Submission #10

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Submission information

Form: 2017-2021 Alignment Adjustment Request
Submitted by Anonymous (not verified)
Fri, 11/02/2018 - 15:58
152.26.182.25

School Name Monroe High School

Principal's name Christopher Kelly

Superintendent's name Andrew Houlihan

Current Classification 3A

Current Conference 3A Southern Carolina 3A

Proposed Classification 2A

Proposed Conference, if different 2A Rocky River 2A

Conference Approved? Yes

Request

Please state your request
We are appealing our current 3A placement and would like to move down to 2A. This is due to a variety of reasons which can be found in our 1st attachment to this form. I have also attached the Release and Acceptance Letters from our current conference and proposed conference.

Criteria

- Significant disparity in current size of the school - either a significant increase or decrease in enrollment/ADM (NOTE: Significant is defined as greater than a 10% decline in enrollment in one of the years since 2015)
- Major loss of community resources

Files Uploaded

Remember: all information that supports, defines and/or explains the request must be submitted with this form. Up to 3 files can be uploaded and attached to this request.

Document 1 Appeal Letter.docx

Document 2 SCC Release Letter.pdf

Document 3 RRC Acceptance Letter.pdf

Email Address tim.niedermeier@ucps.k12.nc.us

10/30/2018

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the students, staff and administration of Monroe High School, I am requesting that we be granted permission to move from the 3A Classification to 2A Classification. Due to loss of enrollment, current demographics, lack of ability to field all sports, High Priority Status, limited community financial support and decreasing revenues from athletic gates, we feel our student-athletes do not benefit by staying in our current 3A Conference.

Our current 20 day ADM is 1095 students. The 17-18 number was 1193. This is a decrease of 98 students from 2017-18, which equates to about a 9% drop. Our district has re-districted twice in the last 5 years and the option to grandfather at your old school was an option many kids chose. We feel if that option wasn't granted, our numbers would be even lower. Along with that, we have no way to tell how many current middle school students will choose to go to their new, assigned, schools, next year, once they become 9th graders. They are required to provide their own transportation if they choose the grandfathering option. Many of our stakeholders will not have that ability. If they choose to leave our Monroe Cluster, this will reduce us even further, going into next year.

The next issue we have is our demographic make-up. We are currently 54% Hispanic/Latino, 33% Black/African American, 9% White, 3% Multiracial, and 1% Asian/Amer. Indian-Alaska Native. With this demographic make-up, we are finding it harder and harder to field competitive teams in many sports. In our community, the main sport our Hispanic students participate in is Soccer. It is very hard to field our other teams in which the Hispanic community doesn't traditionally take part in. We have seen a large decrease in numbers for football, tennis, wrestling, golf, softball and we haven't been able to field a baseball team in the last 2 years, and most likely won't this year either. We have even seen a large decrease in our track numbers, which historically have been one of our stronger programs. We cannot field Lacrosse, which most of the other schools in our county and conference have been able to do.

With this current demographic, we are a High Priority school and currently run between 80 and 90% free or reduced price lunch. This has contributed to a significant decrease in financial support from our community. It is extremely difficult to find sponsors to support our school. Our booster club consists of 4 community members, which also serve as the officers. Even though they are able to get a little help in our concession stands, it is very difficult for them to take on any meaningful fundraisers to support our programs. Although they are very supportive, the dollars they can contribute are significantly less than our surrounding conference members. This has led to our available athletic budget decreasing each year for the last several years. Purchasing equipment that can help provide our kids with the tools they need to try and be competitive, has also been become extremely difficult.

The decrease in numbers has also led an overwhelming number of 2 and 3 sport athletes in our school. We are asking families to support multiple sports, when it is very hard for them to support even 1 sport for their child. In the day of sport specialization, our kids cannot compete well against the other communities in our conference. The resources are not as readily available for our kids to join the clubs or private organizations that the other athletes in our area currently enjoy. The skill level gap, between our athletes and the surrounding larger schools, is increasing every year.

In closing, we would appreciate every consideration the Board can give to help us move to the more competitive 2A classification. Being able to compete against smaller schools, closer to our size and competitive abilities is important to the continued existence of many of our programs. Other than Parkwood, the other 6 schools in our conference are significantly larger then Monroe. The gap is generally several hundred kids between our largest schools to the size of Monroe High, at 1095. The larger schools are around the 1900 student range. Thank you for your consideration of our request and we hope that you are able to see the need for Monroe High to be re-classified for the upcoming 19/20 and 20/21 seasons.

Sincerely,

Tim Niedermeier

Athletic Director

Monroe High School

SOUTHERN CAROLINA CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM

TO: NORTH CARLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

FROM: DR. MIKE HARVEY

SUBJECT: PARKWOOD AND MONROE HIGH SCHOOL REALIGNMENT APPEAL

DATE: 10/17/2018

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of the Southern Carolina Conference, we hereby agree to release Parkwood High School and/or Monroe High School (contingent on the approval of their realignment appeal) from the Southern Carolina Conference. Each member school of the Southern Carolina Conference supports their decision to drop to the 2A Rocky River Conference.

Dr. Mike Harvey
Principal
Sun Valley High School

Rocky River Conference
700 Walker Road
Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124

Chris Shinn, Mt. Pleasant, Secretary
Jay Niessner, CATA, Secretary

Dear NCHSAA,

On September 10th, 2018 the Rocky River Conference (2A) voted 5-1 to approve allowing Monroe High School to return to the Rocky River Conference, if they met all of the guidelines set in place by the NCHSAA to be reclassified to a 2A school, with the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

If you have any questions or need anything else from the Rocky River Conference please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Chris Shinn

Chris Shinn

Athletic Director

Mount Pleasant High School

Rocky River Conference Co-Secretary

Jay Niessner

Athletic Director

Central Academy of Technology & Arts

Rocky River Conference Co-Secretary