

Bridgeport also makes inquiries in joining

By Jan Schultz

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Another school with the Longhorn mascot will soon be joining the South Platte Valley Association (SPVA) Conference.

In a 6-0 vote last Friday prior to the conference track meet, the six current SPVA schools all voted yes in allowing Kimball to join the conference.

That will make seven SPVA schools starting in the fall 2013, joining Chase County, Perkins County, Sutherland, Hershey, North Platte St. Pat's and Maxwell.

CCS Activities Director Troy Hauxwell and Supt. Brad Schoeppe represented Chase County at the meeting.

Hauxwell said the conference has been discussing Kimball's addition since the school first approached SPVA officials last fall. Kimball then sent a letter in January after gaining approval from their school board.

Hauxwell said the conference moved quickly in taking a formal vote last week so the other SPVA schools could begin working Kimball into their schedules.

The addition of Kimball has a lot of positives, said Hauxwell.

"Anytime you can get up near to the eight number it makes for a good, balanced conference," he said.

Not only will it be a plus for athletics, but will add more participation in the other school activities such as music, drama and quiz bowl events, he said.

It will also spread out the rotations for hosting conference tournaments and contests, breaking up the work involved when having an SPVA event at home, he said.

During the 2013-14 school year, Chase County is on the schedule to host the SPVA music contest here. In addition, Hauxwell was appointed conference tournament director for 2013-14, a new position, and will head up organizing the athletic tournaments next school year.

Bridgeport High School's activities director and superintendent were also at last Friday's meeting in Hershey, expressing an interest in joining the SPVA, possibly in the 2014-15 school year.

"They felt, too, the SPVA would be a great fit for them," Hauxwell said.

The conference members asked the Bridgeport school officials to send a letter of interest as Kimball did, after they discuss it with the Bridgeport school board.

Both Kimball and Bridgeport are currently in the Western Trails Conference.