

Letter sent to all board members and executive secretary, June of 2022.

Dear Mr. Fetsch and NDHSAA Board members,

I wanted to first start off by thanking you for taking time out of your summer to help my family and I with understanding what all is involved in the process of transferring schools. I would like to personally ask that you consider making your decision on mine and my brother, Collin's eligibility earlier than August so that we can make the best decision moving forward to allow for some ease in this transition period for our family.

Moving during such an indescribable time like 2020 was quite a challenge for me personally. There was already so much uncertainty, confusion and chaos going on in the world that I was holding on to any last bit of normality I had left. My Parents had wanted us to enroll in Garrison public school right away but made the decision up to Collin and I because of all the changes we already had to endure. We as a family decided the best decision at the time was to continue our education at South Prairie. Which during that time period made the most sense because of the policies and protocols on how South Prairie handled COVID-19.

Over the past two years living in Coleharbor has had its ups and downs. Living so close to Turtle Lake has allowed my dad to be able to spend more time at home during the farming season. The distance from school however, has made me feel farther from normality than ever before. I felt like an outsider looking in when it came to a school that I had attended for years. Living so far away from school made it difficult for my parents to be involved in the school activities that I was participating in making 14-year-old me at the time have to handle most things on my own involving school. This was hard for me living away from most of my friends trying to keep solid relationships going while also surviving middle school.

Family will always come first to me for as long as I live. Having my family there always to pick me back up when the going gets tough and put me back on the path that follows Christ has made me grow up into the person I am writing to you today. My brother played a big part in that. He is one of the strongest people I know. Putting up with driving me to school almost every morning is no easy feat, but he was almost always willing to do so. The long car rides every day to school definitely has taken its toll specifically with the uncertainties of North Dakotan weather. With recently becoming a new driver I have a new understanding of what Collin had to deal with being responsible with keeping us both safe to and from school. The idea of not being at the same school is heartbreaking to me since he and I have gone through so much together as a family.

Through growing up with Collin it was obvious that he had a passion for football. Watching college football games every weekend to watching his love transpire on the football field every Friday. Football has always played a major roll in my family. Once again, the distance put a major toll on Collin and our family. South Prairie was always supper welcoming towards us, but that hometown sense was missing once we moved. You could tell he finally found that feeling getting to practice and build relationships with boys who lived right across the street rather than 35 miles away.

I would like to thank you once again for taking the time to help my family through this process and I hope that you will take my letter into consideration throughout this decision-making period before the start of school. I understand the difficulties of the extent of this decision, but I hope that through this process you will allow for our family to stay together for Collin's senior year.

Sincerely,

*Camryn Knorr*

