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Ross OK'd to join Toledo City League

BY LESLIE BIXLER
Staff writer

FREMONT -- The city's school board approved Fremont Ross's entry into the Toledo City League with a unanimous vote.

Fremont Ross Athletic Director Art Bucci gave a presentation at Monday night's board of education meeting about what it means for Ross to join the league.

He said joining the league will offer an average travel time of 45 minutes.

"It's difficult for students to travel to a place like Lima on a Tuesday night and get back at a decent time," he said.

There will be no league fees, and ticket prices will remain the same.

"You can't believe the following that will come. ... And the doors it will open for recruiters to see our kids," Bucci said.

All that remains now is for the Toledo Public School board to sign off on it, and the Little Giants will begin play in the Toledo City League in the 2011-2012 school year.

Ross, currently a member of the Greater Buckeye Conference began looking at other options earlier this year when Sandusky was invited and accepted to the Northern Ohio League and Napoleon was accepted into the Northern Lakes League. Both those changes will take effect in 2011.

Ross, which had previously applied to the NLL, would have been left in a four-team conference with Findlay, Marion Harding and Lima Senior. Ross, Findlay and Lima all applied to the City League, but only Ross was accepted.

Currently, the City League has 10 co-ed schools, two all-boys Catholic schools and two all-girls Catholic schools.

District Superintendent Traci McCaudy said the two other school districts that applied, were denied and will have to be independent from a league. She credited Bucci for getting the district into the league because of his good relationship with the league officials, and the fact they've been playing Toledo teams for years.