

### Falls City School Board Kicks Around Soccer Co-op Idea

(KTNC) - The Falls City Board of Education spent about 20 minutes Monday night discussing an idea that could result in District 56 combining with a traditional rival for a couple sports.

The discussion followed a proposal last fall to add a varsity baseball program in Falls City. That idea was put on the back burner, largely due to concerns over Title Nine considerations.

District officials said then that they would look at other opportunities to expand opportunities for students - particularly girls - to participate in sports. High School Principal Gale Dunkhas told the board Monday night that they're considering seeking a cooperative agreement in girls' soccer with Auburn and HTRS. (play audio :58)

If done, such an agreement would have to be entered into by January 1st, as Falls City would be joining an existing program. Dunkhas said that also would likely put Falls City in compliance with Title Nine's gender equity requirements should the district add a baseball program for the spring of 2015. He said a baseball program could also be a cooperative agreement. (play audio :26)

Some board members were skeptical of the idea. Board president Scott Hollens expressed his doubts, but board member Ed Harris took another view. (play audio :59)

Any cooperative agreement would be for two years.

Hollens said further discussion should wait until board members Scott Huppert and Kathy Bartek, who were absent Monday night, could offer input. Dunkhas said Auburn would need to know by September or October if Falls City intends to pursue a co-op agreement.