

Minnesota State High School League
Board of Directors Meeting
June 3, 2013

Meeting Synopsis

Action Items

- The Board approved new policy language pertaining to applications for cooperative sponsorship of activities by two or more member schools. The primary point of the new policy is that applications must be submitted no later than 30 calendar days prior to the start of the pertinent season. The policy will not become effective until the Winter 2014 season.
- The Board approved a new Region Facilities Use Agreement that administrative region secretaries will share with each member school within their region. It standardizes language and also includes a new provision that allows for payments of tournament workers through the member school business offices. The agreements will become effective Aug. 1, 2013. Payment of tournament workers as school employees may be deferred to Jan. 1, 2014 if elected by member schools. The payment procedure change is prompted by federal Internal Revenue Service requirements. Information about the new payment process will be shared with all superintendents, business office administrators and activities/athletics directors.
- The Board approved a balanced budget of \$8.3 million for the next fiscal year that begins Aug. 1, 2013. That figure represents a 4 percent increase over the current budget year.
- Despite an endorsement by Wayzata Nordic skiing coach Larry Myers, the Board narrowly rejected a recommendation from the Nordic Ski Racing Advisory committee to allow one additional team from each section but three fewer individuals to qualify for the state meet. Currently, only the section champion and eight individuals advance. The proposal would have added each section runner-up team.
- The Dance Team Advisory Committee presented a proposal to have schools register singly for the activity rather than individually according to either the high kick or jazz categories. The purpose of the proposal is to equalize the enrollment numbers used to divide schools into classes in both categories. The proposal was passed by the Board.
- A policy pertaining to the eligibility of students for section/state music competition was approved by the Board. It clarifies and simplifies when students in grades 7-9 may participate.
- The Board voted to approve three new officers for the 2013-14 school year. John Hamann, principal at Underwood, will be president. Scott McCready, activities director at St. Charles, will be vice president. Steve Eklund, a governor's appointee from Stanchfield, will be treasurer.

Discussion Items

- Associate Directors Kevin Merkle and Craig Perry briefed the Board on a number of issues impacting football. One concerns the amount and kind of contact that players may have during the summer months. Working with the coaches association due to concerns that there have been no guidelines that regulate football practice and scrimmages during the summer like there are during the regular season, a draft proposal was discussed. It addresses the amount of physical contact players may have with each other following a required five-day acclimatization period to weather conditions. It also limits the number of practices with

player physical contact to seven during the summer coaching waiver period, and it also limits any kind of practice to two hours or less. It also prohibits inter-school scrimmages or games during that same period. It does allow 7-on-7 play, provided pads are not used and there is no contact in practice that same day and that players are given at least three hours of rest between practice and play. A second proposal adds language to Bylaw 502 that would limit an individual football player to no more than six quarters of play during any consecutive three-day period. Another issue that staff will explore concerns how member schools deal with lending protective equipment to players for summer camps and clinics. Guidelines may be developed that address risk and liability issues that arise with the lending of equipment, particularly football helmets, and assessment of their condition between the time they are returned at the end of the summer camps/clinics period and before they are reissued to players for the following school season. Merkle also emphasized that an alternative for the scheduling of football games needs to be implemented very soon.

- A summary of the top three concerns expressed by those who attended the recent area meetings was presented. Those concerns are: 1) football scheduling; 2) private school issues; and 3) a tie between summer coaching/waivers and coaches education/licensure.
- With the impending destruction of the Metrodome following the 2013 Vikings season, the League will likely play the 2014 Prep Bowl at TCF Stadium on the University of Minnesota Minneapolis campus, and it may be played on the Friday and Saturday preceding Thanksgiving rather than the customary post-Thanksgiving weekend. The 2015 Prep Bowl may also be played at TCF Stadium. Final decisions are pending continuing discussions with university staff.

Extra Point

- The Board acknowledged the service of several Board members whose terms have expired and welcomed the individuals who will replace them. Regions 5A and 6A representative Rick Bleichner is stepping down and St. Cloud Cathedral Activities Director Emmett Keenan will replace him. Board President Mark Fredericksen, who represents Regions 1AA and 2AA, is stepping down and Northfield Activities Director Tom Graupmann will replace him. Regions 7AA and 8AA representative Tom Conzemius is stepping down (retirement) and Little Falls Assistant Principal Mike Olson will replace him. Mesabi East School Board Member Walter Hautala, who represents Class A schools, is stepping down and Jordan School Board Member Deborah Pauly will replace him. Governor's Appointee Mike Rusinko is stepping down and a replacement has yet to be named,

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the League Board of Directors is Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2013, at Ruttger's Conference Center.