



Tackett, Julian <jtackett@khsaa.org>

RE: Ending 2 Year Football Contracts in Mid-Cycle

1 message

Samons, Coy - Superintendent <coy.samons@paintsville.kyschools.us>
To: "Tackett, Julian" <jtackett@khsaa.org>

Thu, Feb 25, 2016 at 12:57 PM

Appreciate the reply and thank you for the statements. This was a lose/lose situation for my office. My constituents are unhappy for being "too easy" and Martin County (feel we have a good working relationship) is only happy if PHS does not impose the conditions of the contract. Lately, seems these type of scenarios are on the rise in all aspects of public education.

Have a good evening & once again, thanks for the communication.

Coy D. Samons

Superintendent

Paintsville Independent Schools

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From: Tackett, Julian [mailto:jtackett@khsaa.org]

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2016 12:45 PM

To: Samons, Coy - Superintendent <coy.samons@paintsville.kyschools.us>

Cc: Webb, Henry (Superintendent) <henry.webb@floyd.kyschools.us>; McClure, Chuck - Principal <chuck.mcclure@paintsville.kyschools.us>; Ousley, Jack - AD <jack.ousley@paintsville.kyschools.us>

Subject: Re: Ending 2 Year Football Contracts in Mid-Cycle

Mr. Samons,

Hope you are well. I apologize for the delay in responding.

This situation has created a lot of ill feelings, as it normally does. I know that the school has been taking steps trying to maintain a football program, and both their Superintendent and Athletic Director have communicated their concern about ill feelings that may arise over this situation, and I certainly assured them this would not be without harmed relationships.

As you know, from a historical perspective, the "penalty" for getting out of a district has simply been that a school was ineligible to compete in postseason play until that cycle ending. In this case, they are only out technically through 2016 and are planning, at least this point, to get back into district play in 2017. In prior years, the rules stipulated that they were out the entire alignment cycle (in this case, that would be through 2018) and perhaps that was a better deterrent. For the last eight to ten years, it has only been out for the two-year contract cycle, which obviously puts at peril those schools who play them, but the return game was to be in the second year.

Your points are well taken and I will be sure when we discuss football alignment issues, this is part of the discussion. As you know, it is a difficult balance in "forcing" a team to play with inadequate numbers or when safety is truly at risk, and ensuring that schools honor written commitments that have been made. Certainly, a return to the prior provisions of being out the entire alignment cycle would be a good point for our Board to discuss as it may be a better deterrent, as well considering other possible sanctions that wouldn't harm students but would hold an institution to their prior agreements.

I will be glad to put this item on the discussion for the Board's meeting on May 10-11, to ensure that the issues remain at the forefront of everyone's mind as future football alignment discussions are held.

Thanks again for sharing the important feedback.

On Tue, Feb 23, 2016 at 8:45 AM, Samons, Coy - Superintendent <coy.samons@paintsville.kyschools.us> wrote:

Commissioner Tackett,

I hope this e-mail finds you doing well. As you are probably aware, the football program at Sheldon Clark High School is restructuring and to my understanding is dropping out of district play. The school may play a "limited" schedule for the 2016 season but wishes to discontinue/cancel with selected opponents without enforcement of the cancellation fee which is "normal" procedure in this specific scenario. Paintsville Independent will reluctantly agree due to that we somewhat understand the circumstances. However the last 2-year contract between the two schools was during the 2007 and 2008 cycle which Paintsville was thrashed at home **55-14** by the Cardinals and drove to Inez the following year and lost **41-26**.

My concern is the impact this practice has on programs who expect a return game in year two of contract. At considerable cost, Paintsville High School played at Sheldon Clark during the 2015 season and now has no means to recoup the expense during 2016. Our program will be scrambling to find an opening game for the upcoming season and more than likely be forced to play a 9 game schedule with 4 home games. Best case scenario, a suitable opponent will be found to play at home but PHS will more than likely lose revenue due to the potential opponent's expectation of compensation because of a one year arrangement.

As usual in school business, there are two sides to a story. My only request is the KHSAA examine these scenarios and find a way to protect its membership from financial burdens which are not created by their own actions.

Thank you,

Coy D. Samons

Superintendent

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Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are," Coach John Wooden

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