

## **Title IX Compliance Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

February 12, 2014

7:00 – 8:10 am

Members present: Dean Mack, Randy Bolerjack, Stacey Bjarnason, Mindy Blakeslee, Traci Brandon, Jamie Prescott, Morgan Peyou and Karen Hubbert

Absent: Fred Rundle, Brett Ogata, Erica Hill, Charlene Steinhauer, Carol Gullstad and Blair Rasmassun

### Review Athletic Participation for 2013-14

Dean Mack prepared spreadsheets helping the group understand the direction of Title IX progress at Mercer Island School District. (attached)

### General Discussion

After a review of the numbers Stacey Bjarnason made note that inherently girls' activities are different from the boys. For example, there are 30 girls that practice 5 nights a week in dance and that is not considered a sport. She feels and others agreed that the real goal is that the girls have equal access and opportunities as the boys have.

Dean pointed out that with the exception of football the percentages are very close in the sports that are offered to both boys and girls.

Mindy Blakeslee and Morgan Peyou related that one challenge they are having is that the Little Leaguers interrupt the girls' softball at the south end. Dean commented that this is something that needs to be addressed with consequences. Little League coaches shouldn't and won't be allowed to let his occur.

Mindy also wanted to make the point that the Mercer Island School District is phenomenal in transporting boys and girls to sporting events. All agreed.

Dean noted that every 3 years there is an 'intrasurvey' and that will be this spring 2014. Traci Brandon suggested that on the survey we add outside activities be added such as fencing, crew, sailing etc. because many girls are active in sports that are not organized in high schools. Traci also thought it would be helpful if the booster clubs knew how and where district funding was dispersed. It would very enlightening for them. Even some coaches don't understand how sports are funded.

Dean also explained many don't understand that football is self funding, which allows the district to use money for other sports.

Finally, Traci Brandon, was excited to speak about STUNTING. It will be happening this spring (demo) as MISD has been invited to be in two exhibitions, which means no cost to the district.

It will involve 16 girls, will not interfere with other spring sports and Traci will volunteer her time.

The potential for STUNTING, she feels, is huge. And she is very excited about the potential of drawing a large audience. If the spring exhibitions are successful hopefully the district will include it as a sport in the future. The costs would be for mats, uniforms, coaching, officiating and transportation.

In conclusion, the meeting was very positive and the consensus is that Mercer Island School District is doing a very good job with Title IX challenges.

Next Meeting:

May 21, 2014

7- 9:00 am

