

Mascot future spurs debate

(KAIR)--Strong opinion is posted to social media, in advance of a forthcoming USD 409 special committee meeting.

According to a [Facebook post](#), apparently made by school board member Rick Zumbrunn, the meeting is being held as part of the ongoing discussion focused on the future of the Atchison High School mascot.

In late 2016, the school board [convened a committee](#) to explore the use of the “Redmen” name.

At that time, Superintendent Dr. Susan Myers told MSC News the district had received what she called written communications pertaining to the use of the Redmen mascot.

The resulting committee was, according to Myers, to be comprised of students from the high school and the middle school, district administration, community members, alumni, Native American representatives, and School Board members Diane Liebsch and Sean Crittendon.

In the weekend Facebook post apparently made by Zumbrunn, he calls himself “the only school board member against changing the mascot,” and says he needs “everybody that we can get to be there that is against changing it right now,” apparently referring to the upcoming committee meeting that the post says is planned for February 26.

Zumbrunn has not yet responded to a Facebook message from MSC News seeking to verify the post.

A Facebook group, [AHS Redmen 4-Ever](#), has been established to discuss the matter.

In a confirmed post to the group, Crittendon told members he understands their views and concerns, and offered to provide committee related information to those who are interested. He also clarified that the Board of Education will hear an update from the mascot committee at their March 12 regular meeting.