



Minnesota State High School League
Board of Directors Meeting Synopsis
Brooklyn Center, MN
Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018

WELCOME

- Meeting was called to order by Board President Bonnie Spohn Schmaltz
- Reflection provided by Board Member Eric Lehtola
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Kristi Vesall, MSHSL Office Manager, was honored for her 33 years of service to the League. She is currently the longest-serving staff member and will retire on Dec. 31, 2018.
- Two video presentations were shared: Governor-Elect Tim Walz on 45TV during the Prep Bowl, and an NFHS feature on Title IX pioneer Dorothy McIntyre.
- Meeting agenda was approved.
- Board meeting minutes from Oct. 4, 2018 were approved.

LOBBYIST REPORT

- League Lobbyist Roger Aronson provided a post-election review and update.
- The sales tax exemption, and the desire to remove the “sunset” from the legislation for the MSHSL Foundation, was shared.
- Aronson reported on the number of changes in the legislature and anticipates a strong year of learning at the Capitol.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

- Legal Counsel Joe Kelly provided updates on four cases.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Executive Director Erich Martens reminded staff and Board Members of the expectations of standard professional protocol.
- Announced that board vice president Craig Anderson was inducted into the Minnesota High School Coaches Association hall of fame. Anderson retired in 2016 after coaching baseball for 40 years, including the last 39 at Pine Island. He ended his career with a 521-378 record.
- Commended all support and executive staff for their great work in running our State Tournaments this past fall. Shared information in national publications as it relates to MSHSL activities.

- Announced that Chad Stoskopf has been named the new Region Secretary in Section 7A commencing July 1, 2019.
- Announced the first Principals' Advisory meeting was held at the League Office. The group is interested in growing their role with the League and the board.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Approved August workshop dates and location through 2021.
- Approved a waiver for member schools competing in girls' lacrosse to schedule one additional game beyond the limit against Rogers High School.
- Tabled a decision on a case of two former Coon Rapids co-head wrestling coaches for further review of testimony.
- Approved personnel updates and changes presented by the Executive Director.
- For one year, approved the use of music judges from bordering states who have obtained the appropriate association certification for the 2018-19 school year.
- The Executive Committee report was approved by voice vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Classification/Tournament Format

- Approved the adjustments in Board Policy regarding classification formats for two, three and four classes. Also lowered the minimum required number of competing schools from 288 to 192, to allow the opportunity for more activities to change to a three-class format.

Classification Appeals

- Approved proposed language found in "Class Competition D5h1.1" in the MSHSL's Handbook to include: **"or, MSHSL enrollment for grades 9-12 is within 10 percent of the classification cut-off number for the class to which the school is appealing."**

Conference Placement of Member Schools

- Approved the recommendation of the Conference Placement Committee, which placed Buffalo High School and St. Michael-Albertville High School in the Lake Conference beginning with the 2019-20 school year.

State Wrestling Tournament Seeding Criteria Adjustment

- Approved a change to individual seeding criteria for the state wrestling tournament. The last of eight seeding criteria was changed from "winning percentage" to "state place winners from two years prior."

Class AAAAAA Football

- Approved a motion that assigned the scheduling of District Football for 28 Class 6A football teams back to the activities administrators of those 28 schools. This action is in line with the responsibility assigned to all districts in the state.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Representative Assembly Amendments

The following proposed amendments have been sent to the administrative regions across the state. If a majority of the regions approve the amendments, they will be presented to the Representative Assembly on May 13, 2019 (tentative date):

- An expanded definition of divorce: Bylaw 111.1.B.iv
- Expanding participation availability for international students beyond one year at junior varsity level or lower: Bylaw 111.2.B-C.
- Changes to the application of one-year varsity ineligibility. Bylaw 111.1.C.
- Adding limitations to Bylaws 203, 207, and 208 allowing students in adapted athletics to compete more than 12 semesters.
- Adapted Athletics age eligibility expanded: Bylaw 110
- Adding boys' volleyball as an activity
- Adding girls' wrestling as an activity

Music Advisory Committee Recommendation

- Information was shared on the definition of accompaniment performed by a student. A proposal for clarification will be presented as an Action Item at the Feb. 12, 2019 meeting.

Membership Dues and Activity Registration Fees

- Assistant Director Rich Matter shared a chart with a history of membership fees. There has not been an increase for the past 12 years, while the costs to the League have been rising steadily and more programs have been approved.

Golf Tournament Advancement Policy Reading

- The board heard the first reading of a golf rule and policy clarification as it relates to participants' disqualifications or withdrawals from tournament play. It will be moved to an Action Item at the Feb. 12, 2019 meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eligibility Committee

- The minutes of the Eligibility Committee were approved as presented.

Audit/Finance Committee

- Approved the September 2018 financial statement
- Approved the October 2018 financial statement
- Approved the annual request from Section 4A for \$40,000 to support operating costs.

Marketing and Communications Committee

- Staff provided an update on the Print Contract bid process.
- Staff provided an update on the Radio Partnership
- Staff provided an updated on annual sponsorship agreements
- Staff provided updates on the 75/25 celebration seasons for boys and girls hockey.
- Staff shared information on a proposed pictorial yearbook that will be published annually.
- Staff provided updates on a state tournament-related food drive

Education and Leadership Committee

- Shared updates on Continuing Education Requirement 2020
- Shared an update on the AD Cohort
- Shared a review of Board Education Policies
- Discussed the recommendation for Activities Directors to complete the Minnesota Head Coaches Course. This is an AD Advisory recommendation.
- Shared updates on the officiating programs.

INFORMATIONAL

- The League Office will be closed from the afternoon of Dec. 21, 2018, through Jan. 1, 2019.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019