



Minnesota State High School League
2100 Freeway Boulevard
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, August 3, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota State High School League convened at the Little Crow Conference Center in Spicer, Minnesota, on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. President Jerome called the meeting to order at 1:21 p.m. All current members of the Board of Directors were present except John Ostrowski and Jim Smokrovich. All members of the executive staff were present for all or portions of the meeting.

Others attending all or portions of the meeting included:

Roger Aronson, MSHSL Lobbyist/Special Projects Counsel
Kevin Beck, MSHSL Legal Counsel
Charlie Campbell, MSHSL Associate Director
Amy Doherty, MSHSL Assistant Director
Amanda Johnson, MSHSL Executive Assistant
Tim Leighton, MSHSL Communications Coordinator
Laura Mackenthun, MSHSL Assistant Director
Rich Matter, MSHSL Assistant Director
John Millea, MSHSL Media Specialist
Jason Nickleby, MSHSL Coordinator of Officials
Sue Peterson, Spicer, MN

Reflection by Member McDonald

Pledge of Allegiance

Heier moved and McDonald seconded to approve the amended meeting agenda to add Discussion Item 10C: Transfer and Eligibility during COVID. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Minutes Approved

Stein moved and Vraa seconded to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Individuals or Delegations on Agenda Issues

No individuals requested to speak to the Board regarding agenda items.

Board of Directors Members' Reports and Comments Received

President Jerome welcomed new Board Members and recognized staff members for the work done during the past year. He also welcomed MSHSL Associate Director, Charlie Campbell as the newest member of the League Staff.

Legislative Report Received

Legislative Report was received and including an update on the end of the legislative session. Discussion related to transgender students continue at the legislative level.

Legal Counsel's Report Received

Legal Counsel's Report was received and included two ongoing lawsuits.

Executive Director's Report Received

The Executive Director's Report was received and included:

- Recognized and thanked the Board of Directors and League Staff for their engagement during the Workshop and Meeting. Also, recognized and thanked the Little Crow Conference Center for their hospitality.
- Recognized Charlie Campbell, Associate Director and Cara Pearson, Administrative Assistant and welcomed them to the League Staff. An administrative assistant opening remains and applications are requested for this position.
- League Staff assignment adjustments have been made: Tim Leighton (Visual Arts); Jason Nickleby (Wrestling, Lacrosse); Charlie Campbell (Education, Volleyball, Girls and Boys Tennis, Boys Basketball, Track and Field, Cheer).
- Recognized board member Lisa Quednow as a Section 5 and Section 8 at-large representative to the NFHS Board of Directors.
- A Governor's Appointee is expected to be selected in the next two weeks to fill the remaining seat on the Board of Directors.
- The formation of a committee to work with the leadership of Boys Volleyball to review approval processes and continued engagement is being assembled.
- Area Meetings are scheduled for nine locations beginning Sept. 13.
- Executive Directors representing the NFHS Section 5 states will meet in Minnesota during the last week of August.

Executive Committee Report Received

The Executive Committee Report was received. The Committee met three times prior to the Board Meeting and included:

June 8

- Reviewed and tabled a Bylaw 110 eligibility case.
- Reviewed and approved a special expense in the recognition of Kylen Running Hawk.
- Recognized Associate Director Lisa Lissimore as the Section 5 NFHS Citation Award recipient
- Extended the contract of Executive Director Erich Martens for three years.

July 14

- Discussed with Kevin Beck some existing eligibility cases and pending litigation.
- Did not take action on a tabled Bylaw 110 eligibility request.

August 3

- Engaged in further discussion regarding the creation of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Spent time in closed session to receive updates on litigation.
- Discussed tournament formats for programs that are adding classes.
- A Governor Appointee will be selected to the Board of Directors within two weeks.

Lilleberg moved and Revenig seconded to approve to authorize League Staff and Legal Counsel to create a timeline to communicate with member schools to indicate continued membership in the Minnesota State High School League. The goal is to allow member schools that have not paid their 2020-2021 membership dues an opportunity to proactively communicate with the League on membership intentions. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Setter-Larsen moved and Rocheleau seconded to approve the Executive Committee Report as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

Resolution in Appreciation and Recognition for Service and Dedication to the MSHSL Board of Directors: Mike Domin, Kirby Ekstrom, Blaine Novak, Todd Waterbury, and Frank White.

Guthmueller moved and Tauer seconded to approve the Resolution in Appreciation and Recognition for service and dedication for Board of Directors members whose terms had been completed (Appendix A). The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

2021-2022 Board of Directors Committee Assignments

Hautala moved and McDonald seconded to approve the 2021-2022 Board of Directors Committee Assignments (Appendix B). The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Contract for Lobbyist and Special Projects Counsel 2021-2023

Heier moved and Peschel seconded to approve the 2021-2023 contract for Roger Aronson, lobbyist and special projects counsel. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Publications

All publications were available for review by Board members throughout the Board Workshop.

Rocheleau moved and Engebretson seconded to approve the following publications for the 2021-2022 school year: Board Policy Manual and Guidelines, Official Handbook, Officials Policy Manual, Region Secretaries Manual. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Strategic Directions

Staloch moved and Quednow seconded to approve a motion to table review and approval of Strategic Directions to the next Board of Directors meeting on Oct. 7, 2021. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Tournament Format

Boys and Girls Cross Country and Boys and Girls Soccer will add a class beginning in fall of 2021.

McDonald moved and Heier seconded to approve a motion for the state meet/state tournament format for Boys and Girls Cross Country. Cross Country will have three classes and run six races on Saturday, Nov. 6. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Tauer moved and Setter-Larsen seconded to approve a motion for the state meet/state tournament format for Boys and Girls Soccer. Soccer will have semifinals and championships in three classes at U.S. Bank Stadium. Third-place games will be played at a venue to be determined. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Discussion will continue on a state tournament format for girls volleyball, which is adding a fourth class, and Nordic Skiing, which is adding a sprint race to its meet.

Membership Dues Adjustment

Stein moved and Guthmueller seconded to approve a motion to reduce the projected 2021-2022 membership dues by \$1.063 million. New membership dues amounts will be calculated for member schools based on the reduced dues. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Region Fund Balance

Tauer moved and Rocheleau seconded to approve a motion to use the 2018-2019 fiscal year-end financial report as a basis to calculate the maximum allowed carryover for the 16 administrative regions. Regions are capped at a 20% carryover. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Football Playoff Rotation

Lilleberg moved and Engebretson seconded to approve the football state tournament pairings from 2021 through 2026. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

COVID Impact

The Board of Directors continued a discussion that began in the workshop session on the application of medical information and guidance to member schools in the event that participants or communities are affected by COVID. League staff and the Board will continue to monitor changing guidance and recommendations from the CDC, MDH, MDE and other sources.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

League Staff provided updates and next steps on the creation of the committee. Partnership discussions continue with stakeholders from the MnIAAA and the Minnesota High School Coaches Association. The committee's goal will be to become more inclusive across all aspects of the League. The committee will meet monthly until January and then will continue every other month.

Transfer and Eligibility during COVID

The Eligibility Committee introduced discussion on various transfer criteria that would allow students to be eligible under exceptional circumstances. After lengthy discussion, the Board of Directors approved to move this topic to an Action Item.

Stein moved and McDonald seconded to approve a motion to empower League Staff to do more exploration and provide a recommendation to the Executive Committee at the next Executive Committee Meeting next week. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eligibility Committee

Heier moved and Anderson seconded to approve a motion to create an Ad Hoc committee to review Bylaws 110 and 111. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Peschel moved and McDonald seconded to approve the Eligibility Committee meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Audit/Finance Committee

Setter-Larsen moved and Vraa seconded to approve the May 2021 and June 2021 financial statements. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Staloch moved and Quednow seconded to approve the Engagement Letter from the State Auditor. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Tauer moved and Guthmueller seconded to approve the final disbursement of the \$90,000 MSHSL Foundation transfer to administrative regions. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Bosshart moved and Engebretson seconded to approve the wide-reaching insurance coverage of \$760,840 for the 2021-2022 school year. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Marketing and Communications Committee

League Staff provided updates on the following:

- Strategic Directions as it relates to technology.
- The MSHSL website and technology.
- Modifications to the Media Policy Manual for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Sponsorship updates and the revenue associated with those partnerships.

Lilleberg moved and Hautala seconded to approve the Marketing and Communications Committee report. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Education and Leadership Committee

League Staff provided updates on the following:

- An overview of the committee's scope of work.
- Shared a review of potential educational content and plans.
- Officials that included current requirements, concussion training and background checks.

Heier moved and Peschel seconded to approve the Education and Leadership Committee report. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Board Meeting dates for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021
- Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021
- Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022
- Thursday, April 7, 2022
- Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Board workshops will be scheduled during the months in which there is not a Board Meeting.

The following changes have occurred between June 1, 2021, and August 2, 2021. These changes are covered by Board of Directors policies and MSHSL bylaws.

Dissolutions of Cooperative Sponsorships

1. Academy of Holy Angels/Richfield - Hockey, Girls
2. Baum/Carlson/Cole/Friess/Gay/Hagstrom/Haselius/Hicks/Hoffman/Klein/McCullar/Master/Osterlund/Perry/Robertson/Reynolds/Rounds/Young/ - Cross Country, Girls
3. Biermier/Friess/Fulton/Goetz/Hagstrom/Hicks/Klein/Reynolds/Ruelle/VanCamp/Wass/Young - Cross Country, Boys
4. Bloomington Jefferson/Bloomington Kennedy - Dance, High Kick and Jazz
5. Bonavista Grove Academy/Compton Academy/Covenant Christian School/Excalibur Academy/Fieldhaven Academy/Genda Home School/Grace Academy/Hope Home School Academy/Hutchinson Home School/Kodl Academy/Peterman High School/Prairie Woods Academy/Pullis School/School of the Holy Family/St. Jude Academy/St. Michael-Academy/Veritas et Utilitas/Winters Academy - Cross Country, Girls
6. Dover-Eyota/Rochester Lourdes/Stewartville - Hockey, Girls

7. Excalibur Academy/Fieldhaven Academy/Glenwood Academy/Gundale Home School/Hutchinson Home School/St. Katherine's Academy/St. Michael-Academy/Winters Academy - Cross Country, Boys
8. Hibbing/Victory Christian Academy - Football
9. Mankato East/Mankato Loyola - Hockey, Girls
10. Northfield/Randolph - Swimming & Diving, Boys
11. Sauk Rapids-Rice, St. Cloud Apollo, St. Cloud Christian - Tennis, Girls
12. Spring Lake Park/St. Anthony Village - Track and Field, Boys and Girls

Cooperative Sponsorships

1. Academy for Sciences & Agriculture/Hmong College Prep - Basketball, Girls
2. Academy for Sciences & Agriculture/Hmong College Prep Academy - Soccer, Girls
3. Alderman/Bauer/Baum/Cole/Friess/Goetz/Hagstrom/Hicks/Hoffman/Klein/McCullar/Master/Osterlund/Perry/Robertson/Reynolds/Rounds/Young - Cross Country, Girls
4. Alderman/Franklin/Friess/Goetz/Hagstrom/Hicks/Klein/Murray/Perry/Potter/Roduner/Ruelle/VanCamp/Young - Cross Country, Boys
5. Bonavista Grove Academy/Compton Academy/Covenant Christian School/Excalibur Academy/Fieldhaven Academy/Genda Home School/Grace Academy/Hope Home School Academy/Hutchinson Home School/Kodl Academy/Peterman High School/Prairie Woods Academy/Pullis School/School of the Holy Family/St. Jude Academy/St. Michael-Academy/Veritas et Utilitas/Winters Academy - Cross Country, Girls
6. Centennial/Spring Lake Park - Hockey, Girls
7. Crookston/Fertile-Beltrami/Sacred Heart - Hockey, Boys
8. Excalibur Academy/Fieldhaven Academy/Glenwood Academy/Gundale Home School/Hutchinson Home School/St. Katherine's Academy/St. Michael-Academy/Winters Academy - Cross Country, Boys
9. Greenbush-Middle River/Roseau - Tennis, Girls
10. Isle/Onamia - Volleyball
11. Kolars Home School/Mankato Loyola - Volleyball
12. Kolars Home School/Mankato Loyola - Basketball, Girls
13. Kolars Home School/Mankato Loyola - Track and Field, Girls
14. Lyle/Pacelli - Cross Country, Girls

There being no further business, Revenig moved and Heier seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:18 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.



Erich Martens
Executive Director