PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
550 GETTYSBURG ROAD, P.O. BOX 2008
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055-0708

PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 23, 2020
VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

At 2:06 p.m., Wednesday, September 23, 2020, Mr. Frank Majikes, PIAA President, called the Zoom videoconference meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Michael A. Barber, Kennett Square .......................................................... District 1
Stephen Brandt, Glen Mills ................................................................. District 1
Francis M. Majikes, Wilkes-Barre ......................................................... District 2
Douglas M. Bohannon, Myerstown ......................................................... District 3
Patrick J. Tulley, Shillington ................................................................. District 3
David Bitting, Hummelstown ................................................................. District 3
Chris Venna, Coal Township .................................................................. District 4
Paul Leonard, Cairnbrook ...................................................................... District 5
William W. Marshall, Cresson ............................................................... District 6
Scott Seltzer, Pittsburgh ....................................................................... District 7
Dr. Patrick J. Mannarino, Pittsburgh ..................................................... District 7
Michael E. Allison, Aliquippa ................................................................. District 7
Karen Arnold, Pittsburgh ....................................................................... District 8
Aaron Straub, St. Marys ....................................................................... District 9
Dr. Peter P. Iacino, Sharon ................................................................ District 10
Robert F. Hartman, Jr. Whitehall .......................................................... District 11
Michael W. Hawkins, Fort Washington ................................................ District 12
Joseph D. Sette, Warminster ................................................................. District 12
Lee Ann Wentzel, Folsom Representing ................................................ PASA
Jonathan Bauer, King of Prussia Representing ...................................... PAESSP
Michael J. Craig, Mechanicsburg Representing .................................. PSADA
Jim Scheirer, Mechanicsburg Representing .......................................... PSBA
Dr. Richard L. Frenichs, Millersville Representing ................................ PSBA
Ronald J. Kanaskie, Riverside Representing .......................................... PCA
Jeffrey D. Batzel, Loysburg Representing Junior High/Middle Schools Representative
Robert J. Taylor, Oil City Representing Male Parents’ Representative
MEMBERS PRESENT (Continued)

Dina Henry, Lancaster
Representing ........................................... Female Parents' Representative
Maureen Gregory, Downingtown
Representing .......................................... Female Officials
Michael P. Hudak, Jr., Johnstown
Representing .......................................... Male Officials
Michael Cacciotti, Altoona
Representing ........................................... Private Schools
Audrey K. Hall, McConnellsburg
Representing ........................................... Girls' Athletics

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, Executive Director ........................................... PIAA
Mark E. Byers, Chief Operating Officer ................................................. PIAA
Melissa N. Mertz, Associate Executive Director ........................................ PIAA
Patrick B. Gebhart, Assistant Executive Director ...................................... PIAA
Jennifer S. Grassel, Assistant Executive Director ...................................... PIAA
Michael L. Solomon, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs ..................................... PIAA

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Alan R. Boynton, Jr., Esq. ................................................................. Legal Counsel
Andrew Goodman ................................................................. Legislative Counsel

GUESTS PRESENT

Sean Kelly, Assistant Executive Director .................................................. District 1
W. Rodney Stone, Executive Secretary .................................................. District 1
Amy Scheuneman, Executive Director .................................................... District 7
George Shue ................................................................. Football Coaches Assoc
Sean P. McAleer, Director of Education ............................................ Pennsylvania Catholic Conference
Holly Farnese ................................................................. PSADA
Mike Drago ................................................................. Reading Eagle
Joe Santoliquito ................................................................. Eastern PA Football
Steve Bennett ................................................................. Citizens Voice
Mike Rubinkam ................................................................. Associated Press
Billy Splain ................................................................. PAFootball.com
Chris Harlan ................................................................. TribLive
Mike White, Sports Reporter .................................................. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Jacob Adams, Sports Reporter .................................................. Carlisle Sentinel
Keith Groller, Sports Reporter .................................................. Morning Call
Joby Fawcett, Sports Reporter .................................................. Scranton Times-Tribune
Tom Robinson, Sports Reporter .................................................. Scranton Times-Tribune
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GUESTS PRESENT (Continued)

Bob Greenburg, Sports Reporter ................................................. Cumulus Radio
Mitch Rupert, Sports Reporter .................................................. Williamsport Sun Gazette
Jeff Reinhart, Sports Reporter ................................................... LNP
Eric Epler, Sports Reporter ....................................................... Pennlive
Josh Martin, Sports Reporter ...................................................... Gettysburg Times
Bob Ide, Sports Reporter .......................................................... Fox 56
Michael Boytim, Sports Reporter ............................................... Altoona Mirror
Phil Anastasia, Sports Reporter ................................................. Philadelphia Inquirer
Pat Principe, Sports Reporter ..................................................... WGAL-TV
John Erzar, Sports Reporter ...................................................... Wilkes Barre Times Leader
Austin Hertzog, Sports Reporter ................................................ Pottstown Mercury
Jill Greenwood, Sports Reporter ................................................ WPXI
Todd Thorpe, Sports Reporter ................................................... Bucks County Courier
Mike Gilger, Sports Reporter ..................................................... News Item
Ed Sutelian, Sports Reporter ..................................................... Pennlive
Tom Reisenweber, Sports Reporter .............................................. Erie Times News
Zach Salsgiver, Sports Reporter ................................................ CBS 21 News
Ali Berube, Sports Reporter ..................................................... ABC 27 News
Mike Mastovich, Sports Reporter .............................................. Tribune Democrat
Todd Sadowski, Sports Reporter ................................................. Fox 43 News
Mark Bertig, Sports Reporter ..................................................... Renda Broadcasting

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Mrs. Hall, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the August 21, 2020 meeting, via teleconference, of the PIAA Board of Directors, as presented by the Executive Director.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:10 p.m., President Majikos called an Executive Session of the PIAA Board of Directors to discuss litigation matters. The Board of Directors then went into Executive Session, where litigation matters were discussed.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

At 2:36 p.m., President Majikos returned the meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors to Regular Session.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL REPORT

Andrew Goodman of Milliron & Goodman LLC, reported to the Board of Directors on PIAA legislative matters.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director reported on the following subjects:

1. On a motion by Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, the Board unanimously approved on a second reading basis, amendatory language to be added to the Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Examination (CIPPE), Section 4, to provide information relating to COVID-19 and the passage of Peyton’s Law and to adopt the COVID-19 waiver/release form to be inserted as Section 10.

2. On a motion by Dr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, the Board unanimously approved a request to suspend the application of ARTICLE IX, Section 4 of the PIAA By-Laws regarding Eligibility of Teams and Multiple Individuals for Championship Contests for the 2020 fall sports season only, effective immediately.

3. On a motion by Dr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, the Board unanimously approved a request from District I to suspend application of ARTICLE XVI, Section 2.B., of the PIAA By-Laws, Conclusion of Regular Season, to permit teams that do not qualify for playoffs, and even if defeated, continue to play contests until Thanksgiving. This is for the 2020 fall sports season only, and will be further reviewed at the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors’ Meeting.

4. On a motion from Dr. Iacino, seconded by Ms. Arnold, the Board unanimously tabled a request from District I to permit teams that are unable to participate in the fall season to be able to participate in that sport in the Spring, but without playoffs.

5. On a motion by Dr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, the Board unanimously approved on a first reading basis, a proposal for the Board to provide an alternate solution for teams not participating in the fall to permit those teams to play in the spring without playoffs.

6. On a motion by Mr. Bohannon, seconded by Mr. Hudak, the Board unanimously approved bracketing and post-season schedules for the Fall Sports. The post-season has, in many cases, been limited to a district champions only tournament to reduce contacts, contests and travel.

7. On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the PIAA Sports’ Medicine Advisory Committee meeting of Sunday, September 20, 2020.

8. The Board discussed spectator limits and the recent U.S. District Court decision on schools’ making local decisions in consultation with their boards and legal advice on their spectator limits or using the Department of Education request of voluntary adherence to 25 (indoor) and 250 (outdoor) spectator provisions. No further action was taken.
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE PIAA BY-LAWS

On a motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded Mr. Craig, the Board approved, on a second reading basis, language interpreting ARTICLE X, CURRICULUM, Sections 1 & 2, of the PIAA By-Laws, concerning four (4) minimum credits for students who are seniors and have completed enough credits to graduate.

Motion passed: 25-yes; 6-no

ARTICLE X
CURRICULUM

Section 1.
To be eligible for interscholastic athletic competition, a student must pursue a curriculum defined and approved by the Principal as a full-time curriculum. Where required, this curriculum or its equivalent must be approved by, and conform to, the regulations of the State Board of Education and the Pennsylvania School Code, as well as any local policies established by the local School Board. The student must be passing at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent. Eligibility is cumulative from the beginning of a grading period, must be reported on a weekly basis, and must be filed in the Principal's office. Where a student's cumulative work from the beginning of the grading period does not as of any Friday meet the standards provided for in this Section, the student is ineligible from the immediately following Sunday through the Saturday immediately following the next Friday as of which the student's cumulative work from the beginning of the grading period meets the standards provided for in this Section. Where a school is closed on a Friday for any reason, the Principal may, at the Principal's election, determine whether the student as of that day meets the standards provided for in this Section.

Section 2.
To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must have passed at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent, during the previous grading period, except as provided in Section 5.

Back work may be made up, providing it is in accordance with the regular rules of the school.

INTERPRETATIONS

For the 2020-21 school year, a senior student is permitted to take only those credits necessary for graduation, which may be less than four (4). The student must be passing each credit in order to maintain eligibility. The student must be enrolled in minimally a class providing at least one (1) credit.

On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Board unanimously approved, on a first reading basis, language for Interpretation to ARTICLE III, ATTENDANCE, Section 6, Charter School and Cyber Charter School Students, of the PIAA By-Laws.
INTERPRETATION

Where a student is enrolled at a Charter School, and where the public school district in which the student resides has no senior high school, the school at which the student is in full time attendance shall be considered the public school district of residence of the student.

Section 6 & 7. September 18, 2020
Where a student enrolls in a private cyber school, it must be done under a home school education program since private cyber schools are not registered or recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the student’s eligibility must be determined under Section 7.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT(S)

Assistant Executive Director Grassel reported on the following:

1. NFHS Coach of the Year nominations are due by September 25, 2020 and will be announced at the next Board of Directors’ Meeting.

ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT(S)

Assistant Executive Director Gebhart reported on the following:

1. Nominations for even numbered districts’ Officials’ Council elections are due by November 10, 2020.

2. The fall sports rules interpretation meetings completion date has been extended to October 9, 2020 for officials and coaches.

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT(S)

Associate Executive Director Mertz reported on the following:

1. The Competitive Spirit Steering Committee will hold a meeting in the next few weeks via Zoom to discuss return to competition Guidelines.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER’S REPORT(S)

Chief Operating Officer Byers reported on the following:

1. The 14th Annual PIAA Foundation Cross Country Invitational will be held Saturday, September 26, 2020 at the Parkview Cross Country Course in Hershey. Changes to the format have been made to stay under 250 person guidelines, with no spectators, and with social distancing and mask wearing being required due to COVID-19,
APPROVAL OF MEMBER SCHOOL APPLICATION, EFFECTIVE July 1, 2020

On a motion by Dr. Iacino, seconded by Ms. Arnold, it was unanimously voted to approve the following Member School Application(s), effective beginning of 2020-2021 school year:

District X – Lighthouse Island Academy Junior High School

APPROVAL OF REQUESTS FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP
OF A SPORT FOR 2020-21, EFFECTIVE July 1, 2020

On a motion by Mr. Bohannon, seconded by Ms. Hall, it was unanimously voted to approve the following requests for cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective beginning of 2020-2021 school year, (will not affect classification size of teams):

District III- York County School of Technology and William Penn High Schools (wrestling)
District III- Penn Manor and The Stone Independent School (football, boys’ and girls’ soccer and boys’ and girls’ volleyball)

On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, it was unanimously voted to approve the following request for cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective beginning of 2020-2021 school year, (will not affect classification size of teams):

District VII- Bentworth and Charleroi Area Middle Schools (wrestling)

On a motion by Ms. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Wentzel, it was unanimously voted to approve the following request for cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective beginning of 2020-2021 school year, (will not affect classification size of teams):

District VIII- Perry and Brashear High Schools (girls’ soccer)

On a motion by Mr. Straub, seconded by Mr. Iacino, it was unanimously voted to approve the following request for cooperative sponsorship of a sport, effective beginning of 2020-2021 school year, (will not affect classification size of teams):

District IX & X-Venango Catholic Junior High School and Oil City Area Middle school (boys’ and girls’ cross country)
District IX & X-Oil City Area Senior and Cranberry Area High Schools (competitive spirit)
District IX & X Modification- Warren Area and Sheffield Area High Schools (football) (for a one year period only, due to COVID)
WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Ms. Arnold, it was unanimously voted to grant the request of the following school to withdraw from membership in PIAA, effective July 1, 2020:

**District VII** – Saint Monica Catholic Academy Junior High

REQUEST OF SCHOOLS FOR TERMINATION OF COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF A SPORT, EFFECTIVE DURING THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

On a motion by Mr. Seltzer, seconded by Dr. Iacino, it was unanimously voted to approve the following request to terminate cooperative sponsorships of a sport, effective during the 2020-2021 school year.

**District VII** - Brownsville Area and California Area High Schools (girls’ tennis)

**District IX** – Sheffield Area and Abraxas I/Arlene Lissner High Schools (football)

On a motion by Ms. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Wentzel, the meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors’ was adjourned at 4:18 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi
Executive Director