

APPLETON NORTH GIRLS' BASKETBALL CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

In Attendance: Nicole Thompson, Matt Cooper, Keith Doxtator, Amy Schultz, Justin Mackey, Jennifer Linn, Kristen Fischer, Andrea Springer, Jaime Krueger, Jake Kohlhagen, Brandan Backman, Adam Thiel, Beth Fietzer

Absent: Brad Klitzke, Rebecca Nicolaison, Tyler Guenther

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

- 4th Grade End of Season Meeting – Coach Brandan Backman, Adam Thiel
 - The team consisted of 17 players who all practiced together throughout the season. For HOVL games and tournaments, coaches rotated players, typically bringing 9–10 athletes to each event. Offensively, the team focused on a dribble-drive system, with a strong emphasis on pivoting and cutting. The coaches noted that screens are effective for the team, but when they call for them, the girls get reliant on them for generating offense vs running our drive and kick. The coaches feel relying on screens creates bad habits, so they limit/avoid calling them as much as needed. The team finished the season with a 41–10 record. Both coaches observed significant improvement in the players' overall basketball IQ over the course of the season. They also discussed challenges related to a few highly emotional players, whose behavior at times disrupted both games and practices. As a recommendation for the future, the coaches suggested offering two separate seasons: one for HOVL and one for tournaments. Coaches Brandan and Adam expressed interest in returning to coach again next year.
- Brandan Backman, Adam Thiel left the meeting
- 5th Grade End of Season Meeting – Coach Jaime Krueger, Jake Kohlhagen
 - The team consisted of 11 players, including 7 returning athletes. All 11 players were invited to participate in tournaments throughout the season. The coaches discussed challenges related to one player who was completely new to basketball. Additional time was often needed during practices to reteach fundamental concepts, which at times disrupted the overall flow of practice. This player also had inconsistent attendance, frequently missing practices and games or arriving late. The coaches communicated these concerns early and consistently with the player and her father, clearly outlining how limited attendance could impact playing time. However, communication from the family remained limited, leaving the coaches uncertain about the player's availability and making game and practice planning more difficult. The coaches also expressed frustration with their inability to arrange scrimmages with the 6th grade team. Despite multiple requests, the 6th grade coach, Tim, declined, stating he did not believe it would be beneficial for his team. Despite these challenges, the coaches felt the team showed overall improvement throughout the season. They lightheartedly noted that it was a year where “we couldn't buy a bucket.” Coaches Jaime and Jake expressed interest in returning to coach again next year.
- Jaime Krueger, Jake Kohlhagen left the meeting.
- February 2026 Board Meeting Minutes - Unanimous vote to approve
 - Nicole to Post on Website
- ANGBC Board of Directors update (Nicole)
 - Jenny Hegner- resigned
 - Welcome! Kristen Fischer and Andrea Springer
- Financial Report (Matt)
 - Checking: \$17,654.72
 - Savings: \$9,626.13
 - IRS officially changed our fiscal year to end in June.
- Season Update
 - 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teams concluded their seasons with State Tournaments. We will be meeting with the coaches next month.
 - Nicole and Beth shared that a meeting for next year's incoming freshmen will be held this spring, likely at Einstein Middle School, to help players and parents understand expectations for the upcoming season. Date yet TBD.
- Basketball Mindset (Beth)
 - Beth shared her observations from coaching at the high school level, noting that many female athletes are extremely hard on themselves and often lack the tools to recover from mistakes and refocus on the next play. In response, she has begun researching and training in athlete mental performance. The high school program plans to implement a structured mental performance initiative to better support athletes. The proposed format includes a weekly 20–30 minute classroom session incorporating journaling, visualization, breathing techniques, and a short learning video. In addition, athletes would follow a brief 6-minute pre-practice and pre-game routine. Players would also develop personalized “snap-back” routines,

select a reset word, and set individual mindset goals for the season. Beth asked the Board for feedback on introducing similar concepts at the youth level so players are exposed to these tools before reaching high school. Those in attendance supported the idea of piloting the program with the 7th and 8th grade teams, offering an optional weekly 20–30 minute session led by Beth prior to practice. The group also felt it would be beneficial to provide younger teams with a document or weekly focus area. Coaches for grades 3–6 would be encouraged to attend the sessions and take away ideas appropriate for their teams. Nicole asked Beth to develop a weekly focus outline with accompanying handouts that could be shared with families. The group responded positively to the proposal, and Beth will provide additional details as the program is further developed.

- Summer Skills Plan (Nicole)
 - Tentative schedule pending gym availability:
 - The Driveway– Trainer, Nicky penciled in Tuesdays, starting at 12:30 PM, 6 sessions (June 9, 16, 23, and July 14, 21, 28)
 - 3v3v3 – 6 weeks (Sundays- June 7, 14, 21 and July 12, 19, 26)
 - Skills Training & ETS Athletic Conditioning – 6 weeks (Wednesdays- June 10, 17, 24, and July 15, 22, 29)
 - Team Camp (3 days, August 11-13)
 - Those in attendance agreed that, due to increased costs associated with The Driveway and ETS Performance working with athletes, summer training fees will need to be adjusted to cover expenses. The cost will be \$125 per player for full participation, with an option to attend individual sessions at \$40 each.
 - Registration will again be managed through Zeffy again.
 - Nicole will finalize the flyer and registration details and will share the information with families and school PTOs once dates and locations are confirmed.
- Summer Challenge (Nicole)
 - Doing 10K Shot Club again – Nicole to updated and send out document to families
- Ferber Spring Fest (Nicole)
 - Friday, May 8th from 4:30-7:30 PM. Keith and Kristen volunteered to attend and help. We still need a few 8th grader and/or high school players to come and engage with the kids, playing lightning or other basketball games.
 - Give-a-ways, Nicole is reaching out to BluePrint to see if they can donate more water bottle stickers, and Hummingbird Designs to see if they would be willing to donate any t-shirts. Beth shared that they have a box of things that we may be able to use as well in the High School cage. She will check and let us know. We will also hand out flyers showing the Summer Training Opportunities.
- NCAA Bracket (Nicole)
 - Currently have 44 athletes participating in the Men's bracket challenge and 36 in the Women's
 - First place in each bracket will receive all the Summer Training for free.
- End of Summer Surveys to Families (Nicole)
 - Surveys have been sent to all families.
 - Nicole share all feedback we've received to date to the Board prior to the meeting.
 - Nicole will share any additional surveys with the Board before the April Board Meeting.
 - The Board will discuss the Feedback forms more in depth at the April Board Meeting.
- Practice Jersey for purchase (Nicole)
 - 29 were ordered and Nicole is arranging delivery.

Adjournment: 9:24 PM

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 15th at 7:00 PM

Future Topics & Actions:

Finalize Summer Training Schedule
Review & Discuss all End of Season Surveys
Background Check Policy & Procedures
2026-27 Scholarships
2026-27 Board of Director Positions & Responsibilities