3D Final

After interviewing Mr. Minneman, I came away thinking about what could be done at Marysville HS (KS) to better implement the 3D focus for MHS athletes. Mr. Minneman was open to the fact that we don’t have a defined plan in place to coach our coaches to implement the second and third dimension strategies we have learned in this class. We are blessed to have a really talented group of coaches right now that are also excellent role models. Our district deserves credit for some excellent hiring the last few years. However, we can’t always rely on that to be successful in the future. We are in a small enough district that there may come a day when we don’t have the same excellent pool of candidates to choose from.

One might assume that the athletic director, which Mr. Minneman is, might be the logical one to lead such an effort in our building. I don’t really see that as being most effective in this case. Mr. Minneman has a job that wears many hats. He is in sole charge of our athletic and arts departments. He also is in charge of discipline for a 7-12 building. To me, asking him to do more doesn’t make sense. I think this process would be more effectively implemented through a mentoring type of system.

The first step in this mentoring system would be for those of us who have been through this kind of training and have background in these areas to implement them fully into our programs. This may look different in different programs as each coach needs to fit it to their personality and style. While there is room for this individuality, we must plan for this like we plan for 1st dimension issues. We are very good at planning for these 1st dimension issues, but we need to be more intentional about planning for 2nd and 3rd dimension training through the season. We anticipate problem areas in 1st dimensional analysis of our teams, we need to do so in all three dimensions. I think we touch on the 2nd dimension a lot, but I’m not sure we go to the 3rd dimension with it and emphasize how these 2nd dimension qualities can be used for the greater good and how they apply to post-athletic life. In my own experience, I know these lessons can be done quickly but still be impactful. I would like to see us get to the point where kids that leave our programs feel a connection to them for life. Many of them do, I would like that to become a majority.

As we put these plans in place, I think it would easily spread. Successful coaching breed successful coaching. We are a group that shares with each other, 3D coaching can give us a shared platform to do this. This sharing would blend easily into the monthly meetings we are doing anyway. I’m excited to get started, the change starts with me.