



Tackett, Julian <jtackett@khsaa.org>

First Region Realignment

1 message

Tony Burkeen <tburkeen@smss.org>

Thu, Dec 13, 2012 at 4:10 PM

To: Julian Tackett <jtackett@khsaa.org>

Mr. Tackett--I had to pick my wife up at the airport in Nashville yesterday and our Principal does not have a clue about basketball in Kentucky and the importance of this decision so I sent my two coaches (boys and girls)

A couple of things to consider:

1) It is much safer (travelwise) for Ballard Memorial to come to Paducah to play than to go to Mayfield to play. The roads from LaCenter to Mayfield are much more dangerous to travel than from LaCenter to Paducah. For St. Mary, it is only 17 miles from Paducah to Mayfield and the road is four-lane all the way. Also, the new McCracken County High School is on the Heath side of McCracken County which is even closer to Ballard than St. Mary is to Mayfield. The Paducah Tilghman distance is about the same for Ballard to come to St. Mary or Paducah Tilghman. The road that will be used is the same for Ballard to come to Paducah to play McCracken or Paducah Tilghman.

2) Dealing with rivalries--Ballard has no real rivals but the St. Mary-Graves match-up is a rivalry for sure. Obviously, district games can be considered rivalries--but not like the St. Mary-Graves County games.

**you know as well as I do that this decision is crucial to both St. Mary and Ballard. We are both small !A sized schools and the new McCracken County High School and Paducah Tilghman are bigger schools. Either St. Mary or Ballard will be 'screwed' when it comes to the decision. I'm glad that I am not making the decision. I hope that the two points mentioned above will be considered.

Thanks

Tony Burkeen
AD-St. Mary