

Dunn St. Croix vs. Lakeland Conference Membership: Factors to Consider

Dunn St. Croix Pros	Lakeland Pros
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More consistent JV games in every sport ● More Conference Matches for Wrestlers ● Potential Natural Rivalries with neighbors: Glenwood, Boyceville, etc... ● Geography - less travel distance overall ● Competitiveness of the conference may strengthen our programs ● Stability of the conference ● Similarity with other DSC schools: demographics, size, culture, academics ● Music conference alignment ● Existing relationships with DSC schools: administration, football conference, CESA 11, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● History and Tradition ● C.L. enrollment on the larger side ● Traditional rivalries: TL, Clayton, PF, Shell Lake, etc. ● Many schools in conference, allows for “internal” realignment when needed for enrollment size changes ● Existing relationships with Lakeland schools: administration, coaches, ADs, etc.
Dunn St. Croix Cons	Lakeland Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● C.L. enrollment on the smaller side over time ● Can we sustain competitiveness with our enrollment declining? ● Need to develop new relationships at some levels: coaches, athletic directors, administration ● Smaller number of schools means less flexibility for internal realignments, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Many missed opportunities for Junior High and JV due to a lack of teams ● Geography: Long travel distances for many schools ● Competing with many smaller schools is not strengthening our programs ● 20+ schools = fragmented Conference identity at times ● Very little contact with the Eastern part of the conference, different CESA ● Instability: Disparity of enrollment sizes, continual realignment, many schools with declining enrollment

*** Football is not impacted by this decision. The WIAA assigns football conferences separately based on enrollment.**

Potential Timeline For Consideration

February 12 and March 4 - Discussion at Clear Lake School Board Meetings
February 20 - Discussion at Lakeland Conference Superintendent Meeting

March 19 - Additional discussion at Lakeland Supts meeting

March 26 Clear Lake Community Public Listening Session

6:30 p.m. High School Library

April 8 - Clear Lake Board of Education vote/decision

IF we wish to proceed with requesting to switch conferences:

April 16 - Discussion/request/vote at Lakeland Superintendents meeting

April - Discussion/Vote at Dunn-St. Croix Superintendents meeting

If approved, then the Dunn-St. Croix would also have to vote to approve, and that would be submitted to the WIAA for the "fast track" two year process. If not approved by Lakeland, we could still apply to the WIAA for the change, but it would take 3-4 years.