

COVENTRY

Principal wants to start Oaker road race

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COVENTRY — Coventry High School Principal Mike Hobin announced last week that he would like to start a 5K race/walk as part of the school's annual homecoming activities in the fall to help get the community more involved in the beloved tradition. The tentatively-named "Oaker 5K" may soon be one of the school's annual Homecoming rituals.

The principal presented the

Coventry School Committee with his ideas for the event and indicated he would like to make it open to students, faculty, staff and the entire community at large. It would also be part of the school's wellness plan.

"I wanted to propose an event that would help bring the community into our homecoming weekend," Hobin said.

The date being tossed around for the race is Sunday, Sept. 24, the day after the CHS Homecoming Dance, somewhere between 10 to

11 a.m. Coventry's annual Homecoming celebration typically includes a football game, parade and a semi-formal dance for students. Hobin will form a committee to work on logistics and planning, but the event will be affordable and open to everyone — walkers and runners alike — to compete at their own pace.

The cost to register in the race is still being finalized, but the goal is to make it as accessible as possible.

"We'll need a specific permission slip for students and we'll

have to have a one-day insurance policy," said Hobin. "Our intent is to offer an event for our community to enjoy so we want to keep the price as low as possible."

The school is also required to take out a one-day insurance policy during its annual graduation ceremony at the University of Rhode Island each year.

Although the 5K is not supposed to be a fundraiser, Hobin suggested that any leftover money be put into the school's student assistance account, which helps members of

the district pay for field trips or other necessities, such as their caps and gowns for graduation.

"We want this to be a self-funding event," he explained, adding that he is also working with the district's attorney, Jon Anderson, to iron out some other kinks in the plan.

"I do plan on running that day, for the record," he joked.

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