Louisburg survives in playoff win over Atchison



Louisburg running back Ben Wiedenmann runs away from the Atchison defense for a touchdown Friday during the Wildcats' first round playoff game at Wildcat Stadium.

Survive and advance.

That is exactly what the Louisburg football team did Friday against Atchison. In their first round playoff game, the Wildcats rallied for a pair of third quarter scores to defeat the Redmen, 14-7, at Wildcat Stadium and were able to move on to the sectional round.

Louisburg had its back against the wall from the start as players were out with injuries, some played through pain and the Wildcats had to sit even more guys who sustained injuries early on in the game.

It was a situation that left the Wildcat coaches scrambling to put guys in the right places. In the end, it all worked out.

"Win and move on was the goal and that is what we did," Louisburg

coach Robert Ebenstein said. “We were pretty banged up and took a while to get some rhythm, but we got the win and that is all that really matters. I am very proud of the toughness and grit that our players showed.”

It took a little bit for the Wildcats to get their legs under them as they found themselves down 7-0 at halftime after an Atchison touchdown late in the first quarter.

Defense turned out to be the difference in the game as the Wildcats forced four Redmen turnovers, including three fumbles that helped on the two Louisburg scores.

“I thought the defense played tough,” Ebenstein said. “We were even able to move some guys around and they found their fit nicely.”

Brandon Doles, Garrett Harding and Brayden White all recovered fumbles, while Michael Waldron recorded an interception late to keep the Redmen offense off the field. In all, the Wildcats held Atchison to 164 yards of total offense.

Doles led the Wildcats with nine tackles on the night, while Ben Wiedenmann and Harding each finished with eight.

Wiedenmann also did a lot of damage on offense, especially in the second half. The Louisburg junior scored both touchdowns in the third quarter, including one on

a 45-yard run to tie the game after a Drake Varns extra point.



Quarterback Madden Rutherford tries to elude an Atchison defender Friday in Louisburg.

On the Wildcats' next possession, Wiedenmann scored on a 10-yard run with 10 seconds left in the third quarter to put the Wildcats up on top for good. Wiedenmann led Louisburg on the ground with 15 carries for 129 yards.

"Injuries were our biggest issue, and untimely penalties," Ebenstein said. "We were definitely trying to get some rhythm, but we could not get it put together in the first half. We fixed some issues at halftime and played a solid second half."

Louisburg is now moving onto the regional round where it will travel to

No. 3 Chanute,
who defeated Fort Scott, 28-7. The Blue Comets are 8-1 on the season and will
be a big test for the 6-3 Wildcats.

“Chanute is a solid team at 8-1, but I think there are some things we can do well against them,” Ebenstein said. “They will want to spread us out and let their big talented quarterback make plays so we will be sure to scheme him and not let him make those big plays.”

LOU	**0**	**0**	**14**	**0 — 14**
ATCH	**7**	**0**	**0**	**0 — 7**

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

A: Elijah Haley 1 run (kick good)

Third quarter

L: Ben Wiedenmann 45 run (Drake
Varns kick)

L: Wiedenmann 10 run (Varns kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING — Ben Wiedenmann 15-129,
Madden Rutherford 13-29, Justin Collins 2-5

PASSING — Madden Rutherford
2-14-29

RECEIVING — Michael Waldron 1-25,
Ben Wiedenmann 1-4

TACKLES — Brandon Doles 9, Ben

Wiedenmann 8, Garrett Harding 8, Michael Waldron 7, Justin Collins 6, Charlie
Koontz 6, J.R. Rooney 6, Kolby Kattau 5, Weston Guetterman 4, Konnor Vohs 4, Brayden
White 3, Andy Hupp 2, Terrance Foster 1.

Wildcats fall short in knocking off undefeated Paola



Senior Charlie Koontz (24) closes in on Paola quarterback Garrett Williams, while his Wildcat teammates fight through blocks Friday during Louisburg's rivalry contest against Paola at Wildcat Stadium.

It was a battle, in fact, it was
the closest anyone had come to knocking off undefeated Paola all season.

Still, Louisburg wasn't in the
mood for consolation prizes Friday following its 16-8 loss to the Panthers on
Senior Night at Wildcat Stadium. The Wildcat wanted to knock off its rival from
the top of the Frontier League, and what made it worse for the players, was they
knew they had their chances.

“It is definitely not a moral victory type of night, but obviously Paola is a great team,” Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. “I told the guys that losing hurts, but when they watch it on film it is going to make them sick to their stomach. We had every opportunity in the world to make plays and we just didn’t make them. Hats off to Coach (Mike) Dumpert and Paola, but hopefully we will get another chance to see them again in the playoffs.”

Untimely penalties and missed opportunities haunted Louisburg much of the night, but the Wildcats still gave the Panthers a run for their money and it started on the defensive end.

Paola, which hadn’t scored under 35 points all season, managed just 13 points in the first half and Louisburg rose to occasion in the second half as the Wildcats the Panthers to just the one field goal.

Louisburg (5-3) held Paola (8-0) to just over 250 yards of total offense and the Panthers’ closest game up until Friday was a 43-16 win over Piper.

The Wildcats were all over the field as they had three players with double digit tackles with senior Charlie Koontz leading the way with 12, while junior Justin Collins and sophomore Brandon Doles each added 10.



Junior linebacker Andy Hupp brings down Paola running back Connor Hasz on Friday.

Seniors Brayden White and Garrett
Harding were active on the defensive line with nine and eight tackles,
respectively. Junior linebacker Andy Hupp and senior defensive back Michael
Waldron also finished with eight, while Hupp, Koontz and Doles each added a
sack.

Offensively, the Wildcats had trouble
moving the ball on the Panthers – part of which was due to penalties, a fumble or
dropped passes in key situations.

“Paola played good technical defense, but when you have

holding penalties on every big play you have or dropped passes on third down, we didn’t help ourselves any,” Ebenstein said. “Their defense is good, and they have only given up around 50 points all year, we just didn’t make the plays we needed to. We made some plays, but we could have made so many more and we will learn from it and get better.”

Panther running back Connor Hasz caused some problems for the Wildcats as he had one score on the ground in the first quarter and another through the air from quarterback Garrett Williams to put the Panthers up 13-0 at halftime.

Down 16-0, Louisburg started to pick up steam late in the fourth quarter as the Wildcats put together a 13-play drive that ended in a 10-yard touchdown pass to Weston Guetterman from Madden Rutherford and Koontz ran in the 2-point conversion to cut the Paola lead in half. Guetterman caught the ball on his shoulder with two players draped on him in the back of the endzone.

“Weston is a playmaker and that kid is just really good,” Ebenstein said. “There were two kids in his face, and they both could have probably been called for pass interference and he still made the catch. That was a great play right there at a big moment.”



Quarterback Madden Rutherford gets a little extra time to throw a pass thanks to the block from lineman Garrett Harding.

The two plays prior to that brought a lot of emotion out of both sidelines. A Paola player was ejected following a late hit on offensive lineman JR Rooney, and then on the next play, Guetterman appeared to have caught the ball near the 4-yard line and ran toward the goal line when the ball came loose and Paola thought it had recovered the fumble.

The officials conversed and ruled it an incomplete pass, which gave the Wildcats new life and led to the touchdown on the next play. Also on that drive, junior running

back Ben
Wiedenmann had a pair of 13-yard runs to help the Wildcats move the ball down
the field.

Paola got the ball back with just
under four minutes left in the game and the Panthers were able to run out the
clock and keep its undefeated season alive.

“I think this is the best game in
the state of Kansas,” Ebenstein said of the rivalry. “Records don’t really
matter in this game. Paola could have been 1-7 coming in here and it would have
been a tough game. We just didn’t make enough plays this time around.”



Seniors (from left) Madden Rutherford, Garrett Harding, Andrew Krause, Sam Kratochvil, Charlie Koontz, Ian McGuire, managers Morgan Messer and Kody Lowry, Brayden White, Drake Varns and

Michael Waldron pose for a picture before Friday’s Senior Night game.

Louisburg will now begin postseason play and the Wildcats are the No. 6 seed on the east side of the state and will host No. 11 Atchison at 7 p.m. this Friday. Earlier in the season, the Wildcats defeated the Redmen 41-12 on the road.

Should the Wildcats advance, they will meet the winner between No. 3 Chanute and No. 14 Fort Scott next week and the higher-seeded team will host.

“I like where we are at,” Ebenstein said. “We are fairly healthy for the first time in a while, and the good thing is we get another home game. Hopefully we can bounce back and make a little run.”

LOU	**0**	**0**	**0**	**8 – 8**
PAO	**7**	**6**	**0**	**3 – 16**

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

P: Connor Hasz 21 run (Ryan Wokutch kick)

Second quarter

P: Hasz 24 pass from Garrett Williams (Kick failed)

Fourth quarter

P: Wokutch 25 FG

L: Weston Guetterman 10 pass from
Madden Rutherford (Charlie Koontz run)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 9-53, Madden
Rutherford 8-14, Kolby Kattau 1-7

PASSING – Madden Rutherford
10-24-58

RECEIVING – Weston Guetterman
5-33, Ben Wiedenmann 3-20, Michael Waldron 1-5

TACKLES – Charlie Koontz 12,
Brandon Doles 10, Justin Collins 10, Brayden White 9, Andy Hupp 8, Garrett
Harding 8, Michael Waldron 8, Weston Guetterman 4, Konnor Vohs 4, Ben
Wiedenmann 1

Wildcats cruise past Ottawa for fifth straight win



Louisburg junior Justin Collins breaks free for a long run thanks to the help of teammate Garrett Harding (58) on Friday

in Ottawa. Both Collins and Charlie Koontz rushed for more than 100 yards in the Wildcats' 49-7 win.

OTTAWA – It may have been a prelude to one of the biggest games on the Louisburg football schedule, but the Wildcats didn't gloss over Ottawa.

Louisburg scored 49 unanswered points on the road Friday and left Ottawa with a 49-7 victory. It was the most points the Wildcats had scored all season and it was their biggest margin of victory as they picked up their fifth consecutive win.

"I thought our mental focus was good," Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. "We had to move some kids around again position-wise the day before the game due to some injuries. I just wanted them to go and out and execute, so I am really proud of them."

The Wildcats put up all those points without starting running backs Ben Wiedenmann and Kolby Kattau, who were out with injuries and Wiedenmann is the team's leading rusher on the season.

Despite all that, other Wildcats rose to the occasion and the top of that list was running back Charlie Koontz.
The Louisburg senior recorded 174 yards rushing on just six carries and had three touchdowns on the night.

Koontz was joined by junior Justin Collins, who carried the ball six times for 120 yards and a touchdown.
Quarterback Madden Rutherford also had a big game with three

touchdowns, including
two of those on the ground.

“It was a lot of fun, and we
played well, especially having a couple two-way starters out in Ben and Kolby,”
Ebenstein said. “We sat them this game, but our kids came in here and stepped
up. Brandon (Doles) had a great game and Charlie got back in there in the
backfield and looked pretty comfortable. I don’t think he scored every time he
touched the ball, but it was close. It was good to get some guys in that work
their butts off on scout team and just watch everyone come together. It was
fun.”



Louisburg quarterback Madden Rutherford goes over the goal line for one his three touchdowns on the night.

Louisburg scored 42 of its 49 points in the first half as the Wildcats used the ground game to find the endzone on six of the seven scores.

Rutherford led the Wildcats down
the field on the team's opening possession and scored on a 7-yard touchdown
run. The Wildcats got the ball right back, and this time, scored through the
air as Rutherford found Brandon Doles for a 43-yard touchdown pass down the
sideline.

The Wildcats (5-2) got Koontz going on their next possession as he broke free for a 62-yard touchdown to put them up 21-0

at the end of the first quarter.

Koontz did much of the same to start the second quarter as he broke through the Ottawa defense and scored on a 61-yard run. The onslaught continued for Louisburg as it recovered the short kickoff and Koontz later found the endzone for a third time on a 15-yard run.

Senior Michael Waldron made a big play for the defense as he intercepted an Ottawa pass on the Cyclones’ next possession, which set up the Wildcats with a first-and goal. Rutherford then scored on a 5-yard run to put Louisburg up 42-0 at halftime.

Collins sealed the win for the Wildcats in the third quarter as he sprinted past the Ottawa defense for a 61-yard score.



Louisburg sophomore Brandon Doles looks for some running room Friday against Ottawa.

In all, the Wildcats tallied 434 yards of total offense, with 383 of those coming on the ground. The offensive line of seniors Garrett Harding, Brayden White, Ian McGuire, Andrew Krause, freshman Jackson Rooney and Waldron helped pave the way for a lot of those yards.

Defensively, junior linebacker Andy Hupp led the way with 10 tackles and White was a force on the defensive line with nine stops. Rooney finished with seven tackles, while Harding, Doles and Collins had six each.

Louisburg will take its five-game winning streak into Friday’s home game with undefeated Paola. The Wildcats will celebrate Senior Night and hope to take two straight over the Panthers after winning last season’s battle, 25-7.

“It will be fun,” Ebenstein said. “I know Paola is going to be ready to roll and I know they are going to want to get even a little bit for what happened last year. This is what we play football for, and this why we work in the winter and summer is to play these big games against big rival schools. We are looking forward to the opportunity.”

LOU	**21**	**21**	**7**	**0 – 49**
OTT	**0**	**0**	**7**	**0 – 7**

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

L: Madden Rutherford 7 run (Drake Varns kick)

L: Brandon Doles 43 pass from Rutherford (Varns kick)

L: Charlie Koontz 62 run (Varns kick)

Second quarter

L: Koontz 61 run (Varns kick)

L: Koontz 15 run (Varns kick)

L: Rutherford 5 run (Varns kick)

Third quarter

L: Justin Collins 61 run (Varns kick)

O: Daidrien Aho 6 run (kick good)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Charlie Koontz 6-174; Justin Collins 6-120; Madden Rutherford 8-54; Brandon Doles 2-9; Andy Hupp 3-5

PASSING – Madden Rutherford 2-7-51

RECEIVING – Brandon Doles 1-43; Weston Guetterman 1-8

TACKLES – Andy Hupp 10, Brayden White 9, Jackson Rooney 7, Brandon Doles 6, Justin Collins 6, Garrett Harding 6, Michael Waldron 5, Charlie Koontz 3, Sam Kratochvil 3, Terrance Foster 3, Aiden Barker 2, Ian McGuire 2, Konnor Vohs 1, Andrew Krause 1.

Wildcats roll Atchison for fourth straight win



Louisburg running back Andy Hupp looks for an opening during the Wildcats' road game Friday at Atchison High School. The Wildcats cruised to a 41-12 win over the Redmen.

ATCHISON – Louisburg used the same recipe for success against Atchison as it did in its last three victories.

Get off to a good start, run the ball and play good defense.

All of those things came to fruition again Friday for the Wildcats as they scored on their opening possession and never looked back in a 41-12 victory over the Redmen at Atchison High School. It is now the fourth straight win for Louisburg after starting the season off with a pair of lossess.

"It was a good showing," Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. "We came in with a plan and we were able to execute it. We still gave up a big play or two and we are going to get better to where we don't have those mental lapses. Atchison is a good team, they have a great coach and their kids showed up. I am just really pleased with all our guys and being able to stay focused with no school Thursday or Friday is always tough, so it was a good game."

Louisburg (4-2) got the start it was looking for as it scored on a 1-yard touchdown run on its opening drive from junior Ben Wiedenmann, who accounted for the team's three touchdowns in the first half, and had runs of 19 and 14 yards on the drive.

Late in the first quarter, the Wildcats struck again as Wiedenmann scored on an 8-yard run to put Louisburg up 14-0 after a Drake Varns extra point.

Senior Charlie Koontz recovered an Atchison fumble, which was the Redmen's second turnover of the half, and that all set up Wiedenmann's 6-yard score to give Louisburg a 21-0 lead with under eight minutes in the first half.

Atchison broke through the Wildcat defense on a 32-yard touchdown pass to trim Louisburg's lead to 21-6 and went into the break with some momentum.

Louisburg also had to deal with a little adversity of its own as Wiedenmann had to leave the game with an injury and was unavailable in the second half. Enter Koontz, who took over where Wiedenmann left off.

Koontz carried the ball 12 times for 72 yards in the second half to keep the Wildcat offense going after Wiedenmann carried the ball for 98 yards in the first half.

"Hopefully we will get to the point where we are healthy enough to where both players will be on the field at the same time," Ebenstein said. "Chuck got hurt at the beginning of the season

so he now he is back, and Ben is going to be fine, but once we get both of them
healthy then maybe we can get our maximum speed out there and do some good
things. I thought both guys came out and ran hard for us.”

Late in the third, the Wildcats found themselves in a fourth-and-goal opportunity from the 3-yard line when junior Andy Hupp ran the ball in for the score and put the Wildcats up 27-6.

Louisburg got a strong push from
its offensive line as Brayden White, Garrett Harding, Ian McGuire, Jackson
Rooney, Andrew Krause, Sam Kratochvil and tight end Michael Waldron provided a
lot of holes up front as the Wildcats ran for 259 total yards.



Louisburg senior lineman Garrett Harding races to bring down an Atchison player Friday.

“I thought our offensive line did a really good job,” Ebenstein said. “We made a couple of changes and shifted some guys around and we are still trying to find our best fit, but they played physical all game long and we’re definitely setting the edge and doing some good stuff.”

The Wildcats iced the game when quarterback Madden Rutherford found Weston Guetterman on a 10-yard touchdown pass.

After an Atchison touchdown, the Wildcats put their reserves in and they were able to find the endzone when backup quarterback Maverick Rockers scored on a 1-yard sneak up the middle. That score was set up by a 19-yard pass from Rockers to Aiden Barker.

Defensively, Hupp led Louisburg with 11 tackles and Koontz added 10 of his own. Koontz, a senior linebacker, also had a forced fumble and fumble recovery. Brandon Doles also had a fumble recovery.

Harding and junior Justin Collins also contributed six and five tackles, respectively, for Louisburg.

The Wildcats will try for their fifth win in a row this Friday when it travels to Ottawa. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

“Ottawa is going to be ready to go,” Ebenstein said. “I know their coach and he is a great coach and he will have his guys ready. It will be a good game.”

LOU	**14**	**7**	**6**	**14 – 41**
ATCH	**0**	**6**	**0**	**6 – 12**

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

L: Ben Wiedenmann 1 run (Drake Varns kick)

L: Wiedenmann 8 run (Varns kick)

Second quarter

L: Wiedenmann 6 run (Varns kick)

A: 32 yard pass (extra point failed)

Third quarter

L: Andy Hupp 3 run (kick failed)

Fourth quarter

L: Weston Guetterman 15 pass from Madden Rutherford (Varns kick)

A: 41 yard run (two point failed)

L: Maverick Rockers 1 run (Varns kick)

STATISTICS

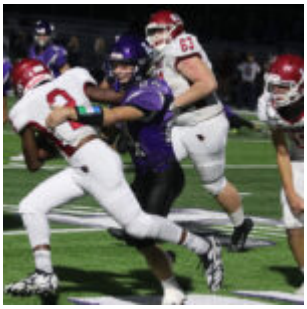
RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 10-96; Charlie Koontz 12-72; Madden Rutherford 11-58; Kolby Kattau 3-19; Andy Hupp 8-15

PASSING – Madden Rutherford 2-5-21;
Maverick Rockers 1-1-19

RECEIVING – Aiden Barker 1-19;
Weston Guetterman 1-15; Konnor Vohs 1-6

TACKLES – Andy Hupp 11, Charlie Koontz
10, Garrett Harding 6, Justin Collins 5, Brandon Doles 4,
Brayden White 4, A.J.
Reed 3, Terrance Foster 3, Ben Wiedenmann 2, Tom Koontz 2, Eli
Johnson 2,
Weston Guetterman 1, Aiden Barker 1, Drake Varns 1, Michael
Waldron 1, Hayden
Feikert 1, Andrew Krause 1

Fast start keys Louisburg's third consecutive win



Senior linebacker Charlie Koontz brings down a Eudora player during Louisburg's 17-7 homecoming win over Eudora on Friday at Wildcat Stadium. Koontz led the Wildcats with 13 tackles on the night.

The Louisburg football team could
get used to this.

Good times continued for the

Wildcats on Friday as they got out to a quick start and picked up their third consecutive win with a 17-7 victory over Eudora on homecoming.

That 0-2 start they had to start the year – is now way in the rear view mirror and Louisburg is 3-2 on the season. Life couldn't be much better for the Wildcats right now.

"Going 0-2 sucks, but those losses were against two quality teams," Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. "But for these kids to come back and win three in a row and get back on the winning side is a testament to them and the hard work they put into it."

A common theme during the Wildcats' winning streak is their ability to get off to a fast start. In each game, they have scored a touchdown on their opening possession and it continued Friday.

Louisburg went 80 yards in 12 plays and finished it off with a 1-yard touchdown run from junior Ben Wiedenmann to go up 7-0 on the Cardinals. The early lead in each of their wins has proved vital for Louisburg.

"Luckily we got off to a good start before they could settle in," Ebenstein said. "Once Eudora settled in, they kind of started stunting and twisting. They uglied it up a little bit and we didn't pick it up well after that.

"I think it honestly comes back to our coaches creating a game plan and teaching it well. We are just able to take

it from the get go before teams have a chance to see exactly what we are doing.
That has been big, but honestly we just executed really well. We kind of knew
what they would be to start with and we were able to take advantage to it.”

Following the touchdown, momentum
continued to build for Louisburg as senior kicker Drake Varns executed a
perfect onside kick opportunity and he recovered his own kick just past the 10
yards the ball was required to travel.

The Wildcats took full advantage
as quarterback Madden Rutherford found Weston Guetterman on passes of 34 and 13
yards, which led to a 3-yard touchdown run by Andy Hupp. Louisburg had a 14-0
lead before Eudora had a chance to get its hands on the ball.

“Coach (Drew) Harding saw on film
where we had potential to do what we call the ‘middle dribble’ and it worked
out perfect,” Ebenstein said of the onside kick. “It was a great call by him. They
blocked it perfect and Varns placed it perfectly. I think he kicked it 11 yards
to cover it and it was as good as you could have drawn it up.”

Louisburg’s offense slowed down a
little after that, but the Wildcats were able to add on to their lead at
halftime. With just seconds left in the second quarter, Wiedenmann broke free
for a 38-yard run down the sideline, which allowed the Wildcats to try for the
field goal.

Varns, once again came through for Louisburg as he converted a 41-yard field goal to put the Wildcats up 17-0 as time expired in the first half.



Kicker Drake Varns leaps into the arms of Louisburg coach

Robert Ebenstein after making a 41-yard field goal right before halftime.

“Eudora dropped everyone back so I just went ahead and ran ‘stretch’ to see what would happen and Ben hit the edge hard,” Ebenstein said. “I told Drake that if we got close we were going to kick it and he got his opportunity. He might have doinked it in, but it worked and was a good kick.”

Wiedenmann led Louisburg in rushing with 123 yards on 17 carries and the Wildcats were also able get their passing game going at times. Rutherford competed 12 of 18 passes for 116 yards, many of which went to Guetterman.

The junior wide receiver caught eight of those attempts for 107 yards and made key catches down the stretch to keep drives alive.

“Weston made play after play when we went to his side,” Ebenstein said. “He had a great game and Madden did a good job getting it to him. We were also able to play solid defense, and whether we win by 1, 10 or 30, we will take it.”



Junior Eli Johnson makes a tackle for the Wildcat defense during the team's 17-7 win Friday.

The Wildcat defense gave up a few yards to the Cardinals, but they were able to keep them out of the endzone until the fourth quarter when Eudora was able to prevent the shutout. Louisburg held Eudora to 272 yards of offense and junior Konnor Vohs also intercepted a pass in the second half.

Senior linebacker Charlie Koontz, who was in his first game back from injury, led the Wildcats with a team-high 13 tackles and Hupp added seven. Seniors Michael Waldron and Garrett Harding each had six tackles in the win.

Louisburg will try and keep its

winning streak going this Friday when it travels to Atchison for a non-league
contest. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

LOU	**14**	**3**	**0**	**0 — 17**
EUD	**0**	**0**	**0**	**7 — 7**

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

L: Ben Wiedenmann 1 run (Drake
Varns kick)

L: Andy Hupp 3 run (Varns kick)

Second quarter

L: Varns 41 FG

Fourth quarter

E: Zeke Reazin 1 run (Caden
Willits kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING — Ben Wiedenmann 17-123,
Andy Hupp 10-25, Justin Collins 2-18, Kolby Kattau 2-10, Madden Rutherford 5-1

PASSING — Madden Rutherford
12-18-116

RECEIVING — Weston Guetterman
8-107, Andy Hupp 1-6, Ben Wiedenmann 1-3, Charlie Koontz 2-0

TACKLES — Charlie Koontz 13, Andy
Hupp 7, Michael Waldron 6, Garrett Harding 6, Justin Collins

5, Brandon Doles
4, Konnor Vohs 3, Eli Johnson 3, Weston Guetterman 2, Ben Wiedenmann 2, A.J.
Reed 2, Brayden White 2, Andrew Krause 1, Tom Koontz 1

Louisburg turns things around with win over Piper



Louisburg senior lineman Brayden White brings down the Piper quarterback in the back field Friday during the Wildcats' 23-6 win over the Pirates at Wildcat Stadium.

Two weeks into the season, things
were looking bleak for the Louisburg football team.

The Wildcats lost their first two
games, including a 36-point defeat in their home opener, and they were a squad
that was decimated by injuries. It couldn't have been a worse start.

Fast forward to the present and
things are a lot brighter for the Wildcats.

Louisburg picked up its second
consecutive win with a 23-6 victory Friday over previous undefeated Piper at

Wildcat Stadium. The Wildcats are a different team, and despite still dealing with some injuries, they are in a much better place.

“It was a huge win,” Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. “That first game we had a lot to learn and we did it by attrition. That second game, I hate to say it, but we got our butt whooped. Last week, I challenged them to answer with who we really are and they did that. Against Piper, I told the boys they could make a statement with an undefeated team coming onto our home field and they answered.

“They have learned a lot in these last few games and they are growing together as a team and I am really proud of them.”

Defense was the calling card for Louisburg on Friday as the Wildcats held the Pirates to a season-low six points and created a lot of havoc, which didn’t let Piper get into a flow offensively.

The Wildcats (2-2) sacked the quarterback twice, forced two turnovers and held Piper out of the endzone for much of the night. Louisburg gave up just 118 yards of total offense.

“That is all coach (Jeff) Lohse, (Alex) Gentges, (Kade) Larson, (Drew) Harding, (Joel) McGhee, (Pete) Skakal and (Ty) Pfannenstiel,” Ebenstein said. “Those coaches are the defensive guys and they took care of business along with the players. It was a great

effort all-around.”

Sophomore linebacker Brandon
Doles, who is filling for injured starter Charlie Koontz, had his best game as
a Wildcat. Doles led the team with nine tackles, recorded a sack, forced and
recovered a fumble on special teams and deflected a pass later in the game that
turned into an interception.

Doles also tackled the Pirate
punter on a bad snap attempt early in the game that gave the Wildcats a short
field with which to work.



Brandon Doles (8) and Justin Collins (23) bring down a hurdling Piper player Friday in Louisburg.

“For a sophomore stepping in for a senior, he is learning quick and he played a great game for us,” Ebenstein said. “He is a heck of a player and I think he is going to get better and better in all phases.”

Senior lineman Brayden White also had a big day up front with four tackles, including a sack and a tackle for a loss. Senior lineman Garrett Harding, junior linebacker Ben Wiedenmann and junior defensive back Justin Collins also added four tackles.

Offensively, the Wildcats played conservatively as they took little chunks of yardage at a time and it worked on their opening possession. Louisburg drove 80 yards in 11 plays and found the endzone when Wiedenmann scored on a 6-yard run to put the Wildcats up 6-0.

Wiedenmann had another big game on the ground for Louisburg as he finished with 19 carries for 112 yards and the touchdown.

Both offenses stalled for much of the first half, but the Wildcats made it 9-0 when senior Drake Varns nailed a 30-yard field goal. Piper answered with a touchdown drive, and after a missed extra point, trailed Louisburg by three at halftime.

“That was kind of the plan coming in,” Ebenstein said. “We were going to play football in a phone booth and see if they can match us. Defensively they did match us and they

were solid and
played tough football. It was nice to see us put a couple drives together and
get in the endzone though.”

The Wildcat offense appeared it was going to stall again late in the third quarter when they faced a fourth-and-16 near the redzone. Instead, quarterback Madden Rutherford found Kolby Kattau down the sideline for a 21-yard touchdown pass to make it 16-6.

“We drew that up and we knew it
was going to be cover 1 on the back out and it came down to just making a play,”
Ebenstein said. “Madden put it where it needed to be and Kolby made a nice
catch.”



Kolby Kattau was all smiles after a catching a second half from Madden Rutherford on Friday.

Louisburg’s defense forced Piper to turn the ball over on downs a couple different times near midfield and the Wildcats took advantage of one of those as Rutherford hit Weston Guetterman on a 2-yard touchdown pass to go up 17 with 3 minutes and 49 seconds left in the game.

Guetterman then sealed the win with an interception on Piper’s ensuing possession to give the Wildcats their first home victory of the year.

Louisburg will try and make it three in a row this Friday when it hosts Eudora for homecoming. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. and the crowning for king and queen will be at 6:30 p.m.

“Eudora is a growing team and they are continuing to get better,” Ebenstein said. “We can’t look past them. They have some linemen that are pretty good, they have a big tight end and they have a great coach. Eudora will be ready to go for sure so we have to come ready to play.”

LOU	**6**	**3**	**7**	**7 – 23**
PIP	**0**	**6**	**0**	**0 – 6**

SCORING SUMMARY

First quarter

L: Ben Wiedenmann 6 run (2 point failed)

Second quarter

L: Drake Varns 30 FG

P: LeJames White 5 run (kick failed)

Third quarter

L: Kolby Kattau 21 pass from
Madden Rutherford (Varns kick)

Fourth quarter

L: Weston Guetterman 2 pass from
Rutherford (Varns kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 19-112;
Madden Rutherford 16-44; Andy Hupp 10-21; Justin Collins 4-13

PASSING – Madden Rutherford
6-14-55

RECEIVING – Weston Guetterman
3-25; Kolby Kattau 1-21; Michael Waldron 1-5; Ben Wiedenmann 1-4.

TACKLES – Brandon Doles 9, Ben
Wiedenmann 4, Garrett Harding 4, Brayden White 4, Justin Collins 4, Michael
Waldron 3, Eli Johnson 3, Drake Varns 2, Andy Hupp 2, Ben Guetterman 1, Kolby
Kattau 1, Tom Koontz 1, A.J. Reed 1.

Wiedenmann’s big plays help Wildcats to first win



Louisburg running back Ben Wiedenmann looks for an opening during the Wildcats' 38-12 win over Baldwin on Friday.

BALDWIN CITY – Louisburg was nowhere near healthy when it entered Friday's road contest at Baldwin.

The Wildcats were missing nine combined starters on both sides of the ball due to injury, they had to shuffle guys in different positions and change things up offensively. It wasn't exactly the perfect recipe for success.

Whatever the Wildcats did, worked like a charm.

Louisburg ran all over Baldwin as it amassed almost 400 yards of rushing on its way to a 38-12 victory over the Bulldogs at Listen Stadium on the campus of Baker University. In the process, the Wildcats picked up their first win of the season, which helped erase the bad taste they had the previous two outings.

"It was a little different for sure," Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. "The look was different, what we could do was different and what we thought we would be good at is different than normal. That is just coaching. Every week is different

and we want to give
the kids the best opportunity each week to have success and put them in position
where they can succeed. You could tell they wanted this one and they came out
and played really hard. It was a good win."

Ben Wiedenmann provided the lift the Wildcats were looking for as he recorded three touchdowns of 30-yards or more in the first half and finished the game with 231 yards on the ground on 26 carries.

He got it thanks to the blocking
up front as Brayden White, Ian McGuire, Garrett Harding, along with two new
starters in Andrew Krause and Sam Kratochvil, shined on the offensive line.
Tight end Michael Waldron, along with blocking backs Brandon Doles and Kolby
Kattau, also broke Wiedenmann free on several plays.

"Anyone that knows me, knows that
I want to run the ball," Ebenstein said. "Situations in our last two games kind
of took that away from us early and forced us to throw a little bit more and
this one was different. In the first quarter, we established what we wanted and
Ben ran hard and we blocked well. Then with our two running backs out, I
thought Brandon and Kolby came in and blocked really well."

Wiedenmann wasn't the only Wildcat
to eclipse the century mark in rushing as quarterback Andy Hupp also added 106
yards on the ground, threw for a touchdown and ran in three 2-point
conversions. Hupp replaced starting quarterback Madden

Rutherford, who was one
of the Wildcat starters out with injury.



Quarterback Andy Hupp drags a Baldwin defender for a few extra yards Friday. Hupp threw for a touchdown and rushed for more than 100 yards.

“Andy is a monster,” Ebenstein
said. “He runs hard, he blocks hard, he tackles well and he was just all over
the place for us. I was really pleased with him as well.”

The Wildcats (1-2) got things
going on their first possession as Wiedenmann broke free for a 35-yard touchdown
run, and after a Hupp 2-point conversion, went up 8-0.

On Louisburg’s next drive, it was

Wiedenmann again as he found the endzone on a 36-yard scamper and went up 16-0
after another Hupp 2-point run.

Baldwin went on to score to begin
the second quarter, but the Wildcats returned the favor as Wiedenmann scored on
a 31-yard run. Louisburg drove down the field before halftime and Hupp found
Waldron on a 1-yard touchdown in the back of the endzone and the Wildcats went
up 32-6 at the break.

Justin Collins provided the only
score in the second half for the Wildcats on a 41-yard run to seal the win.



Senior Michael Waldron brings down a Baldwin runner Friday in

Baldwin City.

Other than one big play, the Wildcat defense was sound all evening as Baldwin recorded just 89 total yards of offense, including minus 22 yards rushing.

“Defensively I was really pleased with what we were able to do considering some guys were in different spots,” Ebenstein said. “We gave up the one big pass play, but other than that I thought we did some good things out there.”

Hupp led the Wildcats with eight tackles on the night, while Harding finished with seven and Eli Johnson added six. Konnor Vohs also recorded an interception.

Louisburg returns home Friday as it will try to get its second consecutive win against Piper. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. During halftime of the contest, Louisburg will also recognize its newest hall of fame inductees – Dennis Stiles, Krystal Bowes (Grojean), Jason Burk and John Lohse.

LOU	**16**	**16**	**0**	**6 – 38**
BAL	**0**	**6**	**6**	**0 – 12**

SCORING SUMMARY

FIRST QUARTER

L: Ben Wiedenmann 35 run (Andy Hupp run)

L: Wiedenmann 36 run (Hupp run)

SECOND QUARTER

B: Gavin Lang 26 pass from Connor Quick (run failed)

L: Wiedenmann 31 run (Hupp run)

L: Michael Waldron 1 pass from Hupp (Wiedenmann run)

THIRD QUARTER

B: Trysten Heck 80 fumble return (run failed)

FOURTH QUARTER

L: Justin Collins 41 run (kick failed)

STATISTICS

RUSHING – Ben Wiedenmann 26-231; Andy Hupp 23-106; Justin Collins 1-41

PASSING – Hupp 2-6-minus 2

RECEIVING – Michael Waldron 1-1

TACKLES – Andy Hupp 8, Garrett Harding 7, Eli Johnson 6, Brandon Doles 5, Michael Waldron 5, Brayden White 5, A.J. Reed 5, Kolby Kattau 3, Tom Koontz 3, Terrance Foster 2, Konnor Vohs 1, Ben Guetterman 1, Justin Collins 1, Andrew Krause 1.

KSHSAA releases classifications for 2019-20 school year

The Kansas State High School Activities Association released its classifications for the 2019-20 school year, along with the football classifications for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons.

There were a few changes in both areas, but more so on the football side.

Football classifications are determined based on enrollment figures in ninth, 10th and 11th grade. Louisburg is still in 4A with 432 students and is toward the lower half of the classification.

Entering Class 4A beginning in the 2020 school year will be St. James Academy, Lansing and Great Bend, who have all moved down from Class 5A. Wamego also made the jump back in from Class 3A.

Kansas State High School Activities Association

Football Classifications and Enrollments-Descending Order 2020 & 2021

Enrollment figures are based on ninth, tenth and eleventh grades only.
Enrollment figures are as of September 20, 2019.

6A

Member Schools - 32
Range: 1854 - 1092

Wichita-East	1854
Wichita-North	1691
Wichita-Southeast	1662
Derby	1638
Garden City	1560
Dodge City	1533
Olathe South	1503
Olathe East	1477
Olathe North	1469
Topeka-Washburn Rural	1449
Wichita-South	1438
Lawrence-Free State	1411
Manhattan	1402
Topeka	1364
Olathe Northwest	1356
Kansas City-Wyandotte	1355
SM East	1353
Gardner-Edgerton	1325
Haysville Campus	1297
SM West	1277
SM Northwest	1266
Olathe West	1256
OP-Blue Valley Northwest	1233
SM North	1226
Lawrence	1221
OP-Blue Valley	1182
OP-Blue Valley West	1182
Junction City	1136
Wichita-West	1129
Kansas City-JC Harmon	1110
SM South	1106
OP-Blue Valley North	1092

5A

Member Schools - 32
Range: 1083 - 655

Liberal	1083
Hutchinson	1049
Wichita-Heights	1045
Shawnee-Mill Valley	982
Leavenworth	977
Wichita-Northwest	970
Emporia	949
Kansas City-Turner	902
Wichita-Bishop Carroll	890
Topeka West	882
Topeka-Seaman	881
Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights	876
Maize	871
Kansas City-Washington	850
Maize South	842
OP-Blue Valley Southwest	811
Salina-South	800
Newton	788
De Soto	758
Salina-Central	758
Topeka-Highland Park	757
Andover	733
Goddard-Eisenhower	725
Valley Center	699
Kansas City-Sumner Acad.	698
OP-St. Thomas Aquinas	693
Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel	693
Pittsburg	691
Hays	687
Kansas City-FL Schlagle	687
Spring Hill	668
Goddard	655

4A

Member Schools - 32
Range: 654 - 340

Lansing	654
Great Bend	651
Lenexa-St. James Academy	649
Bonner Springs	640
Arkansas City	620
Andover Central	608
Basehor-Linwood	587
McPherson	535
Kansas City-Piper	518
Ottawa	507
Buhler	497
SM-Bishop Miege	493
Augusta	491
Winfield	472
Tonganoxie	471
Independence	461
Chanute	452
Paola	447
Fort Scott	434
Louisburg	432
Towanda-Circle	429
Coffeyville-Field Kindley	409
El Dorado	400
Eudora	391
Rose Hill	381
Altamont-Labette County	377
Mulvane	375
Atchison	355
Abilene	352
Wamego	351
Wellington	345
Ulysses	340

3A

Member Schools - 48
Range: 324 - 168

Baldwin	324
Topeka-Hayden	314
Parsons	286
Andale	279
Pratt	275
Clearwater	266
Iola	256
Girard	252
Nickerson	252
Clay Center Community	247
Holton	242
Concordia	241
Kansas City-Bishop Ward	240
Garnett-Anderson County	234
Chapman	224
St. George-Rock Creek	224
Baxter Springs	223
Osawatomie	221
Columbus	220
Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail	217
Wichita-Trinity Academy	217
Hoyt-Royal Valley	216
Hugoton	216
LaCygne-Prairie View	214
Hiawatha	213
Frontenac	211
Meriden-Jefferson West	211
Holcomb	210
Burlington	203
Hesston	202
Colby	201
Wichita Collegiate	201
Lindsborg-Smoky Valley	200
Galena	199
Scott Community	198
Caney Valley	192
Perry-Lecompton	192
Larned	188
Cherryvale	186
Marysville	183
Cheney	182
Goodland	182
Riley County	182
Russell	181
Council Grove	180
Sabetha	173
Gypsum-Southeast of Saline	171
Halstead	168

* ***Note: Per classification Rule 5-2-2, enrollment ties are broken by using the previous classification cycle count.***

2A

Schools - 48
Range: 168 - 112

Cimarron	168
Lyons	168
Wellsville	167
Haven	166
Hoisington	162
Osage City	161
Seneca-Nemaha Central	161
Fredonia	159
Silver Lake	158
Easton-Pleasant Ridge	156
Riverton	155
Neodesha	153
Norton Community	153
Beloit	150
Anthony/Harper-Chaparral	148
Kingman	148
Eureka	147
Pomona-West Franklin	144
Douglass	142
Kismet-Southwestern Hts.	141
Lakin	141
St. Marys	141
Hays-TMP-Marian	140
Oskaloosa	140
Minneapolis	139
Ellsworth	137
Atchison-Maur Hill-Mt Acad.	135
Rossville	135
Effingham-Atchinson Co Comm.	130
Erie	130
Hillsboro	129
Humboldt	129
Mound City-Jayhawk Linn	128
Phillipsburg	128
Wathena-Riverside	127
Belle Plaine	124
Syracuse	121
Garden Plain	120
Ellis	119
Cherokee-Southeast	118
Belleville-Republic County	117
McLouth	117
Eskridge-Mission Valley	116
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic	116
Leon-Bluestem	112
Marion	112
Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan	112
Sterling	112

1A

Schools - 28
Range: 111 - 62

Whitewater-Remington	111
Conway Springs	110
Horton	110
Sedgwick	108
Arma-Northeast	106
Brookville-Ell-Saline	106
Richmond-Central Heights	106
Wabaunsee	105
Wichita-The Independent	102
Lyndon	99
Sublette	99
Ellinwood	98
Oakley	98
Salina-Sacred Heart	98
Uniontown	98
Johnson-Stanton County	96
Winchester-Jefferson Co. North	94
Inman	93
Elkhart	90
Plainville	89
Pleasanton	86
Allen-Northern Heights	85
Blue Rapids-Valley Heights	82
Smith Center	82
Holton-Jackson Heights	78
Troy	70
Olpe	69
Centralia	62

8-Player Division I

Schools - 48
Range: 98 - 66

Herington	98
Bennington	97
Hoxie	97
Yates Center	96
Medicine Lodge	95
Hill City	94
Howard-West Elk	93
Pratt-Skyline	93
Leoti-Wichita County	90
Spearville	90
WaKeeney-Trego Community	89
Moundridge	88
Sedan	88
Cottonwood Falls-Chase Co.	84
Stockton	84
Attica/Argonia	82
Valley Falls	82
Burlingame	80
Canton-Galva	79
Goessel	79
Meade	79
Ness City	79
Washington County	79
Little River	78
Shawnee-Maranatha Christian Academy	77
Cedar Vale/ Dexter	76
Burden-Central	75
Langdon-Fairfield	75
Madison/Hamilton	75
Solomon	75
Udall	74
Atwood-Rawlins County	72
Highland-Doniphan West	72
La Crosse	72
Oswego	72
Kinsley	71
Clyde-Clifton Clyde	70
Oberlin-Decatur Community	70
Rosalia-Flinthills	70
Jetmore-Hodgeman County	69
Lincoln	69
Macksville	69
Oxford	69
Moran-Marmaton Valley	68
Greensburg-Kiowa County	67
St. John-Hudson	67
Montezuma-South Gray	66
Pretty Prairie	66

8-Player Division II

Schools - 52
Range: 66 - 29

Sylvan-Lucas Unified	66
Rural Vista *(White City / Hope)*	65
Peabody-Burns	64
Bucklin	61
Minneola	61
Victoria	61
Caldwell	60
Satanta	60
Kensington-Thunder Ridge	59
Onaga	59
Downs-Lakeside	58
Mankato-Rock Hills	58
Coldwater-South Central	57
Lebo	57
Quinter	57
Beloit-St. John's/Tipton	54
Osborne	54
South Haven	53
Wakefield	52
Hutchinson-Central Christian	51
Ingalls	51
Sharon Springs-Wallace Co.	51
St. Francis	51
St. Paul	51
Claflin-Central Plains	50
Hartford	50
Norwich	50
Scandia-Pike Valley	50
Colony-Crest	49
Frankfort	49
Melvern-MDCV	49
Buffalo-Altoona Midway	48
Dighton	48
Hanover	47
Leroy-Southern Coffey Co.	47
Chetopa	46
Logan/Palco	46
Lost Springs-Centre	46
Otis-Bison	46
Linn	43
Waverly	42
Southern Cloud *(Miltonvale / Glasco)*	40
Stafford	40
Wetmore	39
Grainfield-Wheatland/Grinnell	38
Randolph-Blue Valley	38
Kiowa-South Barber	37
Winona-Triplains/Brewster	36
Chase	33
Axtell	30
Tescott	30
Wilson	29

Printing Department

Goddard, Pittsburg and Spring Hill all saw their enrollment grow and will be moving up from 4A to 5A next year. Baldwin

saw their enrollment decline and will move down to Class 3A in football the next two years.

In the rest of the sports, not much changed with regards to Class 4A for this year.

Enrollment figures for all grades in Louisburg this year is 573, which puts the school in the upper half of Class 4A. The biggest school is Buhler with 661 and Bishop Miege is the second biggest at 656 and Ottawa is third at 653.



2019-2020 Classifications and Enrollments

Enrollment figures as of September 20, 2019 based on ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades.

Note: Schools are listed in descending order

↑School Moved Up in Class
↓School Moved Down in Class

Printable View Sort By School

6A		5A		4A	
Member Schools: 36		**Member Schools: 36**		**Member Schools: 36**	
Range: 2431-1312		**Range: 1305-710**		**Range: 661-312**	
Wichita-East HS	2431	↓Leavenworth HS	1305	Buhler HS	661
Wichita-North HS	2190	Wichita-Northwest HS	1260	Shawnee Mission-Bishop Miege HS	656
Wichita-Southeast HS	2164	Emporia HS	1245	Ottawa HS	653
Derby HS	2105	Maize HS	1194	Winfield HS	642
Dodge City HS	2010	Wichita-Bishop Carroll HS	1153	Kansas City-Piper HS	638
Olathe South HS	2005	Topeka-Seaman HS	1150	Augusta HS	632
Garden City HS	1985	Topeka West HS	1146	Paola HS	603
Olathe North HS	1976	Tecumseh-Shawnee Heights HS	1131	Tonganoxie HS	599
Topeka-Washburn Rural HS	1933	Overland Park-Blue Valley Southwest HS	1089	Fort Scott HS	592
Olathe East HS	1927	Kansas City-Washington HS	1084	Chanute HS	584
Olathe Northwest HS	1880	Kansas City-Turner HS	1076	Independence HS	581
Lawrence-Free State HS	1855	Maize South HS	1060	Louisburg HS	573
Wichita-South HS	1852	Salina-South HS	1046	Towanda-Circle HS	562
Manhattan HS	1823	Newton HS	1044	Coffeyville-Field Kindley HS	531
Shawnee Mission East HS	1758	Salina-Central HS	1001	El Dorado HS	528
Gardner-Edgerton HS	1729	De Soto HS	992	Mulvane HS	520
Topeka HS	1728	Andover HS	959	Eudora HS	493
Wichita-Haysville Campus HS	1712	Topeka-Highland Park HS	959	Altamont-Labette County HS	490
Shawnee Mission West HS	1638	Goddard-Eisenhower HS	952	Rose Hill HS	485
Kansas City-Wyandotte HS	1637	Overland Park-St. Thomas Aquinas HS	925	Atchison HS	472
Shawnee Mission Northwest HS	1624	Kansas City-FL Schlagle HS	909	Wellington HS	465
Overland Park-Blue Valley Northwest HS	1619	Valley Center HS	904	Abilene HS	460
Lawrence HS	1601	Lenexa-St. James Academy	902	Wamego HS	446
Overland Park-Blue Valley HS	1600	Great Bend HS	884	Ulysses HS	433
Overland Park-Blue Valley West HS	1582	Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carmel HS	880	Baldwin HS	421
Shawnee Mission North HS	1557	Kansas City-Sumner Academy	871	Topeka-Hayden HS	408
Olathe West HS	1535	Pittsburg HS	867	Andale HS	375
Overland Park-Blue Valley North HS	1498	Hays HS	863	Clearwater HS	367
Shawnee Mission South HS	1469	Lansing HS	859	Parsons HS	363
Junction City HS	1440	Goddard HS	848	Pratt HS	355
Wichita-West HS	1421	Spring Hill HS	825	Iola HS	339
Kansas City-JC Harmon HS	1399	Andover Central HS	810	Nickerson HS	323
Hutchinson HS	1386	Bonner Springs HS	793	↑Holton HS	322
Liberal HS	1371	Basehor-Linwood HS	791	↑Girard HS	315
↑Wichita-Heights HS	1357	Arkansas City HS	765	Chapman HS	314
Shawnee-Mill Valley HS	1312	McPherson HS	710	↑Clay Center Community HS	312

3A

Member Schools: 64

Range: 305-172

↓Garnett-Anderson County HS	305
Concordia HS	303
↓Wichita-Trinity Academy	303
Kansas City-Bishop Ward HS	300
Columbus HS	296
↓Osawatomie HS	296
St. George-Rock Creek HS	294
Baxter Springs HS	286
Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail HS	286
Hoyt-Royal Valley HS	283
Hugoton HS	280
Hesston HS	279
Frontenac HS	276
Meriden-Jefferson West HS	275
Hiawatha HS	273
Galena HS	270
LaCygne-Prairie View HS	270
Holcomb HS	266
Marysville HS	266
Wichita Collegiate HS	266
Scott Community HS	265
Caney Valley HS	263
Lindsborg-Smoky Valley HS	263
Colby HS	262
Burlington HS	260
Perry-Lecompton HS	252
Goodland HS	246
Wellsville HS	243
Larned HS	242
Russell HS	239
Cheney HS	238
Sabetha HS	237
Riley County HS	231
Council Grove HS	229
Cherryvale HS	225
Gypsum-Southeast of Saline HS	223
Halstead HS	221
Haven HS	220
Riverton HS	214
Fredonia HS	213
Lyons HS	213
Silver Lake HS	213
Beloit HS	212
Seneca-Nemaha Central HS	210
Cimarron HS	207
Hoisington HS	205
Norton Community HS	204
Osage City HS	204
Easton-Pleasant Ridge HS	203
Kingman HS	202
Neodesha HS	200
Anthony/Harper-Chaparral HS	199
Pomona-West Franklin HS	192
Kismet-Southwestern Heights HS	190
Eureka HS	188
↑Lakin HS	185
Atchison-Maur Hill-Mount Academy	184
Minneapolis HS	184
Hays-Thomas More Prep-Marian HS	182
St. Marys HS	182
Douglass HS	178
↑Effingham-Atchison Co Community HS	174
↑Humboldt HS	174
Phillipsburg HS	172

2A

Member Schools: 64

Range: 171-109

Mound City-Jayhawk Linn HS	171
Oskaloosa HS	171
↓Belle Plaine HS	170
Rossville HS	169
Ellsworth HS	168
↓Erie HS	166
↓Wathena-Riverside HS	164
Conway Springs HS	160
Belleville-Republic County HS	158
Garden Plain HS	158
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic HS	158
Cherokee-Southeast HS	157
Eskridge-Mission Valley HS	156
Arma-Northeast HS	155
Hillsboro HS	155
Olathe-Heritage Christian Academy	155
Ellis HS	154
Syracuse HS	153
McLouth HS	152
Whitewater-Remington HS	152
Horton HS	150
Sterling HS	147
Marion HS	146
Leon-Bluestem HS	144
Wichita-The Independent HS	142
Richmond-Central Heights HS	141
Sedgwick HS	140
Alma-Wabaunsee HS	139
Brookville-Ell-Saline HS	139
Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan HS	139
Prairie Village-Kansas City Christian HS	136
Medicine Lodge HS	134
Lawrence-Bishop Seabury Academy	132
Salina-Sacred Heart HS	131
Winchester-Jefferson County North HS	130
Bennington HS	128
Johnson-Stanton County HS	128
Lyndon HS	127
Oakley HS	127
Plainville HS	127
Sublette HS	127
Inman HS	126
Yates Center HS	126
Ellinwood HS	124
Pratt-Skyline HS	123
WaKeeney-Trego Community HS	122
Uniontown HS	120
Herington HS	119
Smith Center HS	119
Pleasanton HS	118
Elkhart HS	117
↑Hill City HS	117
Hoxie HS	116
Allen-Northern Heights HS	115
Howard-West Elk HS	115
↑Sedan HS	114
↑Cottonwood Falls-Chase County HS	113
Holton-Jackson Heights HS	113
Canton-Galva HS	112
Blue Rapids-Valley Heights HS	110
↑Moundridge HS	110
Shawnee-Maranatha Christian Academy	110
Leoti-Wichita County HS	109
↑Spearville HS	109

1A

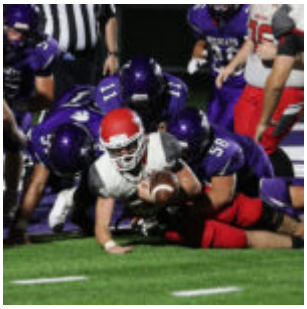
Member Schools: 117

Range: 108-14

Stockton HS	108
Elbing-Berean Academy	105
Little River HS	105
↓Meade HS	103
↓Ness City HS	103
Washington County HS	103
Udall HS	102
↓Goessel HS	101
Valley Falls HS	101
↓Oswego HS	98
Burden-Central HS	97
Troy HS	97
Macksville HS	96
Atwood-Rawlins County HS	95
Rosalia-Flinthills HS	95
La Crosse HS	94
Solomon HS	93
Burlingame HS	92
Lincoln HS	92
↓Oberlin-Decatur Community HS	91
Oxford HS	91
St. John-Hudson HS	91
Clyde-Clifton Clyde HS	90
Jetmore-Hodgeman County HS	90
Peabody-Burns HS	90
Kinsley HS	89
Langdon-Fairfield HS	89
Highland-Doniphan West HS	87
Olpe HS	87
Centralia HS	86
Montezuma-South Gray HS	86
Moran-Marmaton Valley HS	86
Greensburg-Kiowa County HS	85
Wichita-Classical School Of Wichita	83
Onaga HS	82
Caldwell HS	80
Lebo HS	79
Minneola HS	79
Bucklin HS	78
Pretty Prairie HS	78
Sylvan-Lucas Unified HS	78
Norwich HS	77
Victoria HS	77
Coldwater-South Central HS	76
Mankato-Rock Hills HS	76
Satanta HS	76
Kensington-Thunder Ridge HS	75
Osborne HS	75
Madison HS	74
Dexter HS	72
Hanover HS	71
Burrton HS	70
Hutchinson-Central Christian HS	69
St. Francis HS	69
Ingalls HS	68
McPherson-Elyria Christian HS	68
Downs-Lakeside HS	67
Wakefield HS	67
Hartford HS	66
Quinter HS	66
Dighton HS	65
Frankfort HS	65
Melvern-Marais Des Cygnes Valley HS	65
St. Paul HS	65
Claflin-Central Plains HS	64
Colony-Crest HS	63
Randolph-Blue Valley HS	63
Scandia-Pike Valley HS	63
Lost Springs-Centre HS	62
South Haven HS	62
Rexford-Golden Plains HS	61
Chetopa HS	60
Sharon Springs-Wallace County HS	60
Buffalo-Altoona Midway HS	59
Leroy-Southern Coffey County HS	58
Otis-Bison HS	58
Grainfield-Wheatland/Grinnell HS	57
Stafford HS	57
Ashland HS	56
Linn HS	56
Tribune-Greeley County HS	55
Beloit-St. John's HS	54
Waverly HS	54
Wetmore HS	51
Attica HS	50
Deerfield HS	49
Argonia HS	48
Cunningham HS	48
Kiowa-South Barber HS	48
Rolla HS	46
Moscow HS	45
Axtell HS	42
Bird City-Cheylin HS	42
Chase HS	42
Hope HS	42
Cedar Vale HS	40
Rozel-Pawnee Heights HS	40
Tescott HS	40
Wichita-Central Christian Academy	40
Almena-Northern Valley HS	39
White City HS	39
Logan HS	38
Wilson HS	35
Fowler HS	32
Natoma HS	30
Ransom-Western Plains HS	29
Weskan HS	29
Brewster HS	28
Palco HS	28
Glasco HS	27
Longton-Elk Valley HS	26
Hamilton HS	25
Miltonvale HS	22

Three schools will make the move up to Class 4A this year. Clay Center, Girard and Holton all saw their enrollment increase and will come back to 4A, while Osawatomie, Anderson County and Wichita-Trinity Academy will move out of 4A to 3A this year.

Tonganoxie ruins Wildcats' home opener



Louisburg's (from left) Eli Johnson, Konnor Vohs and Garrett Harding team up to stop a Tonganoxie player at the goal line and force a fumble Friday at Wildcat Stadium.

It wasn't the way the Louisburg
football wanted to kick off its home schedule Friday against Tonganoxie.

Tonganoxie took advantage of some
Wildcat mistakes and racked up nearly 500 yards of total offense as it handed
Louisburg a 42-6 loss at Wildcat Stadium.

The Chieftains were the more
physical team as they won the battle up front and put together several hard
hits on the Wildcat players.

“Tonganoxie is very good,” Louisburg coach Robert Ebenstein said. “My hats off to them. They played a complete, physical four-quarter game. They are best public school that I have seen in a long time. They are legit.”

Louisburg (0-2) had to face obstacles throughout the game, including losing players to injury, and it challenged their depth. Running backs Charlie Koontz and Jay Scollin had to leave the game with injuries, as did quarterback Madden Rutherford.

The Chieftains’ defense held Louisburg to just 175 total yards of offense and forced two turnovers. Even with all that, the Wildcats trailed just 21-6 at halftime.

“They really didn’t let us do a whole lot,” Ebenstein said of Tonganoxie. “Then on top of it we lose two starting running backs and our quarterback to injury, and at that point, we were just going to take what we could get. I am really proud of our kids. They fought hard and they never tucked their tails. They didn’t quit and they fought their butts off and I am proud of them for that.”

Tonganoxie (2-0) opened the game with a 79-yard drive that ended in a 2-yard touchdown, and after the Wildcats were forced to punt on their opening possession, the Chieftains drove down the field once again. Except this time, the Wildcat defense forced Tonganoxie to turn the ball over on downs in the red zone.



Jay Scollin (33) and Justin Collins break up a Tonganoxie pass in the endzone Friday.

As it turned out, it was only a minor victory for Louisburg as Tonganoxie put together another possession that ended on a 5-yard score from Elijah Tyner and went up 14-0 late in the first quarter.

Louisburg had an answer as the Wildcats put together a drive of their own that ended with an 8-yard touchdown pass to Ben Wiedenmann from Rutherford. Wiedenmann also had a big game on the ground for Louisburg as he carried the ball 13 times for 103 yards.

The Chieftains stopped any kind of momentum the Wildcats put together as they scored on their next possession to go up 21-6. Tonganoxie looked to increase its lead even more before halftime, but the Wildcat defense had other answers.

The Wildcats forced two turnovers as Weston Guetterman recovered a fumble near the goal line. Then shortly before halftime, Michael Waldron intercepted a pass to keep the deficit at 15 points.



Louisburg's Brandon Doles (8) and A.J. Reed team up for a tackle Friday against Tonganoxie.

Andy Hupp was all over the field for the Wildcat defense as the junior linebacker recorded a team-high 16 tackles, including six solo stops. Hupp then came in the game at quarterback in the second half for Rutherford.

"Andy has taken minimal reps at quarterback, but he is just a football player and he will do anything we ask of him," Ebenstein said. "Andy is just a stud and he played well

for us.”

Justin Collins and Brandon Doles were next on the team with seven tackles each, while Guetterman, Garrett Harding and Wiedenmann each added six.

Louisburg will try for its first win of the season Friday when they travel to Baldwin. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the campus of Baker University.

“We have a winning culture here, so anytime you lose it is tough on the guys,” Ebenstein said. “At the end of the day, these guys are doing what we ask of them. They are lining up every play and getting to where they need to be. We talk to them about life skills and we tell them that sometimes in life you don’t get lucky breaks all the time and it is all about how you respond. Our kids responded and kept fighting. We are going to go to practice and get better and get ready for Baldwin.”

LOU	0	6	0	0	– 6
TON	14	7	7	14	– 42

SCORING SUMMARY

FIRST QUARTER

T: Sam Kleidosty 2 run (Javier Trujillo kick)

T: Elijah Tyner 5 run (Trujillo kick)

SECOND QUARTER

L: Ben Wiedenmann 8 pass from Madden Rutherford (extra point failed)

T: Cooper Cunningham 16 pass from Blake Poje (Trujillo kick)

THIRD QUARTER

T: Tyner 9 run (Trujillo kick)

FOURTH QUARTER

T: Cunningham 2 run (Trujillo kick)

T: Devyn Splichal run (Mendoza kick)

STATISTICS

RUSHING: Ben Wiedenmann 13-103; Madden Rutherford 9-8

PASSING: Madden Rutherford 7-19-73-1

RECEIVING: Ben Wiedenmann 4-23; Weston Guetterman 2-23; Charlie Koontz 1-21; Michael Waldron 1-6

Frontier League sends proposal to KSHSAA to separate private schools

A big change to the Kansas High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) postseason could be coming sooner rather than later if a proposal, submitted by the Frontier League, passes the KSHSAA Board of Directors and its member schools.

Last month the Frontier League, led by Paola High School principal Jeff Hines and Louisburg superintendent Dr. Brian Biermann, petitioned KSHSAA to separate public and private schools into their own postseason competitions.

In order for it pass, the petition must be signed by 20 percent of the 355 member schools according to KSHSAA bi-laws. The Frontier League got the 71 needed petitions and have now submitted this to appear in front of the KSHSAA Board of Directors for vote in their Sept. 18 meeting.

The board of directors would then have to pass it by simple majority of those in attendance to

bring the proposal to a vote from all the member schools.

“Kansas needs to catch up with the rest of the country and get this competitive imbalance under control in our state,” Hines said. “The longer we wait then more students will be negatively impacted. We have a responsibility as educators to create the best opportunities possible for our students. No one can honestly say we have the best system possible right now. It can definitely be improved.”

The proposal submitted by the Frontier League is the same one the state of Texas uses that keeps the schools in their same classification, but only separates the schools come postseason.

Other options were discussed before submitting the proposal, such as implementing a multiplier on all private schools like Missouri currently does. In fact, it is the most popular proposal among the schools that were surveyed by Hines last January.

They also talked about the “Oklahoma model” where schools are bumped up a classification based on success for competitive balance.

Seventy-four percent of the schools said they would support a population multiplier, 64 percent would support competitive balance factors and 51 percent would support separate

divisions.

However, KSHSAA would not be able to make this change with a multiplier due to state statute K.S.A. 72-130 that states a high school association “must establish a system of classification of member high schools according to student attendance.”

KSHSAA would not be able to pass a new bi-law that goes against state statute, and therefore, the Kansas State Legislature would have reword the statue to allow the association to make those changes.

The Frontier League believes the Texas model, or separate postseason divisions, does not deal with classifications. Also, this model had more support from 5A and 6A schools as neither classification would likely vote for a multiplier.

“We don’t view that as a classification decision as we are not affecting classification, but KSHSAA and their lawyers view that it is,” Biermann said. “5A and 6A schools that we talked to really wanted us to push for the Texas model because they don’t want to play them (private schools) either. The biggest thing for me is if 5 and 6A schools don’t want to play them, then why do we? As a superintendent, I am supposed to create opportunities for kids. We had four teams last year in both soccer teams, football and volleyball that all saw their season end to Bishop Miege. It is not right that we have kids and coaches that work their tails off and they don’t have the opportunity to win.

“Am I all about state championships? Absolutely not. But we also know the reality of it in the current system. Winning state championships is important for

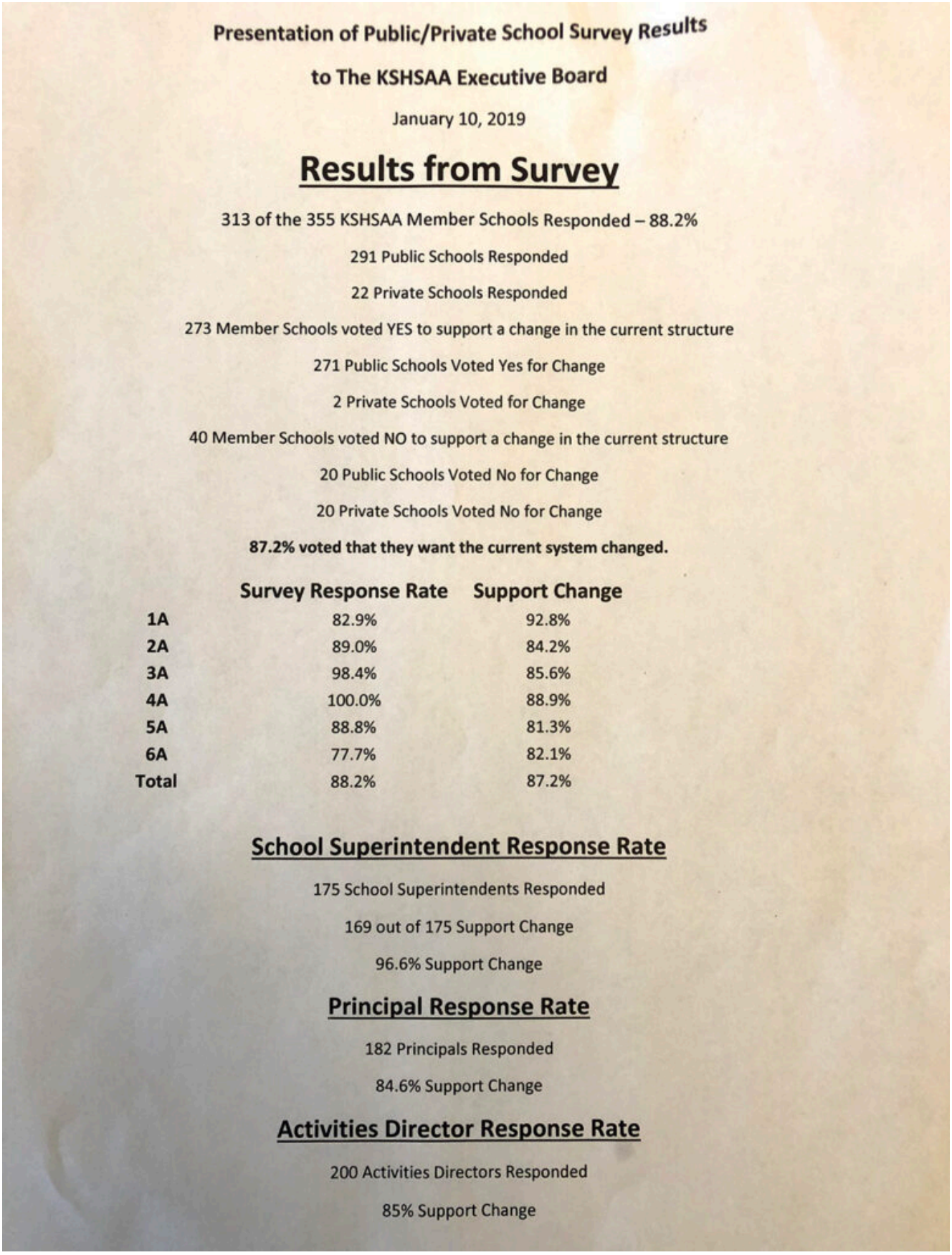
communities and is always a goal. I am not ever going to give up on this idea and neither will the Frontier League.”

The public versus private school debate has been going on for the last several years and Hines has been leading the charge since 2015 when he put together a study that displayed the disparity of state championships won by private schools.

In 2018-19, private schools won 32 percent of the state championships in Classes 5A through 1A. There are currently no private schools in 6A. Twenty-one of those 24 state titles were won by private schools in Class 4A and 5A.

That is a high number considering that out of the 355 member schools, only 27 of them are private.

The Frontier League wanted to see change, so Hines surveyed the 355 member schools late last year and presented his findings to KSHSAA in January. More than 88 percent of the schools responded, that included 22 private institutions, and 87 percent said they want the current system changed.



Presentation of Public/Private School Survey Results

to The KSHSAA Executive Board

January 10, 2019

Results from Survey

313 of the 355 KSHSAA Member Schools Responded – 88.2%

291 Public Schools Responded

22 Private Schools Responded

273 Member Schools voted YES to support a change in the current structure

271 Public Schools Voted Yes for Change

2 Private Schools Voted for Change

40 Member Schools voted NO to support a change in the current structure

20 Public Schools Voted No for Change

20 Private Schools Voted No for Change

87.2% voted that they want the current system changed.

	Survey Response Rate	Support Change
1A	82.9%	92.8%
2A	89.0%	84.2%
3A	98.4%	85.6%
4A	100.0%	88.9%
5A	88.8%	81.3%
6A	77.7%	82.1%
Total	88.2%	87.2%

School Superintendent Response Rate

175 School Superintendents Responded

169 out of 175 Support Change

96.6% Support Change

Principal Response Rate

182 Principals Responded

84.6% Support Change

Activities Director Response Rate

200 Activities Directors Responded

85% Support Change

Although most schools said they would support the multiplier model more, Hines and the rest of the league schools, believe it is the best way to proceed at this time.

“Our survey indicated that separate divisions was the least popular option among member schools, however as a league we feel like it is the most appropriate option,” Hines said. “A multiplier will pass through and will be our next option if this does not go through. A multiplier will impact many private schools that are not quasi sports academies that are not very successful in athletics. The separate divisions avoids this situation.”

If the proposal does pass the board of directors, KSHSAA will then put it to a vote with all 355 member schools and it must pass by a simple majority and by four of the six classes.

From there, KSHSAA executive director Bill Faflick would take it to the Kansas Legislature before change could be implemented.

“We know it won’t happen overnight,” Biermann said. “Even if this passes, nothing will change this year and probably not the following year. It could be three years out with the way football schedules take shape. We are honestly ok with that if we knew that there was light at the end of the tunnel. If this would not pass, we would turn right around and do the multiplier one.”

Despite what happens at the

upcoming board of directors meeting, Hines believes changes to the system will
happen sooner rather than later.

“I am now confident something will get done,” Hines said. “I think it will ultimately take a multiplier to get something done. If the
separate divisions fails then we will propose a multiplier for the spring board
of directors meeting.”

A lot of obstacles are still in the way for change to happen, whether it has to deal with state statues or member votes, but none of the schools in the nine-member Frontier League are going to stop until they see a more even playing field.

“I am very proud of the Frontier League, and even though we compete against each other, we are very unified on this,” Biermann said. “It is about fairness and equality and I am tired of having my kids at Louisburg High School not having the same opportunity as some others. The throttle is down and it is going to stay down.”