

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 24, 2016

Sleepy Ridge Golf Course

Those in attendance: Dean Osborn, Terry Bawden, Richard Osborn, Scott Carlson, Heather Bennett, Belinda Johnson, Michelle Kaufusi, Allen Huber, Craig Seegmiller, Neil Carrigan, Dale Whitlock, Richard Orr, Greg Miller, Kim Pickett, Jerre Holmes, David Brotherson, Kodey Hughes, Bill Boyle, Mike Savage, Amber Shill, Tamara Lowe, Kristen Betts, Robyn Ellis, Stan Young, George Henrie, Rick Nielsen, Garrett Muse, Rob Cuff, Kim Monkres, Ryan Bishop, Josh Taylor and Jeff Cluff. Excused: Scott Rogers, Joe Houston, John Penrod and Spencer Stokes. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. **Welcome and Chairperson Business:** Chairman Boyle welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. He excused Scott Rogers, Joe Houston, Spencer Stokes and John Penrod. Mike Browning, Orem HS Principal, was in attendance for John Penrod. Chairman Boyle declared there was a full quorum.

A. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Mr. Henrie said he spent time thinking about what it meant to be patriotic in his small world in Manti. He didn't serve in the armed forces and didn't know how courageous and brave he was. Being patriotic to him at his school means:

- You will be treated with respect regardless of race, religion or ethnicity
- We will not say negative cheers, chants or taunts about you, your teams or your students
- You will not hear the cheer, "miss it," "air ball," "winners, losers," "warm up the bus," or a host of others
- You can trust if they are said, Mr. Henrie will be with them to help them learn that is not sportsmanlike
- We will be positive when we cheer for our team

At the end of the 2A tournament he found himself glad to not have been there. Then he stopped and said, "Shame on me." Because of that thought it is time to do something and step up and increase the support for the "Do Rowdy Right" policy, time for more than just a star on the wall. It might not seem very patriotic to a lot of people, but to him he can create an environment in his school that is positive. If he can set a good example of what it means to do the right thing, maybe someday when it really matters, his students will choose to do the right thing for the right reasons. It is up to him to help them see how to do that. This is what he can do in his life to be a better person, a better principal, a better American. He then led them in the pledge of allegiance.

B. Reverence/Thought: Ms. Kaufusi welcomed everyone to her part of the state, Utah County. She was born and raised in Provo, left for 20 years, but is now back with her family and loves it! She offered a prayer.

C. Minutes of January 20 meeting:

MOTION: Mr. Osborn motioned to approve the January 20 meeting minutes. Ms. Lowe second. Motion carried.

D. Additional Agenda Items for Today: Mr. Muse said he would like to present an alignment proposal regarding bubble schools.

2. Executive Committee Meeting Report: Mr. Stan Young reported the meeting.

- Important dates and deadlines were discussed
- Linda Mayne presented the USOE report
- Winter champions and revenue were reported
- Basketball Endowment Revenue was reported
- Winter ejections were up slightly
- 2016-2017 Calendar was reviewed
- UIAAA – AD Conference in St. George April 13-16
- Battle of the Fans and Student Leadership Conference were discussed
- Unified Sports offered for soccer and track and field
- NFHS course titles were given and can be found at nfhslearn.com
- Updated mobile UHSAA app was demonstrated
- Education-based articles regarding activities

3. Mountain Crest HS Appeal: Attorney Shannon Demler presented for Mountain Crest. He said he has a great passion for the students of Mountain Crest. He wanted to present important information to help the Board make a good decision. Larry Olson, an educator, principal teacher and former BOT member and Kevin Anderson, Mountain Crest AD, were also present. Mr. Demler was appealing the decision of January 28 to leave Mountain Crest as a 5A school until the new alignment. He distributed information with regards to enrollment numbers and athlete movement. He reported that all juniors at Mountain Crest have now chosen to go to Ridgeline. He felt the board needs to consider their unique situation, safety factors for the athletes and fairness of competition and place them in 3A. The enrollment at Mountain Crest is expected to be 986 with adjusted numbers with student commitment. He said David can't beat Goliath every week. He said the job of the BOT is to protect students. The students of Mountain Crest are being put at risk, especially in football. Please reconsider and give these students a fair chance. There was a proposal included with the distributed materials. Cache County wants to play their natural rivals. Mr. Carrigan pointed out that Mountain Crest originally requested 4A classification. Mr. Anderson said they would request 3A with the drop in numbers. Mr. Demler said any classification reduction would be helpful. Mr. Boyle thanked them for their attendance and their concern for the students. These decisions are not taken lightly.

Mr. Van Wagoner said the point being made was Mountain Crest's belief is that the greater population of athletes will attend Ridgeline. We can't be certain of that determination. There request is to immediately reclassify them to a lower classification. The superintendent had requested 4A and football in 3AA. They are concerned especially about injuries in football. Ms. Bennett asked what would need to be changed to move them. Mr. Van Wagoner said currently the system of classification is a change every two years. If there were to be a change, the realignment procedure would need to be altered and a determination if the decision has been noted in two previous meetings and notice to make a change in classification. An addendum would need to be written to the two-year restriction to permit the Association to make a change clarifying the basis on which they would entertain a change. The changes would be in interpretations and guidelines. Mr. Osborn feels this is an event that will be happening almost every year because of the population growth in Utah. Ms. Lowe felt it might be time to make some changes, but concerned if it retroactive because schedules are already being set. Mr. Van Wagoner felt it would give Lehi a chance to request an appeal of their decision. Mr. Osborn felt there needs to be a drop dead date.

MOTION: Mr. Carlson motioned to adjust the guidelines to allow schools that suffer significant drop in enrollment of 40% or more caused by a split in schools to petition for a change in their

classification up to one class change. The application must be made by January 15 prior to the school year in enrollment drop. Mr. Van Wagoner asked how we will determine the loss of population of the school. Mr. Hughes second. Mr. Oborn asked about the possibility of schools going independent. Mr. Cuff said schools already have gone independent in a particular sport. The staff and the Executive Committee both are opposed to the Mountain Crest proposal. Ms. Lowe said her region would be unhappy for the hole created by moving them. Ms. Johnson said it impacts students at other schools. For: 8. Against: 17. Motion fails.

4. **Legal Report (executive session):** Mr. Van Wagoner reported on legal issues.

MOTION: Mr. Seegmiller motioned to go into executive session. Mr. Whitlock second. Motion carried.

Mr. Boyle declared the BOT was out of executive session.

5. **Winter Activities Report:**

A. Luncheon: Mr. Cuff reported that nine of the ten recipients will be attending. The staff will introduce the individuals. He asked members to reach out to award recipients and spread out over the tables. It will be a buffet lunch.

B. NFHS Coach Education Courses (p. 105): A great resource for coaches, administrators, players and parent at nfhslearn.com.

C. Winter Results (pp.106-107): A list was provided of champions. Mr. Cuff sent congratulatory letters to coaches, athletic directors, principals and cc'd specific board members.

D. Basketball Endowment Games Report: Mr. Cuff reported \$17,220.83 was the all time high for basketball endowment. With football, the endowment games raised \$140,000 for the UHSAA Foundation. These funds help to pay premium costs for the catastrophic insurance. The Foundation Board will determine how and what amount will be disbursed.

MOTION: Mr. Pickett motioned to move the basketball endowment revenue to the Foundation account. Mr. Henrie second. Motion carried.

E. Basketball: Mr. Bishop reported on the basketball tournaments. He said it was a fun atmosphere and competition was great. The 4A/5A tournament was split on Monday and Tuesday at two different sites and then culminated at the University of Utah to avoid the ACT testing day. He received positive feedback about the change and the Executive Committee unanimously voted to keep the format again next year. Mr. Holmes asked if 2A is locked in at SVC every year. Mr. Cuff said the Executive Committee didn't motion to change it, but a final vote will take place in April. Please contact a member of the EC for any discussion of site change. Mr. Holmes said they would like a rotation. Mr. Cuff said consolation games would likely be at high schools if 2A is at a college site.

F. Wrestling: Mr. Taylor reported that both the individual tournament at UVU and the dual tournament at the Maverik Center went well. The 4A/5A champions were the same at both events. It was felt that the Maverik Center is too big of a venue until the tournament grows. Larger high schools will be considered. It is being considered to change the duals from a two-day event to a one-day event.

G. Drill Team: Ms. Monkres said she had received positive feedback with the new format. There was plenty of seating and the parking was much more manageable. She thanked the administrators and coaches for encouraging parents to come when their students were participating. She said the competition was great and Saturday's competition was fierce. Other than one issue, it was an overall success. There will be minor adjustments moving forward.

H. Swimming: Ms. Monkres was complimentary to the coaches, workers and all who help the tournament take place. She was delighted with the swimmers.

I. Ejection Report (pp. 108-100): Mr. Cluff reported a slight increase in boys and girls basketball and a decrease in wrestling. He said the schools are doing a great job in reporting and having the coaches and athletes complete the required sportsmanship courses and sitting out their suspended game.

He reported that in a 5A Girls' Basketball semi-final game between Layton and Cooper Hills the teams were tied and the game went to overtime. Unfortunately, in overtime, the teams lined up in the wrong direction and the officials didn't recognize it happening. There was 10-12 seconds where there was confusion. This is an uncorrectable error by rule. There was a protest from the Copper Hills, but it was resolved. The officials' mistake cost them working more post season games. Mr. Cluff said there needs to be accountability.

6. Realignment Format and Procedures: Mr. Boyle told members this would serve as the second reading of the format and procedures of the realignment process. Mr. Boyle reviewed the information presented at the public hearing the preceding night.

Mr. Young said because 1A Boys' Golf plays in the spring whereas the other classifications play in the fall, it necessitates a six classification for boys' golf for 1A in the spring. 1A boys' baseball is played in the fall. Mr. Bishop said UPGA was supportive of fewer classifications, but they will make it work for 1A.

Mr. Young reported 1A/2A/3A classifications held a subcommittee meeting prior to the public hearing.

Mr. Boyle, representing Region 19, felt he needed to express his concern going to six classifications. It affects their area immensely and has a significant negative outcome. The current proposal will split up their six or seven team region and create three classifications in the current region. He discussed the increase of travel breaking up the region. Mr. Savage said the only solution to fixing their issue is to break up Region 20 and it adds more travel to their schools. Mr. Boyle said the current six classification proposal has 1400 students in 1A which is smaller than 40 of the public schools. He doesn't feel there is a critical mass to fully support or create sustainable programs. They are concerned that there are many sports that will be combined with 2A and significantly increase the ratio. Mr. Hughes said there are going to be travel challenges. We will always struggle geographically. Mr. Pickett said geography is what it is and he wants to look more at parity for competition. Mr. Boyle said the current five classification works. He points out there is a southeast issue. Mr. Cuff said free and reduced considerations might help to keep the schools together.

Ms. Lowe asked what the driving force is to go to six classifications. Mr. Pickett said the driving force is parity. Mr. Muse said there isn't much change for the larger classifications. He is interested in what the lower classifications want to have happen. Mr. Henrie surveyed the schools and it was a split vote, the votes were reflective whether they were on the top half of the

new class or the lower. Mr. Pickett said Region 19 has been the only one with a negative response. Mr. Orr said his region was not in favor. Mr. Savage said their region is concerned because the winning schools remain in 1A and it doesn't help. He is concerned about travel and he would need to oppose if Region 20 is broken up. Mr. Browning said the realignment committee addressed the parity issues and came up with the six classifications. Six classifications have worked for football, but he is not so sure it will work as well for others. What number of classifications promotes excellence and has parity. Utah with five classifications has the smallest classifications compared to neighboring states. Mr. Whitlock thinks this is the time to try it and help keep the ratios down. It will give more students an opportunity to participate. Mr. Pickett suggests that we try it for two years. Mr. Savage said it might be the best for the state, but his region wants him to vote against six classifications.

Mr. Cuff suggested they needed to discuss the Ogden School District's proposal, 1A boys' golf, private/charter issue, etc. Mr. Hughes said he doesn't want to back down because the changes seem scary. He knows his district will be traveling to Rich. Those things need to come after what is best. There are tradeoffs.

Lunch

MOTION: Ms. Lowe motioned to accept the Ogden School District proposal for an appeal process if a school has at least 50% free and reduced lunch and be placed as a bubble school for consideration of an appeal for a lower classification. Mr. Oborn second. Mr. Whitlock said he would like to amend to 60%. Free and reduced is recognized statewide. Mr. Cuff suggested the following wording, "Prior to the first consideration of assigned regions, any school with at least 50% free and reduced lunch may appeal to move down one classification. Schools will be considered bubble schools following the consideration of the original bubble schools (see procedure #6) as determined by the Board of Trustees." Mr. Brotherson said he thinks this will encourage correct reporting. Ms. Lowe amended her motion to 55.0% free and reduced. Mr. Oborn agreed. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Carlson motioned for a possible mid-year alignment for a school that has been split due to a new school opening and has a 40% reduction in enrollment. Application for consideration must be received before January 15 of even calendar year. Mr. Carrigan second. This is for future alignments. Motion carried, but not unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Young motioned to change golf to six classifications rather than five –keeping 1A Boys' Golf in the spring. Mr. Pickett second. Motion carried.

Private/Charter Schools Discussion: Mr. Young reported a 1A/2A/3A subcommittee of the Executive Committee met for solutions to issues for smaller classifications. It has been suggested that private/charter schools be assigned to their own league. Mr. Young said if all the private and charter schools are pulled from 1A, 2A schools would be pulled into 1A. He doesn't feel it is feasible to put them all in one league. A proposed consideration was presented on how to divide private and charter schools into four divisions with ranges of number of schools for each classification. Keep the small private and charter schools into one classification, next size up one classification, etc. It would help to move some of the larger private and charter schools up a classification. Ms. Ellis said it doesn't address the underlying issue of recruitment. Recommendations for By-laws changes will address the recruitment issues. These numbers are arbitrary and dumping schools in whatever classification. Charter schools have a cap. Ms. Lowe thought because of the cap the numbers would remain fairly steady. Ms. Ellis said a school can apply to the State Charter Board to add additional students, but they need to add additional

square footage to the building. Mr. Young said some of the charters haven't met their cap. Mr. Boyle is concerned how to proceed because this proposal hasn't been vented. Does this need more consideration? Mr. Cuff said it is basically applying a multiplier without a multiplier. Mr. Young said there would be a range of public schools and a range for private/charter to show equal consideration. Mr. Henrie felt it should be considered by the Executive Committee. The individual private and charter schools are not well represented on this committee. It needs more consideration. Mr. Pickett said this issue would not prevent a decision on five or six classifications.

Mr. Young said that it has been suggested that a transfer student, with the exception of a full family move, be denied and have an opportunity to appeal for sub-varsity. This will be discussed with the Constitution By-Law Committee on April 19.

MOTION: Mr. Whitlock motioned to send the proposal for private and charter schools back to the Executive Committee and regions prior to any decision. Mr. Muse second. There will be a formal presentation at the June meeting with a recommendation from the Executive Committee. Mr. Savage thinks the transfer rule considerations might take care of the issues. Ms. Bennett feels without some kind of a formula this will not be defensible. Mr. Young said the concept is to have ranges. Ms. Bennett pointed out their enrollment numbers are much lower than the other schools. Mr. Young said those private and charter schools have the ability to recruit. Ms. Bennett said it should be considered by legal counsel. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Pickett motioned to approve the second reading of the format and procedures of the realignment including changes for schools with 55% free and reduced lunch be placed as a bubble school for an opportunity to appeal to go down one classification, six classifications for golf, and a mid alignment consideration for schools that are affected by a split in enrollment of 40% due to a new school opening. Mr. Whitlock second. Mr. Muse discussed the possibility of criteria for bubble schools. The numbers are still included with schools' names and the decision seems to be driven by the enrollment numbers. Bubble schools should not be considered by their numbers. He would propose that bubble schools would provide their success factor in region for the previous year. Lowest score could move down. Actually look how competitive the school is and then look at geography. This would provide data to support a decision. It was determined this would not be included with the motion. Mr. Boyle again voiced his concern that the consequences and negatives of six classifications outweigh the need to change and it would be wise to stay with five classifications. In Favor: 17 Opposed: 7. Motion passed.

Do we need public input on the changes? Are there enough significant changes to warrant more public input? Mr. Pickett said the changes were perpetuated by suggestions from the public input. Mr. Hughes said the only one that could be considered over reaching might be the 55% free and reduced lunch becoming a bubble school with an opportunity to appeal for a lower classification.

7. Calendar:

A. 2015-2016 (pp. 111-112 and UHSAA website): Mr. Taylor said the calendar is set. Please be aware 3A tennis will be held in St. George. Soccer is not at Rio Tinto, but will be at high schools due to Rio Tinto resodding their field.

B. 2016-2017 (pp. 113-114 and UHSAA website): The 2016-2017 calendar is on the website. The Executive Committee will be finalizing more dates and sites in their April meeting. Ms. Johnson said she has had complaints about parking at Liberty Park.

8. **Terms:** Mr. Cuff distributed an updated list of board members for 2016-2017. Mr. Garrett Muse will be the 5A principal and Mr. Nielson for 3A principal representatives with terms ending 2019. There will be an election in May for a one-year position for any charter school nominations.

The Executive Committee was included on page 118-119. Some members have yet to be determined.

9. **Staff Items:**

A. State Solo and Ensemble Festival: Ms. Monkres said the festival will be held April 30. The north site is at Northridge and the south site is at Orem.

B. Sportsmanship Award Criteria: The criterion is posted on the sportsmanship page and applications are due the end of May.

C. Battle of the Fans: Ms. Monkres reported the event was successful. There were 20 submissions and schools are working hard to create positive atmospheres. Winning videos can be viewed on the website. Hurricane HS was the winner.

D. Student Leadership: Student Conference will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2016 at Murray HS.

E. Special Olympics Utah – Unified Sports: UHSAA partnerships with SOUT to sponsor unified sports. Soccer is underway and the state tournaments will be held Hillcrest. Track and Field has begun and the site for the state event is Copper Hills. The staff would like to grow the number of participating schools. It is a great opportunity for students and there is financial backing from Special Olympics. Schools can combine to create a team.

F. Technology: Mr. Taylor encouraged members to download the updated UHSAA app. It will be utilized to send out push notifications of important dates and information. Notifications can be sport specific, a school directory is available, map, region schools and scores can be reported from the app.

10. **For the Good of the Order:** Mr. Cuff included articles regarding education-based activities. Mr. Boyle reported *The Daily Harold* had a thumbs-up for the UHSAA staff and Association for the winter activities. It was a very positive comment for the Association.

Kelsie Albe was the state Heart of the Arts recipient and she has received the Section 7 award. She will be honored with a plaque from the NFHS and will be honored on video at the National Summer Conference in June.

Mr. Cuff thanked members for their efforts. Mr. Boyle thanked them for their service

Meeting adjourned at 2:43.

Public Hearing
March 23, 2016
UHSAA Office

1. Welcome and Chairperson Business: Chairman Boyle welcomed board members and the public who have come to provide feedback on the proposed format and procedures of the realignment. He excused Spencer Stokes, Joe Houston, Kristen Betts, Scott Rogers, Scott Carlson and Jerre Holmes. The Board of Trustees would be meeting the following day at Sleepy Ridge Golf Course in Orem. At that time, the realignment process will be discussed. The hearing's purpose was to listen to presenters from the public. Mr. Boyle reminded members that there were additional comments distributed and asked members to read through the material prior to the next meeting.

A. Alta: Matt Hale, parent at Alta HS, thought today's meeting was regarding region assignment. He expressed his concern for the travel to Utah County his region had this past year. He would appreciate a region alignment closer geographically.

B. Ogden School District: Dale Wilkinson, Ben Lomond HS Principal; Stacey Briggs, Ogden HS Principal; Jethro Helmbrecht, District Athletic Coordinator; and Ken Crawford, Director of Athletics and Support Services, were representing the Ogden School District. Mr. Crawford brought a proposal for an addition in the classification appeal process. They would propose adding an appeal for bubble schools that reads similar to the Minnesota State High School League, "Schools with at least 50% Free and Reduced Lunch can appeal to the UHSAA Board of Trustees to drop down one classification in team sports." They felt this rule would help offset some of the negative impacts that poverty has on competitive athletics. The rule would be in addition to the 5% bubble school rule and not a replacement.

Mr. Wilkinson addressed concerns at Ben Lomond with 73% of the student body on free and reduced lunch. He stated Ben Lomond has excellent students who are resilient. Poverty affects the participation level, the ability of the student to prepare their skills, potential for injury increases and the ability to retain coaches. Coaches don't have an understanding of the challenges they will face with high poverty rates. They would support the proposal of the district.

Ms. Briggs said they have been trying to make their school better and need the help of the Association to help more students want to participate. If she can keep students at her school, they can build their programs. She asked for help in breaking the poverty cycle by getting students involved. She, too, would support the district proposal.

Mr. Crawford said they are looking for an opportunity to participate on a fair and level playing field. They want to be competitive and expressed hope in the Board adopting this proposal to help the schools with a high percentage of free and reduced lunch students. Mr. Seegmiller asked about their experience being independent in football. Mr. Crawford said it helped, but it is not a long term solution. Football is the most noticeable, but it affects activities across the board. Mr. Helmbrecht said it is difficult to understand the challenges of the poverty student. They don't have adult role models at home or adults encouraging them to participate. They work at McDonald's not to buy a car, but to feed their family. There are extreme challenges.

Mr. Boyle asked about the choice of "50%." Mr. Crawford said they used the number that had been used by Minnesota. They did look at how many schools would be affected if it was lower

(40%). Mr. Cuff asked if 60% would leave Ogden and Ben Lomond in the appeal bubble process. Ms. Briggs said it would. Mr. Boyle clarified that the proposal would put schools with 50% free and reduced lunch as a bubble school and they would have the opportunity to appeal to move down a classification. Ms. Lowe liked that the proposal was an appeal opportunity and not an automatic process. Mr. Boyle thanked them for their attendance and the time and analysis in preparation of their proposal.

C. West Ridge Academy: Mr. George Bruce, Executive Committee Member, presented information/proposal that was discussed at a subcommittee of the Executive Committee made up of members from the 1A, 2A and 3A classifications. The committee addressed issues regarding, transfers, hardships, 11th grade transfers and a proposal for private/charter schools. There are 21 private/charter schools in the Association. How do we include them in the classifications with regards to an even playing field? The proposal creates a range for private/charter schools within a classification. The committee would like consideration of the proposal for the upcoming realignment.

D. Altamont HS: Dean Wilson, Altamont HS Principal, was present to voice his support of the six classifications in terms of wrestling. Wrestling is important to small communities. Six classifications are best for the sport and for the participants. They feel if there needs to be a combination of classifications that it should be 5A and 6A and leave 1A alone. Competition at the state tournament this year was some of the highest caliber in years.

Mr. Boyle appreciated those that presented and members have several hard copy comments. He asked them to please read the information to help considerations during their next meeting.