Talk continues as officials from the Sandhills Conference and Loup Valley Conference work out the details for merging the two activities conferences for the 2014-15 school year.

Brady superintendent Bill Porter told school board members Monday night that a draft of a constitution for the combined conference, called Sandhills Valley Conference, is still in progress but may be ready for a vote in December.

The merger proposal affects 19 schools that make up 12 athletic teams. Some schools would compete individually in academic and fine arts contests such as quiz bowl and music but as cooperative teams in athletics.

The Sandhills Conference includes Arthur County, Brady, Cody-Kilgore, Hyannis, Mullen, Sandhills/Thedford and Stapleton/McPherson County.

Mullen and Sandhills/Thedford are also in the Loup Valley Conference with Arcadia/Loup City, Anselmo-Merna, Ansley/Litchfield, South Loup and Twin Loup.

The conference would be divided into east and west divisions split evenly with six teams on each side. All of the current Sandhills Conference schools would make up the west half, with the exception of Brady, which would move to the east side and join current Loup Valley teams.

For athletic events such as volleyball and basketball, tournaments would be conducted in both east and west regions with the top two teams on each side competing for a conference championship.

“Brady ends up being the only school that really has to make a change,” said principal Bruce Hird.

Some of the pros to such an arrangement, Hird said, would be less travel and better competition. One of the biggest cons with the switch is that Brady as a whole likes the Sandhills Conference as it is.

Hird said school boards from each school involved will have to agree to the new conference constitution for it to be passed and the conferences to merge.

“That’s a lot of variables,” he said.

Porter told board members that Brady activity sponsors are aware of the proposal but there has been no formal discussion with them.

In other business, school board members accepted a bid for $140,000 from Lexington Glass to replace the windows in the older section of the building.

This project has been on hold for several months while the board worked out details to make the project affordable and to find a suitable contractor.

In other action, the board:

approved Ashley Lydic and Laurie Hager-Zumwalt as local substitutes.

accepted the 2012 audit with suggested corrective actions and responses.

decided to conduct junior varsity boys and girls basketball games at approximately the same time when the Eagles host Maxwell on Feb. 2. The same concurrent schedule will be used for the Cody-Kilgore game in 2014.

authorized a work day for K-6 teachers on Nov. 30.

agreed to change the schedule to have classes on Friday, Nov. 16, to make up for three unplanned days off during the past two weeks because of two funerals and state volleyball. Porter told the board making up at least one of those days would be necessary to be prepared for possible closing due to weather over the winter.