



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

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, December 2, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota State High School League convened at the Minneapolis Marriott West in Minneapolis, Minnesota. President Jerome called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. All current members of the Board of Directors were present except Sandra Setter Larsen, Jeanna Lilleberg and Dave Rocheleau. All members of League Executive Staff were present except Executive Director, Erich Martens, for all or portions of the meeting.

Others attending all or portions of the meeting included:

Roger Aronson, MSHSL Lobbyist/Special Projects Counsel
Amy Baasch, Parent, Hawley
Eli Baasch, Student, Hawley
Pat Barrett, MSHSL Liaison, *Minnesota Girls Basketball Coaches Association*
Kevin Beck, MSHSL Legal Counsel
Tom Critchley, Executive Director, *Minnesota Boys Basketball Coaches Association*
Amy Doherty, Assistant Director, *MSHSL*
Krista Fleming, Director, *MN Boys Volleyball Association*
Jace Frederick, *Pioneer Press*
Brian Grandstrom, *Daktronics*
Amanda Johnson, Executive Assistant, *MSHSL*
Jenny Kilkelly, Director, *MN Boys Volleyball Association*
Tim Leighton, Communications Coordinator, *MSHSL*
Rich Matter, Assistant Director, *MSHSL*
Larry McKenzie, Head Coach, *Minneapolis North High School*
John Millea, Media Specialist, *MSHSL*
Jason Nickleby, Coordinator of Officials, *MSHSL*
Jim Paulsen, *StarTribune*
Michelle Yener, Board Member, *North St. Paul-Oakdale-Maplewood School District*

Reflection by Member Anderson

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Heier and second by McDonald to approve the meeting agenda and consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes Approved

Motion by McDonald and second by Engebretson to approve the minutes of the Oct. 7, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Individuals or Delegations on Agenda Issues

Tom Critchley of the Minnesota Basketball Coaches Association, Pat Barrett of the Minnesota Girls Basketball Coaches Association and Minneapolis North boys basketball head coach Larry McKenzie addressed the board on the basketball shot clock Action Item.

Michelle Yener of the North St. Paul-Oakdale-Maplewood School Board, and Krista Flemming and Jenny Kilkelly of the Minnesota Boys High School Volleyball Association spoke in support of sanctioning boys volleyball.

Motion by Peschel and second by Revenig to enter the meeting into a closed session at 10:00 a.m. to discuss non-public educational data pursuant to MS 13D.05 Subd. 2(a)(3). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Quednow and second by Revenig to re-open the Board Meeting at 10:29 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Board of Directors Members' Reports and Comments Received

Members Ostrowski, Heier and President Jerome thanked League staff and all others involved for their work providing fall tournaments for member schools.

Legislative Report Received

League Lobbyist Roger Aronson shared updates from the State Legislature including the support that Legislators have for contest officials and ways to advocate for more recruiting efforts. The State Legislature convenes on Jan. 31, 2022.

Legal Counsel's Report Received

Legal Counsel Kevin Beck reported one case has been dismissed, another case was voluntarily dismissed, and another case is scheduled for mediation in January.

Executive Director's Report Received

The Executive Director's Report was received and shared by Board President Tom Jerome on behalf of Executive Director Erich Martens and included:

- The MSHSL Foundation approved \$450,000 in grants through Form A. The committee will review and determine disbursements in January 2022. The funds are earmarked for the purpose of reducing barriers that limit students ability to participate.
- The Principals Advisory Committee met on Nov. 16 via Zoom. The agenda included discussion on, but was not limited to: MSHSL Foundation, 2021-2022 Strategic Directions, MSHSL Rules Making, Basketball Shot Clock proposal, Representative Assembly, Respect and Behavior Expectations, Additional Classes and Programs and Tournament Experiences and Impacts.
- President Jerome yielded the floor to League Staff for reviews of fall state tournament events. League staff recognized the outstanding work of host venues and the many tournament workers who support tournaments.
- Recognized former MSHSL Associate Director Craig Perry for his selection and upcoming induction into the National Interscholastic Activities Administrators Association Hall of Fame on Dec. 14 at the National AD Conference in Denver.
- LEAD Network returns on Thursday, Dec. 9 via Zoom.
- Recognized League and Tournament staffs for their work and professionalism.

Executive Committee Report Received

The Executive Committee Report was received and included updates on the following:

December 1

- Approved a Resolution for Recognition of BankVista for its support and partnership in successfully obtaining two rounds of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) grants for the Minnesota State High School League and its sixteen Administrative Regions during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Approved a certification of the Dormitory Status of Marshall School of Duluth. This status allows international students who are fully enrolled and fulltime dorm students to be eligible on the same basis as other resident students.
- Met with Eagle Ridge Academy Activities Director Kris Babler to receive information and clarity regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to expand the representation on the League's Board of Directors.
- Discussed enrollment options for students that attend Carlton High School should their school district choose to close the high school.
- Received updates on the most recent discussion with US Council on Athletes Health, specifically around the services that would be provided by USCAH in this agreement.

- Received updates on two ongoing committees. The DEI Committee has met twice and is requesting to rename the committee as the DEIB with the addition of “belonging” in the title and in the description.
- The Bylaw 110 and 111 Ad Hoc Committee has met twice and is focusing on the review of Bylaw 110 initially with a potential recommendation coming in February.

Motion by Tauer and second by McDonald to approve the Executive Committee Report as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

Basketball Shot Clock

Director Lissimore provided data gathered from a survey sent to MSHSL member schools on the potential implementation of the shot clock.

Motion by Revenig and second by Smokrovich to approve the basketball shot clock in Boys and Girls Basketball at the varsity level beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

Fine Arts Judges

Motion by Ostrowski and second by Quednow to approve the updated policy as presented (Appendix A) requiring background checks to include Fine Arts Judges, the same background checks currently in place for officials of athletic activities. The motion passed unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Representative Assembly

League Staff shared a review of the Representative Assembly process which is used to add new activities. Currently, proposals to add Unified Basketball and Boys Volleyball are working through that process. The Administrative Regions are considering the proposals and then voting on each item. Nine of the 16 Administrative Regions voting in the affirmative are required to advance the proposed amendments to the Representative Assembly. The Representative Assembly is scheduled for May 10, 2022.

Winter Tournament Planning

League Staff shared updates from their respective tournaments.

- Target Center, a traditional host of the Boys Basketball State Tournament, has scheduling conflicts with the Minnesota Timberwolves in preparation for the NCAA Division I Final Four in women’s basketball. The only date to be used at Target Center will be Tuesday, March 22 for the quarterfinals. Discussions continue with the University of Minnesota to finalize Williams Arena as the venue for the remainder of the championship rounds.
- The Sprint Relay Event in Nordic Skiing adopted in 2020 will add an extra day to the Nordic Skiing State Meet at Giants Ridge.
- As approved by last year’s Representative Assembly, a Girls Wrestling Division will be held at the postseason level this season. Determination of weight classes for those divisions and the structure of the tournament is underway.

Tournament Revenue Share Policy

The Board of Directors received an update on the Revenue Share Policy that has been in place since 1990. This provision provides some financial support for member schools that participate in a state tournament. With the approval of a new financial model for the League, any surpluses are now directed to all member schools to reduce membership fees for all schools.

AD Education

League Staff shared information related to the policy that was enacted in 2019 that requires all Activities Directors to participate in a condensed version of the Head Coaching Certification classes. This requirement ensures that ADs have the “Why We Play” curriculum and will promote this with their coaches. League Staff recommends that this requirement be extended an additional year to allow for increased opportunities for ADs to participate in the abbreviated course and also participate in this course at the MnIAAA conference in March 2022.

Constitutional Amendment

The Board of Directors received an update on a Constitutional Amendment proposal from administrative representatives in Region 4A. The proposal seeks to expand the Board of Directors by eight members to ensure representation from each of the 16 Administrative Regions. The proposal also requires that these 16 positions would be represented by current Activities Directors or individuals with previous AD experience. This proposal would expand the body of the Board of Directors from 22 members to 30.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Eligibility Committee

Motion by Peschel and second by Heier to approve the Eligibility Committee Minutes (Appendix B) as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board took no action regarding the request considered in closed session to overturn the previous determination of the Eligibility Committee on October 5, 2021, which denied the request for varsity eligibility nor did the Board move to grant additional review.

Audit/Finance Committee

Motion by Ostrowski and second by Tauer to approve the September 2021 and October 2021 financial statements (Appendix C) as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Tauer and second by Guthmueller to approve a common ticket price for online and in-person ticket sales for each state tournament. The motion passed unanimously.

Marketing and Communications Committee

League Staff provided updates on the following:

- League Staff shared an update on work to prioritize technology projects with Gravity Works for upcoming work.
- League Staff made presentations at the Minnesota Broadcasters Association Annual meeting on Oct. 6.
- The League hosted a Fall Media Forum on Oct. 20. Forums are planned for the winter and spring state tournaments.
- Website analytics were shared for views of the League’s online souvenir pre and post state tournament programs and MSHSL Connect, the League’s monthly online newsletter. The League thanks Wells Fargo for its sponsorship of this online souvenir state tournament program.
- League Staff provided a sponsorship update.
- League Staff shared that the winner of the Sack Hunger campaign will be announced in coming weeks.

Education and Leadership Committee

League Staff provided updates on the following:

- League Staff shared updates on the need for the continuing education and professional development of Activities Directors.
- League Staff will meet with a sub-group of the Education Faculty committee to update the workbook for the six-hour in-person class.
- The committee approved updating language deadline for Activities Directors to take a condensed version of Head Coaches Course. All ADs will be required to complete a Minnesota Head Coaches Course prior to the fall of 2023. ADs hired after Sept. 1, 2020 will have three years to complete the requirement.
- Classes designed for ADs will be offered via Zoom Feb. 15 and April 20. They will also be offered at the MnIAAA spring conference.

- The Board of Directors approved the recommendation by the Education and Leadership Committee.
- The first phase of InSideOut Initiative was held on November 16 with 65 ADs participating. The InSideOut Initiative Phase II date in Minnesota is Jan. 26, 2022.
- There were 1,140 registered football officials in 2021 compared to 1,200 in 2019 and 900 in 2020.
- More than 100 participants were part of the officiating recruitment forum held in conjunction with MYAS in November.

Motion by Staloch and second by McDonald to approve the updated language deadline for Activities Directors to take a condensed version of the Head Coaches Course. All ADs will be required to complete a Minnesota Head Coaches Course prior to the fall of 2023. ADs hired after Sept. 1, 2020 will have three years to complete the requirement. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The next Board of Directors Workshop will be held on Zoom on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 2 p.m. Board workshops will be scheduled during the months in which there is not a Board Meeting.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

The League Office will be closed from December 23, 2021, through January 2, 2022.

The following changes have occurred between the last Board Meeting and today. These changes are covered by Board of Directors policies and MSHSL bylaws.

Dissolutions of Cooperative Sponsorships

1. Benson/Chokio-Alberta/Herman-Norcross/Morris Area/West Central Area/Wheaton - Hockey, Boys
2. BlueSky Charter/Orono - Nordic Ski Racing, Boys
3. Brainerd/Pillager - Wrestling
4. Browerville/Long Prairie-Grey Eagle/Melrose/Sauk Centre - Hockey, Boys
5. Cotter/Winona - Gymnastics, Girls
6. Goodridge/Marshall County Central/Thief River Falls/Warren-Alvarado-Oslo - Wrestling
7. Hope Lutheran/Winona - Hockey, Boys
8. Kenyon-Wanamingo/Triton - Dance, High Kick
9. Kenyon-Wanamingo/Triton - Dance, Jazz
10. Little Falls/Swanville - Wrestling
11. Menahga/Nevis/Park Rapids Area - Gymnastics, Girls
12. Mt. Lake Christian/Window - Gymnastics, Girls
13. New Ulm/New Ulm Cathedral/Sleepy Eye/Sleepy Eye St. Mary's - Hockey, Girls

Cooperative Sponsorships

1. Becker/Rocori/St. Cloud Cathedral/St. Cloud Tech - Swimming & Diving, Boys
2. Bethlehem Academy/Discovery School of Faribault - Basketball, Boys
3. Rocori/St. Cloud Cathedral/St. Cloud Tech - Swimming & Diving, Boys
4. Avail Academy/Bock Home School/Doolittle Home School/Hoglund Home School - One Act Play
5. Avail Academy/Doolittle Academy - Basketball, Girls
6. Avalon Charter/Great River/Liberty Classical Academy/Praske Home School/Twin Cities Academy - Nordic Ski Racing, Boys
7. Avalon Charter/Great River/Liberty Classical Academy/Praske Home School/Twin Cities Academy - Nordic Ski Racing, Girls
8. Avalon/High School for Recording Arts - Basketball, Boys
9. Avalon/High School for Recording Arts - Basketball, Girls
10. Benilde-St. Margaret's/Chesterton Academy - Wrestling
11. Benson/Chokio-Alberta/Hancock/Herman-Norcross/Morris Area/Wheaton - Hockey, Boys

12. Bridge Academy (The)/PACT Charter - Basketball, Boys
13. Browerville/Long Prairie-Grey Eagle/Melrose/Sauk Centre/Upsala - Hockey, Boys
14. Byron/Rochester Lourdes - Dance, High Kick
15. Byron/Rochester Lourdes - Dance, Jazz
16. Chatfield/Rochester John Marshall - Hockey, Boys
17. Chesterton Academy of St. Croix Valley/Kneen Home School/Liberty Classical Academy/Lacy Academy/Pedro Home Schol/Schleusener Home School - Basketball, Boys
18. Columbia Heights/Delano - Baseball
19. Comfrey/Springfield - Wrestling
20. Concordia Academy/Minnehaha Academy - Dance, High Kick
21. Concordia Academy/Minnehaha Academy - Dance, Jazz
22. Cotter/Riverway Learning Community/Winona - Gymnastics, Girls
23. Delano/Orono - Nordic Ski Racing, Boys
24. Delano/Orono - Nordic Ski Racing, Girls
25. Ely/Krekelberg Home School - Basketball, Boys
26. Ely/Northeast Range - Football
27. Goodridge/Marshall County Central/Red Lake County Central/Thief River Falls/Warren-Alvarado-Oslo - Wrestling
28. Great River School/New Life Academy/Nova Classical Academy/St. Croix Lutheran/St. Croix Prep/Twin Cities Academy/Woodbury - Hockey, Girls
29. Hayfield/Kenyon-Wanamingo/Triton - Dance, High Kick
30. Hayfield/Kenyon-Wanamingo/Triton - Dance, Jazz
31. Hillcrest Lutheran Academy/Maggert Home School/Peterson Home School - Basketball, Girls
32. Hillcrest Lutheran Academy/Peterson Home School - Basketball, Boys
33. Isle/Onamia - One Act Play
34. Kaleidoscope Charter/Kimball/Maple Lake - Gymnastics, Girls
35. Leaf Lakes Academy/New York Mills - Wrestling
36. Little Falls/Pillager/Swanville - Wrestling
37. Mankato Loyola/Mankato West/St. Clair - Hockey, Girls
38. Maple River/United South Central - Wrestling
39. Menahga/Nevis/Park Rapids Area/Sebeka - Gymnastics, Girls
40. Minnesota State Academy for the Blind/Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf - Basketball, Boys
41. Mound Westonka/Southwest Christian - Swimming & Diving, Boys
42. Mountain Lake/Mt. Lake Christian/Windom - Gymnastics, Girls
43. New Ulm/New Ulm Cathedral/Redwood Valley/Sleepy Eye/Sleepy Eye St. Mary's - Hockey, Girls
44. Open World Learning/St. Paul Central/St. Paul Como Park/St. Paul Harding/St. Paul Highland Park/St. Paul Humboldt/St. Paul Johnson/St. Paul Washington - Dance, High Kick
45. Open World Learning/St. Paul Central/St. Paul Como Park/St. Paul Harding/St. Paul Highland Park/St. Paul Humboldt/St. Paul Johnson/St. Paul Washington - Dance, Jazz
46. Trinity School at Rver Ridge/Unity - Basketball, Girls

Ejections - Violation of the Coaches Code of Ethics

1. Zuheer Al Abase, Girls Soccer, Centennial High School
2. Ashly Berner, Girls Soccer, Robbinsdale Armstrong High School
3. Michael O'Reilly, Boys Soccer, Chaska High School
4. Brady Hicks, Boys Soccer, Champlin Park High School
5. Ahmed Alobaidi, Boys Soccer, Spectrum High School

There being no further business, motion by Heier and second by Peschel to adjourn the meeting at 12:26 p.m.
The motion passed unanimously.



Erich Martens
Executive Director