

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
December 8, 2016

Those in attendance: Dean Oborn, Terry Bawden, Richard Osborn, Scott Carlson, Heather Bennett, Belinda Johnson, Michelle Kaufusi, Blaik Baird, Craig Seegmiller, Alan Mouritsen, Neil Carrigan, Dale Whitlock, Jeff Schena, Greg Miller, Kim Pickett, Jerre Holmes, David Brotherson, Kodey Hughes, Bill Boyle, Mike Savage, Amber Shill, Tamara Lowe, Bryan Durst, Kristen Betts, Stan Young, George Henrie, Rick Nielsen, John Penrod, Garrett Muse, Rob Cuff, Kim Monkres, Ryan Bishop, Josh Taylor and Jeff Cluff. Minutes: Jeanne Widerburg.

1. Welcome and Chairperson Business: Chair Betts welcomed members.

A. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought: Ms. Bennett read from Ron Chernow's biography: Alexander Hamilton. She then led the members in the pledge of allegiance.

B. Reverence/Thought: Mr. Holmes shared an experience he had with an athlete at North Summit. The student swam his last meet last night because he was in surgery today to have his leg removed below the knee. The young man has been battling cancer. He fought to the final moment he could and Mr. Holmes is sure he will find a way to be a participant again. This young man has taught his teammates lifelong lessons in going until the final gun. Athletics and activities are important because of the lessons learned along the way – many being spiritual lessons. He asked members to say a silent prayer for his athlete and for all students who aren't able to participate for one reason or another.

2. Realignment: Ms. Betts announced the group would be breaking into the smaller classification groups for discussion regarding the information provided at the public hearing the previous night.

A. 1A Classification: Mr. Savage reported Wayne and Milford do not want to leave their current region and he needs to support them; however, he understands how moving them bolsters the 1A classification as a whole. The group discussed the proposal of 3 regions, but determined to leave four regions.

MOTION: Mr. Boyle motioned to accept the 1A alignment as the second consideration with no changes. Mr. Brotherson second. Motion carried, but not unanimously.

B. 2A Classification: Mr. Holmes reported on their proposal. They considered 4 regions as proposed but decided to remain with 3 regions. It was recommended that Venture Academy be placed into Region 16 for activities only.

MOTION: Mr. Homes motioned to accept the region alignment as a second consideration with Venture Academy in Region 16. Mr. Pickett second. Motion carried.

C. 3A Classification: Mr. Whitlock reported on their proposal. They determined to move Juan Diego up a classification except in football with placement in 4A, Region 11. Juan Diego would remain 3A in football.

MOTION: Mr. Mouritsen motioned to accept the region alignment as a second consideration with Juan Diego's placement in Region 11, 4A and football in 3A South. Mr. Schena second. Motion carried.

D. 4A Classification: It was proposed to accept Juan Diego into Region 11 (except football). It was also proposed that Lehi remain in Region 10 except for football and move Lehi football to 5A, Region 6 (replacing East).

MOTION: Ms. Johnson motioned to accept the region alignment as a second consideration with Juan Diego in Region 11 (except football) and Lehi remaining in Region 10 (except football). Mr. Bawden second. Motion carried unanimously.

E. 5A Classification: It was proposed that Lehi football would replace East in Region 6. Discussions were held regarding Cottonwood, Timpview and Provo and it was proposed to retain first consideration assignments.

MOTION: Mr. Penrod motioned to accept the region alignment as a second consideration with Lehi football assigned to Region 6. Ms. Kaufusi second. Motion carried.

F. 6A Classification: Mr. Muse reported the proposal. Davis requested to move to Region 1. Region 1 agreed there would not be additional play-off seeding for two years. Cyprus requested to move to Region 2. Requests by Bingham and West Jordan were not granted. The three region proposal was not accepted.

MOTION: Mr. Carlson motioned to accept the region alignment as a second consideration with Davis moving to Region 1 and Cyprus to Region 2. All others remained as assigned in first consideration. Mr. Seegmiller second. Motion carried.

G. Procedure/Realignment discussion: Points made regarding the new alignment and procedures:

- 2019-2021 Realignment Chair election in January
- Meeting in two groups was very helpful and quicker. There was better consensus at the end with the two different groups.
- Felt the geographical value was not highly prioritized and may want to look at the regional idea or leagues. Hard to accommodate region rivalries. Take a harder look at leagues and other state's models. Mr. Cuff said it might take an all comers tourney and then seed by some type of model.
- Travel issue doesn't seem to be a problem for pre-season.
- Possible urban/rural break depending on changes to transfer rule outcome.
- Avoided making switches without both parties agreeing.
- Discuss distinguishing between private and public schools.
- Discuss number of schools in region and ability to look at fewer regions.
- Consider not locking into number of regions.
- All comers tourney would eliminate the issues with uneven regions.
- 1A has significant number of schools that don't participate in everything.
- Consider doubling all male school's enrollment numbers for alignment consideration.
- Bubble schools made it transparent – metrics provided were helpful.

Mr. Cuff commended board members for their cooperation and collaboration throughout the process. It seems to get better each time. He thanked them for their effort on behalf of student athletes.

H. BOT Election: Election will be held on Friday, January 6, at the USBA Conference. Current members are entitled to finish their elected term. Members might possibly share a vote.

2. Legal Items (executive session):

MOTION: Mr. Seegmiller motioned to go into executive session to discuss legal and legislative issues. Mr. Penrod second. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Seegmiller motioned to leave executive session. Mr. Penrod second. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Carrigan motioned to appeal to the State School Board if they vote yes on R277-409 (with the new board). Mr. Osborn second. Motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Hughes motioned to pursue writing a letter to the State School Board with legal counsel corrections and sub-committee suggestions and it was supported by the BOT. Mr. Whitlock second. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Outgoing Board Members: Bill Boyle and Neil Carrigan were recognized for their service on the BOT. Mr. Boyle felt the large board is a great cross pollination and should not be discounted and take advantage of its uniqueness. Mr. Carrigan served in his area for many years. He appreciated the opportunity to serve on the BOT.

*******PUBLIC HEARING*******
December 7, 2016
Jordan High School

Dale Whitlock, Assistant BOT Chair, welcomed members and school representatives to the UHSAA Realignment Public Hearing for 2017-2019. Ms. Betts was excused.

Milford – David Cluff, principal. Requested assignment to Region 21.

Wayne – Mary Bray, principal. Requested assignment to Region 20.

Rich – Rick Larsen, principal. Requested to leave region assignments as currently proposed. Also spoke on behalf of George Bruce, Dugway AD and EC member, who also supports current proposal.

Enterprise – Rick Palmer, principal. Requested four regions instead of three in 2A.

Emery – Steven Gordon, principal. Requested to move to 2A football. If assigned 3A in football, would like to be assigned into the south division.

Grand – Ron Dolphin, AD. Supported the first consideration for regions. He also spoke for Bob Peterson, San Juan principal, who also supported the current proposal.

Juan Diego – Chris Long, AD. Requested 4A, Region 11, in all activities except football and requesting 3A football.

North Sanpete – Nan Ault, principal, and Superintendent Sam Ray. Requested four regions in 3A. Smaller regions allow less travel time and maintain natural rivalries.

Ogden – Ken Crawford, District AD. Supported the current proposal for Ben Lomond and Ogden.

Provo - Kirk Chambers, AD. Supported the current proposal. He appreciated consideration of free and reduced lunch data and suggested additional criteria.

Cottonwood – Terri Roylance, principal; Doug Bingham, Skyline Principal; Stephen Perschon, Olympus Principal; Dave Vande Veegaete, District AD and two assistant principals and AD from Cottonwood. Cottonwood houses the Ames Program that has 500 students who typically have very few participate in athletics. Difficult to schedule events with three different districts and would like to move to Region 6. Mr. Bingham supports Cottonwood’s request to be assigned to Region 6 for natural rivalries and calendaring issues. Mr. Perschon is concerned with only four teams in Region 6 for football. Mr. Vande Veegaete requested that Murray and Cottonwood exchange region placement for two district representation.

Lehi – Dave Mower, principal. Requested to be placed in 4A, Region 10 and requested 5A in football to take East’s place if they are moved to 6A.

Timpview – Parent requested to be reassigned from Region 7 and exchange Skyridge and Timpview. Student at Timpview requested different region assignment because of missed class time and they are passing schools in closer proximity. Parent of baseball player voiced concern for region assignment because of travel for students and parents and no natural rivals.

Skyridge – Joel Perkins, principal. Supported the current proposal being placed in Region 8. Placement helps solidify the new school’s community identity.

Davis – Rich Swanson, principal; Dr. Dan Linford, area director of secondary schools, was representing the district superintendent. He appreciated the placement of Viewmont HS. He requested Davis HS be placed in Region 1 and has the support of schools in Region 1. This would place them with their natural rivals and save travel time. They are also supportive of the three region proposal being discussed later.

Viewmont – Jason Smith, principal. Expressed appreciation to the BOT for the first consideration and placement of Viewmont with consideration of the opening of School # 10 in Davis District. Region 5 is supportive of their placement.

Bingham – Chris Richards-Khong, principal. Expressed concern for placement in Region 4 and would like to remain Region 3. They have taken their turn to travel and the financial burden in the past. Schools that have chosen to move up to 6A should have the challenge and opportunity to be placed in Region 4.

Cyprus – Rob McDaniel, principal. Not dissatisfied with placement in Region 3, but would hope they would consider placing them in Region 2 with natural rivalries. He stated East should not be in Region 3 because the region is less competitive than Region 6. He feels athletes in Region 3 Football will be at risk for injuries. Recognizes the difficult job placed on the BOT and will support their final decision.

Jordan School District – Matt Young, school board member. Expressed gratitude for the positive impact the UHSAA has had on the many Utah students. Schools in Jordan District have had the opportunity to participate in Region 4 with the majority of the schools in Utah County. The assignment to Region 4 has provided a financial burden to the schools and the families that support those schools. They feel it appropriate to ask schools from other districts to be assigned to Region 4. They requested Bingham to be placed in Region 3 and suggested moving Hillcrest to Region 4. West Jordan is willing to move from Region 3 to Region 2.

Tabiona – Darren Jenkins, principal. Satisfied with the first consideration with four regions in 1A.

Hillcrest – Greg Leavitt, principal. Supported the first consideration for region placement. They supported Cyprus moving to Region 2 in place of Davis HS. They would not support placement in Region 4.

Westlake – Mike O’Conner, AD. Proposed three regions in 6A which would ease scheduling issues and needs of schools with concerns. They would like all 22 schools to participate in the play-off games.

Highland – Chris Jensen, principal. Supported the first consideration because it placed them with their natural rivals of the past. With East moving up to 6A, they supported Lehi taking East’s place in football.

West Jordan – Mike Kochevar, principal. Requested placement in Region 2 because there is a better match up with demographics and socioeconomics.

Union – Deb King, mother, concerned with current proposal because of the additional travel. She asked they consider travel for rural schools. She would request four regions in 3A.

Salt Lake School District – Paul Schulte, District AD. Suggested the BOT keep the first consideration unless specific, inaccurate data has been presented or a procedural point was not followed. There are many schools not represented at the hearing and changes could possibly create unintended consequences for schools not present.

Wasatch – Shawn Kelly, principal. Supported the first consideration that places them with natural rivalries and would like to remain in Region 8.