

MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Board of Directors meeting synopsis

Thursday, Oct. 4, 2018, Brooklyn Center, MN

Welcome

- The meeting was called to order by Board President Bonnie Spohn Schmaltz.
- The reflection was given by Board Member Frank White.
- Action Item 9E, Activity Advisory Process, was added.
- The minutes from the August 7, 2018 board meeting were approved.
- The board approved a motion to move into a Closed Session at 9:40 a.m., to discuss two cases with non-public educational data.
- The board reconvened at 10:18 a.m.
- Activities directors Mike Zweber (Lakeville North) and Ted Schultz (Minnetonka) addressed the board on Class 6A football placement.

Lobbyist Report

- League Lobbyist Roger Aronson attended five of the eight Fall Area meetings.
- Provided an update in the weeks leading to Election Day.

Legal Counsel Report

- Legal Counsel Kevin Beck reported that one lawsuit against the League has been settled.
- In another lawsuit against the League, a preliminary injunction was denied. The case continues.

Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Erich Martens introduced IT consultant Patrick Helm, who has provided experience and support to the League's technology systems.
- Introduced Governor Appointee Walt Hautala. He previously had served on the board of directors in 2013, completing a portion of a term.
- The NFHS' Section 5 high school association administrators met in September for meetings in Deadwood, S.D.
- The eight Fall Area meetings were completed in September. League Staff shared reflections on the tour of meetings and recognized the value of working directly with member schools.
- Announced that Kristi Vesall, the League's Office Manager, has announced her retirement, effective Jan. 2, 2019.
- Announced that League assistance will be part of the process of placing Buffalo High School and St. Michael-Albertville High School into conferences for the 2019-20 school year.

Executive Committee Report

- Approved an independent contract to Kevin J. Anderson to supply support with research and writing for the 2019 Hockey 25/75 Celebrations.
- Accepted the resignation of former Assistant Director Chris Franson, effective Sept. 21, 2018.
- Approved a contract with Robert Half International to provide a senior level programmer to support League technology needs.
- Approved an independent technology contractor agreement with Chris Franson.
- Approved the staff assignments for Fine Arts coverage: Visual Arts, Jason Nickleby; Music, Tim Leighton; Speech, Debate, One-Act Play, Amy Doherty.
- Approved the reclassification of Amy Doherty to Assistant Director.
- Approved the request from Region 3A to retain more than 20 percent of its annual budget within their fund balance for one year.
- The board approved the Executive Committee's report.

Action Items

- Approved the Board Goals for the 2018-2019 school year. The board goals are:
 - + Promoting the High School Experience
 - + Recruitment and Retention of Coaches and AD's
 - + What Does a Member School Look Like?
 - + Saturation of Programs?
 - + Add 9th grade students and programs?
- Clarification was provided to an approved recommendation on wrestling weight classes.
 - + The default numbers of weight classes will be 12 weight classes for all regular-season duals and dual tournaments.
 - + The schools will double forfeit the 106- and 195-pound weight classes.
 - + Schools may choose to wrestle 13 or 14 weight classes if the coaches mutually agree to do so.
 - + The mutual agreement decision to wrestle 13 or 14 weight classes must be made a minimum 48 hours prior to the start time of the dual.
 - + Fourteen (14) weight classes will be wrestled in all individual tournaments and during the postseason.
- Approved a one-year contract with Ryan Weinzerl of www.minnesota-scores.net to use the QRF process for the seeding of selected tournaments.
- Approved to move two amended subsections of Bylaw 111 language --- Divorced Parents (111.1.B.iv) and Multiple Transfers (111.1.C) to the MSHSL's Representative Assembly.

- Approved a recommendation to provide a timeline for any proposed Activity Advisory Committee recommendation for Fall Activities specifically addressing classification that follows the timelines for Winter Activities for the 2018-2019 school year only. That timeline is:
 - + Proposals due to the League Office by Feb. 15, 2019
 - + Feedback from Region Committees due by May 15, 2019
 - + Board Action Item for the June 3, 2019 meeting

Discussion Items

- Discussed a request by the Football Advisory Committee to place Class AAAAAA schools in one district for scheduling purposes for the 2019 and 2020 seasons. The schools would be assigned to four competitive sub-districts.
- Results of the feedback from the Fall Area meetings discussions on Classification/Tournament Format were shared. Lengthy discussion and input were shared by League Staff and board members. League Staff was instructed to compile information prior to a board workshop on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018.
- Updates were shared from the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee on numerous initiatives and topics that include:
 - + A Health/Wellness/Medical/Safety Portal
 - + Public Service Announcements
 - + Education Topics
 - + Statewide Concussion Survey
 - + Pre-participation Physical
 - + Heat Guidelines
 - + Skin-Fold Techniques
 - + Annual Safety Study
- Board approved a survey to be sent to member schools.

Committee Reports

Eligibility Committee

- The minutes from the Eligibility Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

Audit/Finance Committee

- The financial statements from July and August, 2018, were approved.
- The State Auditor is performing its annual financial statement audit. The audit report is expected to be ready for the February 12, 2019 board meeting.
- Recommended that activity fees of member schools be a Discussion Item during the December 6, 2018 board meeting.

Marketing and Communications Committee

- Staff member John Millea shared information on an initiative with Second Harvest Heartland Food Drive. More information will be forthcoming.
- Sponsorship updates with Wells Fargo, Bauer, Nike, Spaulding, Baden, Wilson, Dunwoody College, Toyota and Mills Fleet Farm were provided.
- The registration of MSHSL Radio Partners was launched in September.
- League-created Public Service Announcements will be available to Radio Partners the week of Oct. 8.
- A League-generated Podcast will make its debut in October.
- Request for Proposals will be solicited for the League's state tournament program printing contract.
- A news conference is scheduled for Oct. 29, 2018 to announce the Celebration Seasons for boys hockey and girls hockey. In 2019, it will be the 75th state tournament for boys and 25th for girls. The news conference will take place at the Xcel Energy Center at 2 p.m. Participants in the news conference will be the League, 45TV and Xcel Energy Center.
- Board member Frank White met with Minnesota Historical Society to discuss a proposed exhibit of high school sports and activities.

Education and Leadership Committee

- Discussed supporting a board focus area of recruitment, mentoring and retention of activities directors.
- Discussed the Minnesota Head Coaches course.
- Information from the MN Cohort for AD's was shared.
- National recognition for MSHSL initiatives "Why We Play" and "Thank A Ref" were shared.

Informational

- Board Workshop, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018
- Next meeting: Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018