

CHSAA Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

CHSAA Office – 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call

1.0 All committee members were present. Called to order at 8:11 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

2.1 It was moved (Lucas) seconded (Engelker). Motion passed unanimously

2.2 Information Items

Curt Wilson noted that his last item with the Eyls was his last contact with the family.

Paul Angelico reviewed the past month's activities, starting with the arbitration case. He thanked Alex Halpern for that work, Ed Hartnett for gymnastics, Karen Higel for soccer and field hockey. Ryan Casey has stepped up the website with Bert Borgmann's advice on some matters. He recognized the Board members whose teams were still playing in the football playoffs. Commissioner Angelico and Jim Engelker are scheduled for a panel discussion at CASB Convention. Commissioner Angelico thanked Jim Thyfault and Jim Lucas for the support shown to the Association during two contentious issues.

3.0 Additional Agenda Items - No additional items added

4.0 Reports and Old Business

4.1 President's Update

President **Wilson noted the character and class for his handling of the Starks' issue and in relation to how he handled the unethical nature of opposing counsel.** Theodore Roosevelt – Man in the Arena – is a must read. President Wilson relayed the story of the plane crash 36 years ago in the Everglades where a plane went down because the pilots were so focused on a 20 cent light bulb that drew their attention. That focus took attention away from the actual landing and cost hundreds of lives. He reminded the Board of Directors that they need to keep focus on the principles of what we do. There is a lot of good in the state and people are doing a great job. He concluded his remarks with **this reminder, "People are smarter than cows, but there are some cows that are smarter than some people."**

4.2 District Reports

District 1 – Dennis Fraser reported that in the Western Slope League there has been discussion around recommending using the football numbers for classifications. That be said, he noted, the Western Slope League has been well-represented in the playoffs.

District 2 – Mike Schmidt reported that he attended a Frontier League meeting. He said that **much of that league's discussion was around** volleyball and the use of MaxPreps rankings to select the qualifiers. **He said that MaxPreps' Margin of Victory differential matters in the formula and may be contrary to the mission of CHSAA.** He had received no reports from his other leagues. He concluded by noting that students were now going to CHSAANow.com first for their prep sports news.

District 3 – Jerry Martin reported that things were going well. The Mile High League is worried about multi-class membership with 1A, 2A, 3A. Mr. Martin recounted the fall that Lyons High School had experienced since the flood. The school has been relocated to the old Longmont

High School on Main Street. He said that people have been positive in their response to the flood. He noted that Lyons won a state cross country championship.

District 4 – Jim Thyfault noted that his league was caught up in the CLOC two-year exercise – trying to determine **who they want in and who they don't**. The Colorado 7 and EMAC are concerned about some alignments but there is still some possible movement, especially in the Colorado 7 League. He said that there are a number of stories about what is good in our schools coming out of the natural disaster. He said that from Jefferson County's **perspective, having Valor Christian is not a negative development**. He said he is a proponent of good competition. Mike Schmidt noted Lakewood High School's **Roar video and the success and good will that brought to the school, district and state**. Mr. Thyfault reported that the league would hold a Sportsmanship Summit in December at Colorado School of Mines.

District 5 – Karen Higel reported that everyone trying to "stay upright." Ms. Higel noted that the Denver Prep League received a positive letter about the behavior of Montbello fans that went to a recent game at Montrose. She also reported that Denver Public Schools now has 45 different high schools in some form. A decade or so ago, the district had just 11.

District 6 – Ed Hartnett said he attended a Continental meeting and heard Valor Christian's request for membership. He also reported that the Continental League suggested that the CHSAA office assign non-league football games on a random basis. Mr. Hartnett also reported on **the concerns around 5A football's week 10** and how his leagues were going to proceed. He noted that scores in Week 10 were wider this year. He said that some leagues were looking at recommending reducing 5A football playoff berths. He also reported that the 5280 does not want to add schools to their league. Mr. Hartnett reported that the Front Range League accepted Broomfield.

District 7 – Sandi Weece reported that the West Central and football conference felt that either four or five conferences in A6 football would be fine for the schools. She noted that the biggest issues are from Southern Peaks and West Central and the trouble that the leagues were having in finding basketball officials. Rick Macias said that he was sure that **Pueblo's** officials could help if needed. Ms. Weece reported that the Colorado Springs Metro League was doing well with no major issues.

District 8 – Curt Wilson reported that basketball officials in the San Luis Valley are doing up to three games per day. The San Luis valley is very short on officials in most sports. He noted that he feels this has a lot to do with how they are treated for restroom facilities, changing facilities, etc. They need to be walked on and off the field and to be treated better. He said that officials have to be able to get away from people. Assistant Commissioner Tom Robinson explained the Arbiter system and that only about 10% of the potential evaluations from coaches come in. Mr. Robinson noted that consistent use helps coaches realize that officiating is not necessarily the issue. It identifies those officials we need to pay attention to. Sandi Weece asked why we are not mandating that use to all assigners. Mr. Robinson explained the process. President Wilson also reported that the Southern Peaks league had a number of issues in trying to bring a stronger sportsmanship presence to the league. He said that the Intermountain League had a discussion about multi-class leagues. Finally, he reported that Aguilar is looking to return to A6 football.

District 9 – Rick Macias reported that he had had no response of the Arkansas Valley and Southeastern leagues for his report. Mr. Macias did say that the Santa Fe league is concerned about the 1A/2A volleyball format. They will propose a format matching that of 4A/5A at the volleyball committee. The South Central league likes the proposed football conferences. He said that Canon City is moving to the Colorado Springs Metro, leaving the SCL with just six schools. Mr. Macias noted that the SCL is looking ahead to the next cycle and developing relationships

with the CSML in an effort to form a new league. He congratulated Assistant Commissioner Jenn Roberts-Uhlig on the state cross country championships.

4.3.1 CASB Report

Jim Engelker said that the review of why Amendment 66 failed is on-going and noted that the legislator who sponsored the amendment was taken aback by its failure to pass. Mr. Engelker noted that school board elections show a movement toward more conservative Boards. He also reported that an increasing number of smaller districts are having trouble getting people to run for the School Board.

4.3.2 State Department Update

Wendy Dunaway reported that all was quiet on the CDE front. She said that the department was gearing up for the new legislative session. The CDE has revised its strategic plan with a focus on early literacy. She said that the department was also dealing with standards and the new assessments that are coming. Ms. Dunaway noted listening to the field about the concerns of those in the field is a priority with the CDE. She said it is rough going for the rural front, but not much different in the urban front either. She said that the leadership may be changing. The CDE focus is more about support and less about compliance. With the accountability timeline ticking down, changes may create some concerns, she said. She also noted that the State Board and CDE may not be on same platform.

4.3.3 CADA Update

Jim Thyfault reported that the Colorado Athletics Directors Association continues its work on the **organization's** April conference. He said that there are 85 new ADs that need support and they should attend because of the strength in professional development and networking. Experienced ADs should also attend to strengthen their professionalism, he noted. Karen Higel reported that a survey has been sent out to ADs to see what classes are needed and encouraged the board to encourage feedback from that survey. She said the CADA blog is being used for a quick and easy place to help ADs get answers. Ed Hartnett said that he really appreciates being at the new AD follow up meeting. He noted that they talked about by-laws and violations. Additionally, he said, transfer information was shared and how lonely the position can be with all the work that goes into being an AD.

4.3.4 CASE Update –

Jim Lucas reported that he had attended the Secondary School Principals meeting earlier in the week. Tom Andrews (District 20) was named Middle school assistant principal of year. He said that the February conference would be held at the Westin Hotel in Westminster. Mr. Lucas provided some personal feedback on why he felt Amendment 66 failed. He said that Senator Johnston was looking at tying evaluation to licensure and CASE Executive Director Bruce Caughey had reported that the legislature was starting to look at PERA. Mr. Lucas also said that SB1, which was passed several years ago, is working.

Rick Mondt (CASE Superintendents) reported that with the failure of Amendment 66 perspective changes with smaller school budgets. He noted there was a disconnect on the Amendment 66 message and there will be some push back in legislature. He said that there are some districts that have no money and when you get to athletics, there are programs that are on the line either participation or financial. Mr. Mondt relayed a concern that there will be more charter and voucher issues because there are people who want more control over education. He said that we will begin to see an increase in centric-driven schools and the re-shifting of funds is coming. This new reality may change high school activities.

4.3.5 Legislative Update

Mr. Wilson noted that this update would be addressed under Alex Halpern's Legal report.

4.4 Commissioner's Update

Commissioner Paul Angelico recounted the tale of flood damage from the errant water fountain in the building and the \$11,000 bill for repairs from the damage. He reported that Lisa Cunningham had left the Association in October and that Malinda Arensdorf will be leaving in December. He reported that Whitney Webermeier, Estes Park graduate, had replaced Lisa Cunningham.

4.4.1 Probation Action List

It was moved Engelker), seconded (Schmidt) to remove the list of coaches from probation. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved (Thyfault), seconded (Mondt) **to remove Doherty girls' basketball coach Richard Flores** from restriction and move to probation. The motion passed unanimously.

4.4.2 Commissioner's Goals Update

Paul Angelico asked Ryan Casey to review all the updates on the CHSAANow.com. Mr. Casey reported that the site was averaging nearly 45,000 page views per day. Commissioner Angelico said that the site was starting to fill in corners of the state on media outlets. Mr. Casey reviewed the weekly football chat that has drawn great interest.

Commissioner Angelico reviewed the We Are CHSAA program and You Can Play, Colorado! Program. The Board of Directors was shown the two videos that are now housed on CHSAANow.com.

4.5 Treasurer's Update (October 31 Report)

Commissioner Angelico reviewed the monthly budget report and noted differences from this year to last. Some areas show increase and others decreases due to posting timing. He went through the budget on specific lines to help the board gain better understanding. He reviewed various income and expense items, explaining the differences to each line. He answered specific questions from the Board about several line items.

It was moved (Engelker) **and seconded (Weece) to accept the Treasurer's Report.** The motion passed unanimously

4.5.1 Corporate Update

Assistant Commissioner Jenn Roberts-Uhlig announced the formal signing of Colorado Dairyfarmers Association (\$25,000) and explained the Inline Media function for CHSAANow.com. She also noted that she is in negotiations with **Chick-fil-A**. The corporate program continues to see interest, she noted.

4.5.2 Budget Committee

Commissioner Angelico noted that the Budget Committee Meeting will be held in December and addresses no formal issues. The major Budget Committee meeting and accompanying report is done prior to the April Legislative Council.

4.6 Legal Report

Alex Halpern reviewed the Nathan Starks arbitration case and said that what really hurt the situation was the ambiguity by Bishop Gorman High School. The lack of a definitive answer from the school kept the situation unclear. The arbitrator said that the Association gave Starks something to prove that could not be done. The Appeals Committee and the Board of Directors sent him back to the school to clarify the situation which the school would not do.

Mr. Halpern also noted that the arbitration process is slower and more expensive, less predictable and structured than the legal process. Plus, the cost is three times higher and takes significantly longer than it takes in court.

He said that statutory language, according to arbitrator, says he does not have to give any credence to the CHSAA rules. He said that courts operate through rules and precedent. The CHSAA is working to look at changing language that focuses on the rules, he said, that will take action within the state legislature.

Mr. Halpern noted that with all the things that have occurred in the past two years related to athletic motivated moves, there is a need to look at an internal process to look at how staff determines athletic motivation. He said the board needs to help the staff define athletic motivation. He suggested the development of a checklist.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 By-Law Proposal – Final Review

Commissioner Angelico reported that the six-classification and 5% buffer by-laws recommended by the Board of Directors and Classification Committee were supported by the Classification and League Organization Committee. He also noted that there is an anti-hazing and anti-bullying by-law that will be forwarded to the Legislative Council in January. All have been previously approved by the Board.

6.0 New Business

6.1 CLOC Report

Commissioner Paul Angelico reported on the Classification and League Organization Committee meeting and noted the inordinate number of play down requests and league changes. He also noted that he is disappointed with the manner in which a few people are not more team players in the process. He reiterated that private schools have gone above and beyond to show how they deserve to be a part of the association. He noted that the Association has public schools that have pushed the rules farther than private schools.

He said that sometimes you have to use that meeting to make a point. Without naming schools, he touched a nerve in several areas of the state. He is pushing for accountability from both public and private, he noted.

Mr. Hartnett noted that Commissioner **Angelico's comments gave everyone a chance to reflect on** what is happening within the membership. Mr. Thyfault said that his comments took the focus off one school and put it on all schools. Mr. Mondt noted that we all need to be reminded about **what's at stake – the students. We have to set aside our personal differences and accept what's in the Association's best interest.**

Mr. Thyfault said there is a fundamental issue to allow schools to play at a higher level and then drop down to play in lower classification playoffs. Mr. Mondt reviewed the Southeastern League (three teams down to two) issues.

6.2 Foundation Report

Bert Borgmann reported on the finances of the foundation. He reported that the Foundation had spent \$26,000 to secure the services of Positive Coaching Alliance as part of the We Are CHSAA program. He reported that after all the donations from CHSAA (\$32,000+) and the Gill Foundation (\$20,000), the balance of the Foundation would be approximately \$400,000.

6.3 Board of Directors District 1

Commissioner Angelico reported that a replacement for Dennis Fraser would need to be identified for the January Legislative Meeting. That replacement would be coming from the San Juan Basin League. **The new person's term begins in Fall 2014.**

6.4 Board of Directors District 5

Commissioner Angelico reported that a replacement for Karen Higel would need to be identified for the January Legislative Meeting. That replacement would be coming from the Confluence or Metropolitan leagues. A rotation has been established but needed to be referenced before identifying the league that will provide the replacement. **The new person's term begins in Fall 2014.**

6.5 Board of Directors District 8

A new member will also be selected for District 8. Curt Wilson represents the district now, but his term expires after this school year. Because he has an additional year remaining as President, the replacement will take over in Fall 2014 and Mr. Wilson serve out his term as president.

7.0 Additional Items

7.2 Resolutions

7.2a Record Retention

It was moved (Dunaway), seconded (Hartnett) to adopt the proposed record retention policy submitted by Alex Halpern. The motions passed unanimously.

7.2b Approved Arbitrators

It was moved (Engelker), seconded (Fraser) to adopt the proposed policy to develop a list of approved arbitrators. The motion passed unanimously

7.3 USAFA Basketball Site

It was moved (Schmidt), seconded (Weece) to approve the U.S. Air Force Academy as the site for the Class 3A state basketball championships. The motion passed unanimously.

8.0 Adjournment

It was moved (Lucas), seconded (Fraser) to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Bert Borgmann
Assistant Commissioner

Paul Angelico
Commissioner