

Assignment #5

Chyi-Woei Wang

Michigan State University

First I would hold an emergency meeting with players and parents to go over the rules and policies on team travel and locker room use and the codes of conduct while traveling and while visiting other facilities. If the team did not have any policy in place, I would set a travel policy: code of conduct on a vehicle, code of conduct in a hotel or any other place we would stay at for a game, dress code, meeting times and places for pickup, parental requirements and expectations, and emergency plans and procedures.

Steps I would take to make sure something like West High incident would not happen again are, first, to have clear rules and expectations of behavior when in any locker room (home or away), and, second, to post the rules and expectations of conduct inside the locker room so that players could always see them and know what kind of behaviors are expected of them.

Whenever my team and I have an away game I would remind my players before we leave school the rules, policies, and expectations of their behavior for travel and the away locker room. To help my players remember the rules, policies, and expectations of their behavior in the away locker room I would bring a laminated poster-sized copy of the rules, policies, and expectations to be posted in the locker room.

If possible, my team captain or I would do a quick locker room inspection before my players go in to make notes on the state of the locker room. My team captain or I can also take pictures of the locker room in its initial state and keep the pictures as evidence in case my players are accused of damage or vandalism. If we aren't able to take pictures, my team captain or I would make note of instances of damages or vandalism before the game and document it so that we could inform the coach of the hosting team.

Since I would not be allowed to go into the locker room while it's in use, I would have my team captain be the supervisor while my players are using the locker room and to report to

me if anything is wrong. The captain will be responsible for what happens in the locker room since I will not be there. I will also have myself or my team captain do a final inspection after my team is done in the locker room to make sure the away locker room is left in a satisfactory state.

Another policy I would enact is that I would hold players accountable for any damages or vandalism found in a rental car or away locker room. If it was found out that my team had damaged an opposing team's locker room, then the players responsible for the damage would need to pay for the damages. In the case of the West High example where my players denied doing any damage or vandalism to West High's locker room, if my team was found guilty and no specific perpetrator could be identified, then the damages would be divided up equally amongst the members of the team and I will tell that to the parents in a meeting and to make sure that they understand this policy, parents will have to sign a financial liability form for their child to travel with the team on away games. The reason I would implement this policy is because I want my players to be held responsible for their actions and the actions of their teammates. This will help my players police themselves and make a more increased effort to keep good locker room etiquette and conduct.

To make sure that everyone has understood the new team travel policies each player and parent would need to sign a form that they have read, understood and would adhere to the new policies. I would have both the parent and player sign this form because I would want evidence in case an issue arises. If either a player or parent, or both do not sign the form, then they will forfeit the privilege of playing for their school team.