

Forsyth, Casebolt still coaching L-M football

Written by Jim Ecker

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Bob Forsyth and Matt Casebolt are still teachers and football coaches at Linn-Mar High School, according to information provided by Linn-Mar officials to the Metro Sports Report on Monday.

Forsyth is listed as the head football coach and as an instructor in the Linn-Mar fitness department. Casebolt is listed as an assistant varsity football coach and as an instructor in the fitness department.

Forsyth and Casebolt are currently being investigated by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners as a result of complaints filed by Linn-Mar parents. The investigation is still under way. The BoEE has the authority to suspend or revoke teaching and coaching licenses if "practitioners" are found guilty of ethics violations.

High school football practice begins Aug. 8. Linn-Mar is scheduled to open the season Aug. 26 at Iowa City High.

David Brown, the new athletic director at Linn-Mar, proved this list of football coaches at 1:07 p.m. on Monday:

- + Bob Forsyth, head coach
- + CJ McDonald, assistant varsity
- + Travis Bark, assistant varsity
- + Jay Lehman, assistant varsity
- + Mitch Mahmens, assistant varsity
- + Matt Casebolt, assistant varsity
- + Nate Frangella, head sophomore
- + Andrew May, assistant sophomore
- + Brett Van Hove, assistant sophomore

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- + Ben Martens, head ninth
- + Curtis Kimm, head ninth
- + Tristan Evans, assistant ninth

Dr. Jeff Gustason, the Linn-Mar principal, provided the list of Linn-Mar High School certified staff for the 2016-17 school year at 10:41 a.m. on Monday. He explained that the names listed on the document are employees of Grant Wood AEA, but are assigned to the high school for this year.

Linn-Mar parents also have filed complaints about Dr. Gustason to the BoEE, claiming he did not take effective action to protect their students from Forsyth and Casebolt. Former Linn-Mar athletic director Scott Mahmens also has been accused by parents of not taking action to protect their students. Mahmens retired at the end of the 2015-16 school year.

The BoEE has not indicated when it will release the results of its investigation or if anyone will be charged with violations.

Linn-Mar parents claim that their students have been subjected to abusive behavior over the course of time by Casebolt and Forsyth. An original investigation conducted by Linn-Mar personnel - including Mahmens and Gustason - cleared Forsyth and Casebolt of violations due to "insufficient evidence."