



ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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Synopsis of ASAA Board of Directors' Meeting Anchorage, Alaska February 21-22, 2010

Note: This synopsis is available on the ASAA web site at www.asaa.org. More information on agenda items may be obtained from an ASAA Board member (listed on web site) or from the ASAA office (907) 563-3723.

Action Items The Board of Directors (BOD) took the following actions:

➤ Minutes: Approved minutes of the December 14-15, 2009 regular meeting and the February 1, 2010, teleconference hearing. (Consensus)

➤ State Tournament Bids: Accepted a bid from Dimond High School to host the Cross-Country Running Championships at Bartlett High School trails in 2010-12. (Carried 8-0)

Accepted a bid from Colony High School to host the 4A State Wrestling Tournament in 2010 only at the Menard Multi-Use Sports Complex in Wasilla. (Carried 8-0)

Accepted a bid from Nikiski High School to host the 1A-2A-3A State Wrestling Tournament in 2010-12. (Carried 7-1)

Accepted a bid from Wasilla High School to host the State Hockey Tournaments in 2011-13. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Mixed-Six Volleyball: Defeated a motion by Region 1 to amend the mixed-six volleyball enrollment policy to include schools from 51-100. (Failed 4-3). The board directed that the current policy specifying that only schools with enrollments of 5-50 may sponsor mixed-six teams should be enforced beginning in 2010-11.

➤ Wrestling Weight Classes: Defeated a motion to support Option C of the NFHS's proposed wrestling weight class options. (Failed 1-7). Passed a motion to support keeping the current weight classes. (Carried 6-2)

➤ Cheersafe Proposal: Moved to investigate joining a national initiative to improve safety in cheerleading. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Glacierview School Request: Approved a request from Glacierview School to be placed in the Southwest Mixed-Six volleyball conference. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Heritage Christian School Request: Approved a request from Heritage Christian School to be reclassified from 3A to 2A based on its history of declining enrollment and uncertainty of its future status. This request included being placed in the Borealis volleyball conference and the Peninsula basketball conference. (Unanimous Consent)

➤ Membership Application: Accepted an application of membership for 2010-11 from:

Fairhill Christian School – Fairbanks, Region 2 - (Unanimous Consent)

Reports The BOD heard the following reports:

- Board Members
- State Tournaments
- Finance Committee
- Student Government
- Officials/Coaches/WPI/NFHS Leadership Conference
- Marketing
- Executive Director

Public Comments There were no public comments during the meeting.

Workshop Items The BOD discussed the following items in workshop:

1. Board Policies and Procedures-Mission and Beliefs: Reviewed the evolution and development of the current Mission Statement and Belief Statements and past Strategic Plans, and how they have been the basis for important board decisions for the past 15 years. The three tenets of the Mission – 1. advocate participation, 2. regulate activities, and 3. promote development of students, should continue to guide the Association in the future.

2. Out-of-Season Contact: The board reviewed and compared other states’ policies on out-of-season contact between high school coaches and high school players with ASAA’s policy. Study states were: Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Washington and Michigan. The board asked that a survey of schools be conducted to determine support for some additional regulation.

3. Executive Director’s Evaluation: Moved into executive session to discuss the evaluation. Following this, the ED was offered an additional year on his contract which will extend through July 31, 2013.

Tabled Items: There were no tabled items from the previous meeting.

Discussion Items The BOD discussed the following items:

➤ Bylaws: Discussed a pending proposal to incorporate an alternative count period for schools who might qualify to use 8th grade students on their volleyball and basketball teams. The board proposed that schools could use the official October enrollment count from either the previous school year or the current school year if it is lower. A proposed bylaw amendment will be sent out for input prior to an April vote of the board.

Discussed a proposal to amend the Cooperative School Program bylaw by opening it up to larger schools. A proposed amendment will be sent out for input prior to an April vote of the board.

Discussed substituting the word “Participation” for “Competition” in Article 12, Section 9. 16, Boarding School Transfer Rule.

➤ Football: Reviewed the current language in the “jamboree” rule concerning the number of required practices and the number of plays allowed against other teams. Board suggested that each participating team may run up to 20 plays against another team, with a maximum of 100 plays per day. This will be an action item during the April meeting.

Decided to follow the two year semi-final game rotation schedule as was implemented in 2009-10. Two games will be played on Friday and two on Saturday at the same site.

Postponed any action on changing small school conferences pending recommendations of the Ad Hoc Classification Committee which could effect where schools are placed.

Postponed action on the request from small schools in Region 5 for a berth to the state tournament playoffs in 2010-11 until regions have had the opportunity to discuss the request. This will be an action item at the April meeting.

➤ Hockey Officiating Experiment: Postponed discussion until a report is given to the board.

➤ Baseball – Mid-Alaska Conference Concern: Discussed a conference proposal to move Houston High School to the Southcentral Conference due to scheduling concerns. Houston stated that its team will play at the JV level this year. The board also heard the Monroe will sponsor a team this year.

➤ Softball: Reviewed a proposal from ASAA’s state softball rules interpreter to align our game ending rules with those of ASA. This will be a discussion item with the possibility of action during the April board meeting.

➤ Soccer Classification: Reviewed a Region 5 proposal to create a small school classification in soccer. This will be discussed at regional meetings and revisited during the April board meeting.

➤ Western Alaska Nordic Skiing: Due to time constraints, postponed discussion on this item.

➤ Practice/Overlap Rule: Due to time constraints, postponed discussion on this item.

➤ School Classification/Enrollment Status: Reviewed current enrollment numbers and determined how they will effect school classification.

Schools placed on Step One in 2009-10 due to increasing enrollment unless the district superintendent requests forgiveness for ineligible 5th year seniors. Any action on the following will occur during the April meeting.

1A – Chief Ivan Blunka – 53 (+) in 2009

Schools placed on Step One in 2009-10 due to decreasing enrollments.

2A - St. Mary's – 48 (-) in 2009

Chief Paul Memorial – 45 (-) in 2009

3A – Glennallen – 94 (-) in 2009

Hooper Bay – 98 (-) in 2009

Schools placed on Step Two in 2009-10 due to increasing enrollments unless the district superintendent requests forgiveness for ineligible 5th year seniors –

1A – Gamble – 56 (+) in 2008, 52 (+) in 2009

Nelson Island – 57 (+) in 2008, 54 (+) in 2009

Schools placed on Step Two in 2009-10 due to decreasing enrollments. These schools will be moved to the next lower classification unless the school “opt up” by the April board meeting.

2A – Shishmaref – 46 (-) in 2008, 41 (-) in 2009

3A – Heritage Christian – 55 (-) in 2008, 50 (-) in 2009

➤ Review of State Tournament Team Berths: After further review of a status report, decided to make no changes in allocation for 2010-11 and 2011-12.

➤ Ad Hoc Season Calendar Committee: Reviewed and discussed the report from the committee which last met on February 16 in Anchorage. Asked that the proposal be sent out for comments prior to further discussion during the April meeting.

Committee members are:

Region 1 – Patrick Callahan – Nome High School

Region 2 – Isaiah Vreeman – Heritage Christian School

Region 3 – Norm Bouchard – Houston High School

Region 4 – Rick Volk – Chugiak High School

Region 5 – Rhonda Hickok – Thunder Mountain High School

Region 6 – Walt Armstrong – North Pole High School
Board Member – Conrad Gonzalez – Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
Chair – Sandi Wagner – Juneau-Douglas High School
Staff Liaison – Rus Schreckenghost

➤ Ad Hoc Classification Committee: Discussed a report from the committee which met on February 16 in Anchorage. The board is interested in input on the proposal as well as regarding a suggestion that schools be allowed to “opt up” to a higher classification on a sport-by-sport basis. This will receive further consideration during the April meeting. Committee members are:

Region 1 – Jeff Erickson - Unalakleet High School
Region 2 – Dean Overbey – Nenana High School
Region 3 – Dan Carstens – Nikiski High School
Region 4 – Craig Walker – West Anchorage High School
Region 5 – Monty Bunes - Wrangell High School
Region 6 – Kelly Growden – Eielson High School
Board Member/Chair – Billy Strickland – Bethel High School
Staff Liaison – John Andrews

➤ “Play for Keeps” Program Update: Heard an update on implementation of the “Play for Keeps” tobacco, alcohol and drug program from Teresa Johnson, project director. This included a progress report on the development of the second offense educational component as well as a major freshening of the pre-participation video. Teresa also presented some potential components of the third offense course.

During the 2009-10 school year to date, there have been 258 first offenses reported, 13 second offenses and 2 third offenses. First offenses included 162 alcohol, 52 drug and 44 tobacco. Second offenses include 8 alcohol, 3 drug and 2 tobacco offenses.

➤ Medical Issues Forum: Discussed the formation of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) with Carey Keller, MD, of Sportsmedicine Fairbanks. Names of qualified, interested individuals have been sought and a small committee will be selected by the board during the April meeting. It is anticipated that the SMAC will first meet in August. The committee’s purpose will be to make recommendations on all sports medicine issues, including policies and procedures for emergency treatment at state tournaments.

➤ Discussion with Commissioner: Heard a presentation from Commissioner of Education, Larry LeDoux, on his vision of the integral part that interscholastic activities participation should play in the comprehensive education plan for Alaska. This includes the development of healthy citizens with the attributes that employers are seeking. He encouraged ASAA to further its student services to include programs to develop lifelong habits of health and nutrition, and to emphasize the acquisition of job skills through activity participation. The board appreciated his visionary proposals and supported efforts to move in this direction.

Commissioner LeDoux previously served on the ASAA board of directors representing Region

3.

➤ Governor's Performance Scholarship: Discussed the proposed scholarship program and asked that a letter of support be sent to the Legislature and the Governor's office.

➤ April Board Meeting: Discussed plans for the April meeting of the board which will be held in Ninilchik on April 25-26. The board will attend the All-State Art Competition reception in Homer on the evening of April 25. For the past few years, it has been the board's practice to hold the spring meeting outside of Anchorage so that members can gain a deeper understanding of the conditions in other parts of the state, and to provide an opportunity for citizens to address the board without traveling to Anchorage.

➤ Conflict – DDF State Championship and Conference Basketball Tournaments: Discussed the problems created for students when scheduling the state tournament on the same weekend as basketball playoffs.

➤ State Tournament Participation Fee: Region 3 asked to discuss the state tournament participation fee that has been put into place this year. The board asked to delay discussion until the April meeting.

➤ Conflict – Region 3 Meeting with Statewide Scheduling Meeting: Discussed the conflict of meeting dates. The Region may decide to move its winter meeting earlier, possibly into January.

Student Hearing

None

Items for April Meeting - April 25-26, 2010 – Ninilchik – Cap't Steve's Lodge

Workshop

1. Board Policies and Procedures
2. Out-of-Season Contact

Reports

1. Hockey Officiating Experiment

Discussion

1. Soccer Classification Proposal – Region 5
2. Softball Proposal - Game Ending Rule Amendment
3. Practice Rule/Overlap
4. Western Alaska Nordic Skiing
5. Ad Hoc Classification Committee
6. Ad Hoc Calendar Committee
7. Follow-up on Discussion with Commissioner

8. State Tournament Participation Fees
9. First Draft of 2010-11 Budgets
10. Sports Officials Legislation Report – HB377

Action

1. Bylaw Amendment – 8th Grade Student Eligibility Count Period
2. Bylaw Amendment – Cooperative School Program
3. Policy Amendment – Football Jamboree
4. Football Conference Berths – Region 5 Small Schools Request
5. Sports Medicine Advisory Committee –
 - a. Appointment of Members
 - b. Approval of Meeting Plans
6. State Tournament Bids
 - a. Track and Field
 - b. Soccer
 - c. DDF