



Administrator, District_ <district_administrator@waunakee.k12.wi.us>

Writing in support of Coach MacKenzie!

1 message

James Imhoff <james@uhpwarrranty.com>

Mon, Oct 24, 2022 at 2:22 PM

To: "district_administrator@waunakee.k12.wi.us" <district_administrator@waunakee.k12.wi.us>

I would like the email below dated September 28, 2022 initially delivered to Randy Guttenberg and Brian Borowski included in the Public Comments portion of tonight's (10/24/22) School Board Meeting. Thank you!

**James Imhoff**

President

Phone: 608-831-0285

Mobile: 608-219-5485

james@uhpwarrranty.com1111 Deming Way, STE
207

Madison, WI 53717

www.uhpwarrranty.com

From: James Imhoff
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2022 9:43 AM
To: RandyGuttenberg@waunakee.k12.wi.us; BrianBorowski@waunakee.k12.wi.us
Subject: Writing in support of Coach MacKenzie!

Dear Sirs,

It has come to my attention there has been a recent investigation into Coach MacKenzie and the Boys Basketball program at Waunakee. I was an assistant varsity coach from 2007 – 2011, and I am absolutely shocked to learn of some of the allegations presented against these coaches.

When I tell people about my experience on the varsity coaching staff, I always emphasize that Coach MacKenzie and Coach Selk have their priorities in order. While winning games was important to them, playing an influential role in the process of helping boys become young men always came first. During my tenure, and I'm sure it is still the case, their expectations of their player's behavior and production in the classroom was more stringent than the District's. I could site many stories supporting this was not just talk!

The same can be said for code of conduct violations regarding drinking or drug use. Coach MacKenzie's policy was "Zero Tolerance"!

I can only assume the genesis of this investigation lies with disgruntled parents, and I am confident the core is comprised of a small vocal population. Sadly, it seems to be a trend these days. Too often parents are overlooking the opportunity to teach their children about challenges and different ways to handle adversity. Instead, when their child isn't getting as much playing time as they feel they deserve, the parent's action is to make someone pay for this perceived injustice.

It was eye opening to me when I was coaching that the parents often had issues with playing time, but the players themselves did not. The players were at every practice and most often knew their performance-to-playing time ratio was equitable.

Please consider the silent majority while evaluating Coach MacKenzie! Please consider all the boys that became men with the guidance and coaching provided by these basketball coaches over 18 years. Please consider all the former players who have chosen to come back to Waunakee to help coach alongside their mentors. Please consider the former players who these coaches helped find employment opportunities for past high school and college. In doing so, you'll realize these are the important things!

We must put an end to this trend of parents stopping at nothing to make their child's life easier! Life isn't always easy!

Waunakee is incredibly fortunate to have Coach MacKenzie and Coach Selk as coaches, and I hope I get to follow their player's successes on the court, but more importantly in life, for many years to come!

Best regards,

James Imhoff

James Imhoff



President

Phone: 608-831-0285**Mobile:** 608-219-5485james@uhpwarrranty.com1111 Deming Way, STE
207

Madison, WI 53717

www.uhpwarrranty.com

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