



Oregon School Activities Association
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STUDENT ACTIVITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary / September 30, 2021 / 3:30pm
Zoom

The Student Activities Advisory Committee (SAAC) meeting was called to order by K.T. Emerson at 3:31pm. There was a review of the agenda and minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

The OSAA report reviewed the classification and districting process that the Association is currently engaged in as well as the current state of the Association as competitions have begun and most students have returned to in-person instruction at their schools. There have been cancellations of contests and covid related quarantines that have occurred for schools and programs. It is important to consider having a plan in place for competitions and if a team/program cannot participate. There was also discussion regarding the proposal going to the Delegate Assembly regarding diversifying the OSAA Executive Board. It was also addressed that this process could be applied to members of OSAA Committees including the SAAC.

David Nieslanik shared some of the discussions happening at the most recent Executive Board meetings. He expressed his appreciation for the thoughtfulness of his Executive Board members and their continued care for the experiences of students across Oregon.

Activity Reports:

Cheerleading: Coaches a very excited about the season. Everything is going forward and able to adjust to mask mandates and things like that. Recently had a meeting for competition hosts. Most teams have been able to adjust- 6A varsity, using co-ed and mixed gender- inclusive and aware of gender.

The OSAA will be moving cheer to a high school venue for the state competition. Moving to Oregon City High School who is very excited to host. It is a good year to be able to make that change too due to likely changes with regards to COVID protocol.

Dance: Met with all the Fall competition directors. Trying to juggle and balance their Fall events to help every school gets a chance to get to a competition. There may need to be options for various structures, some suggested are “your team and your audience” together, a “Hybrid” possibility that allows for virtual submissions and in-person submissions. The DDCA Members meeting is this Saturday to discuss and prepare for upcoming competitions and seasons ahead.

Scoresheet Change Proposal: The scoresheet was put in place last year with Covid to simplify things for judges since the required length of performances was down to a minimum of 1 minute. Having less sections to judge allowed judges to be able to assess more effectively as well as efficiently. This is one of the things that the membership would like to see move forward.

Comment Proposal: Before Covid, this was a discussion in the DDCA membership for not having comments at the State Championship because schools don't use those comments since there are no further competitions.

Both dance proposals passed unanimously and without many questions or discussion.

Dance is also looking at possibly submitting a category state championships format to the state championship committee. Keep show, and traditional (what is done now) and add hip hop, kick, pom and prop. By adding those divisions, it allows a bunch of teams who excel in different categories of dance. They want to grow teams back and get their numbers up. Those teams that do that can walk into a competition and fill those teams. Get those teams who are specialized and be successful. Next steps for the category championship proposal it goes to the DDCA membership for feedback and to the State Championship Committee.

Band Orchestra: Changing the classification requirements by playing one classification below their OSAA assigned classification. This has been a very well accepted change across the state for Band and Orchestra directors.

Choir: Nothing official from the OMEA choir side of things- Looking at greater inclusivity for the choir repertoire list- Continuity for the difficulty level. Shuffled out pieces that are not being played any more and that updated more inclusive list is going up soon.

Speech: Local tournaments are going to have smaller groups come together in person. Virtual and in-person. Struggles to having in person at this point in time- they do not have the bus drivers- hotel costs are too much- different district policies- Retention and recruitment issues. Online is not best for the activity- Retention issues with teams throughout the state. Team is working on a list of precautions that could help with being online. Maybe after the 1st of the year they will be able to go to in-person. They are looking to have a place big enough to spread throughout the school- and bringing people into the community where they already have high numbers.

One idea with retention of kids, most schools are practicing together even if they cannot compete in person. The kids from each school can be together and go through the tournament together and enjoy time with one another, even if they do not meet at one facility with other teams.

Future Meeting Date: *May 24, 2021 3:30pm*