org, andrew.jordan@k12.nd.us, dave.schoch@k12.nd.us, Nick, gfridley@dpsnd.org, kbaesler@nd.gov, alexis.baxley@ndsba.org, ned.clooten@k12.nd.us, mrrerick230@mygfschools.org, paul_jundt@bismarckschools.org, josh.johnson@k12.nd.us, jeremy.brandt@k12.nd.us, rick.diegel@k12.nd.us

Dear ND High School Activities Association,

I am writing this email to request an exemption for the rule in your by-laws for hardship procedures. In the spring of 2021, I requested information in the process of transferring our kids to our home district after we moved in the spring of 2020 (see email below). When information was received for a hardship application there was no information that stated the exact process of hardships. The only way we could have known was by reading your bylaws. We understood that once hardship forms were completed by both districts it would move to a decision by Mr. Fetsch. If Mr. Fetsch would choose to deny hardships we could appeal to the board. Fast forward to July, our hardship forms were completed by both Administrators which they approved and sent to Mr. Fetsch. Both School administrators did not know there was a delay in the decision until the kids attended their first day at their new school.

Our son is headed into his senior year and with this current process for hardship he would be jeopardizing his senior year if Mr. Fetsch and or the board would deny hardship.

The problem is if he enrolls in the new school and is denied he has forfeited his senior year. This is why there needs to be an amendment to your bylaws to allow the student/parents to make an informed decision on whether he wants to give up his eligibility. Your current process pulls the rug out from the student and punishes him or her if hardship is declined. They are stuck at the new school without the ability to play varsity sports. This could jeopardize a student that is looking to further his athletic career in a collegiate program.

Allowing the hardships to be completed and ruled on in a timely manner would allow the student to make his or her decision without losing their potential to play varsity sports. Giving the student the option to stay at the current school would allow him or her to compete. Letting him or her attend the first day at the new school and then denying it doesn't look out for the best interest of the student. In your mission statement it is stated your job is to protect the student.

I believe our hardship is a legitimate reason for allowing my kids to attend our home district. Our job as parents is to put the wellbeing of our kids first. Covid has put a hardship on these students that we will never comprehend.

Sincerely,