

Monday, September 20th, 2021

OSAA Executive Committee, Athletic Directors, and other interested parties,

I presented this 4 years ago to the Redistricting Committee. Since then I have taken the District AD position at Baker HS but I think the numbers and points given still hold up. The original proposal is after this updated cover letter.

Two years ago some members of the 3-A Eastern Oregon League and the 4-A Greater Oregon League created a "Regional Football League" that allows us to fit our specific needs. It falls in line somewhat with what I discuss in the proposal. It's been successful. I would like to see this go further with Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, and Softball. But for right now we are just Football. The 4-A games we play in "League" are the only ones that count for Football Playoffs. There are only three of us.

The biggest issue for schools our size far away from Metro areas is travel time to other schools within our league. I'm creative with non-league scheduling and we are willing to travel but when it comes to "League Games" I struggle to fill Volleyball in October, Basketball in January and February, and Baseball/Softball in mid-April and May. Local schools are in league play and Idaho schools are two weeks ahead and into the playoffs when we need games.

I would prefer 5 Classifications only because it allows us to play more local teams in the date ranges I mentioned above. I would be in favor of a 6 Classification proposal if we had the flexibility to create our own leagues.

Metro area schools already do this. They only want to play the teams that are closest to them because it keeps kids in seats longer and is cheaper with bussing. Those are great reasons. The PIL does it with Jefferson and Benson because it makes sense. It wouldn't really change the large schools at all. Salem area schools don't want to travel to Bend for League games. Why make them...? Stay Regional for League, everyone makes the Playoffs, and go from there. Other states do this with similar geographic challenges as us. We would not have to recreate the wheel.

Thanks for your time and consideration. I know this is a challenging time and then throwing Redistricting into the mix only adds to the stress.

Take care and be safe. Go Dawgs!

*Buell Gonzales, Jr.
Baker High School*

Oregon High School Athletics “Redistricting” Proposal

This proposal is a major shift in the way we in Oregon have traditionally done our League, District, and Play-Off Systems. This is not a Classification Proposal.

Don't just jump to find pages to see where your school would fit. Some research has been done for schools to compare proposals and put in sample “Leagues”. These are possible Leagues, not final recommendations. Read all the bullet points and consider the proposal with an open mind. We understand this proposal is late in the game and would take serious discussion to even get started. But we believe this has merit and deserves your time.

With Oregon High Schools considered among the Nation's worst when it comes to graduation rates and total monies spent on education we as Educational Leaders need to address this issue before it is addressed for us. With School Districts looking for different ways to keep kids in the classroom and reducing travel costs it only makes sense to start thinking outside the box. As Athletic Directors we need to have the ability and freedom to schedule closer “League” games and not be tied to a system that forces long play-off bus trips “across the state”. The current “format” has led to more time out of the classroom and more money spent on travel. This proposal addresses what we believe will help schools that need help as well as leaving the schools alone that are doing just fine.

Major Tenants of the Proposal:

- We have based this proposal on the current 6-A Classification System. It's important to note that this proposal would not change if the State moved to a 5-A Classification System. Whatever Classification System the OSAA decides would be used.
- Football, Cross Country, Cheerleading, Dance, Swimming, Tennis, Track & Field and Golf will remain the same as they currently are. Schools will be in Leagues/Special Districts according to their current size and geographic location. The playoff format would also remain the same for those sports/activities. This proposal does not offer any change from the current OSAA format for League/District and State Playoffs.
- For Football it is important to note that school size plays an important role in student-athlete safety. We feel the current League and State Playoff System is best for student-athletes and the continued success of the sport.
- For Volleyball, Boys and Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Basketball, Baseball, and Softball this “Redistricting” Proposal eliminates the current OSAA leagues format according to Classification Size. Schools will no longer only be tied to other schools in their “region” within the same classification for “League” games. New “Leagues” would be created based on region and willingness of those schools to compete regardless of classification.
- All schools will be allowed to compete in the District and State Playoffs according to their classification. So every team makes the playoffs.
- In this proposal schools cannot play down a classification for the playoffs. Any school can however choose to play up a classification for the League, District and State Playoffs.
- Schools like McKay, North Salem, Woodburn, Gervais, Riddle, and Illinois Valley that have requested to play down a classification can choose to compete in leagues where they are more competitive regionally. Schools should not be forced to play in a “League” solely based on enrollment.
- This proposal would eliminate the OSAA RPI and the need to track “Out-of-State” records.

- **It is important to note that this proposal changes almost nothing for schools in the Portland, Salem, and Eugene areas. The PIL would remain completely intact for all sports... if they choose.**

What the “Re-Districting” processes would look like:

- At the end of each OSAA Calendar Year in late May/early June the OSAA would release their “Districts” for each school/sport. Each District would represent the regional schools within the same classification. Within the current 6-A classification each District would have roughly 6-14 teams, depending on the size of their classification. In the current system there would be 4 Districts for 2-A, 3-A, 4-A, 5-A and 6-A. 1-A would have 8 Districts. Each District would decide how to come to a #1 and #2 Seed to send to the State Tournament Site, or Regional Playoff for 1-A, and then the State Tournament site. Important to note that Districts are broken up according to Regional Classification.
- Once the OSAA releases their “Districts” within each classification then it is the responsibility of each school to create their own Leagues within the state. Each school would have a say in which “League” they play in: small, large, hybrid, etc.. For example a 2-A school could be in the same “League” as a 4-A School. Or a 5-A school could be in the same “League” as a 6-A school. The travel reduction for each high school would come from the creation of these regionally based leagues across classifications. Traditional rivalries would/should be honored. These “Leagues” would have different sized schools. i.e. Coquille (3-A) being in a “League” with Bandon (2-A), Myrtle Point (2-A), North Bend (4-A), Marshfield (4-A), and Reedsport (2-A). All those schools just listed are within an hour drive or less of each other (This is just an example. All the schools listed above would have to agree to be in that league).
- It is important to note that the OSAA would cede power to the local regional Athletic Directors to sort themselves into competitive leagues. It makes far more sense for 30 local men and women to decide what is best for their collective group based on size, competitive balance, travel, etc. than for the OSAA to be trying to make similar decisions for over 200 schools.
- At the conclusion of each “League” season all the coaches within a District would meet and rank each-other according to their record, common opponents, current talent level, etc. **It is important to note that every school would make the District Play-Offs regardless of their League Record.** From the example “League” above North Bend and Marshfield would be in a Regional 4-A District and attend that meeting with the other 4-A schools in their District and vote/rank each other for the District Playoffs. There could/would be BYE’s for 1st-2nd if needed with high seeds hosting early games. The Semi-Final and Final Rounds would be neutral site regionally based. Important to note that small schools could be in a “League” with larger schools and their record would not accurately depict their competitiveness within their classification.
- At this Regional District Coaches Meeting each coach would have a short, three minute time frame to plead their case. Coaches would then vote/rank each other and if desired coaches can challenge one spot up, have another 1 minute discussion, then vote/rank again. The whole process would take an hour. There are detailed procedures of this process below. These processes have been utilized by other state high school associations. Go to the Wisconsin HS Sports Page to find out some more specific info. No need to reinvent the wheel ...
 - Tourney Procedure:
http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Publications/Winter_Sport_Regs/basketballtounregs.pdf
 - Season Regulations:
http://www.wiaawi.org/Portals/0/PDF/Publications/Winter_Sport_Regs/basketballregs.pdf

Other Benefits and Advantages:

- This process eliminates the RPI and need for rules/regulations for scheduling opponents within the classification for accurate ranking and play-off placement. There would also be no need to track Out-Of-State opponent's records.
- Knowing which teams are within the schools' "District" gives coaches the ability to scout ahead of time. Important to note that teams in the same "District" **might** not play each other in "League". These teams would have the opportunity to play each other in the District playoff scenario at the conclusion of the League Schedule.
- We believe that these procedures give schools greater flexibility in scheduling. With larger leagues, there are a host of options available for scheduling and competitive balance. Leagues may divide based on size to keep competitive balance, especially in areas near population centers where travel is not as large a factor as it may be in rural areas. Leagues may choose to divide by geography to ease the travel burdens on schools they are responsible for. There are many different options to make this work for metro and rural areas.
- In the past, when hybrid leagues were created, it put some schools at a distinct disadvantage since the playoff formula (namely the OSAA RPI) put some teams at a mathematical disadvantage for playing against larger schools while other schools gained a distinct advantage mathematically by playing against smaller schools. This proposal removes those advantages and disadvantages from the system by removing the RPI. Instead, each team would make their respective "district" playoffs. Seeding would be determined by the coaches within each district, allowing teams to "survive" tougher scheduling.
- By removing math from the equation, it rewards rather than punishes teams for tougher pre-season scheduling. We return to a system in which games early in the year are an opportunity for teams and coaches to grow and develop rather than placing such a premium on winning right out of the gate.

NOTES

- This is as close as it gets to a "one size fits all" solution. Currently we are painting ourselves into a corner with procedures and policies that only work for places with large populations. This proposal keeps the metro area to it's current format and makes it better for the schools that struggle with budgetary and travel issues. We can honestly say that the way we are currently doing it is not best for **ALL** student-athletes in Oregon and this proposal addresses those current deficiencies.

Impact and Cost Analysis for Bussing Student-Athletes One Way for League Games from Draft #5: 6-Classification Model and Comparison to the Re-Districting Proposal (ReD-Prop) Eliminating Leagues Based on Class Size and Geographic Location

*(These are **POSSIBLE** Leagues. Remember: League membership is selected by the schools and regionally based regardless of school size and **EVERYONE** makes the playoffs in their classification)*

Distance in Miles and Travel Time: Taken off Google Maps from High School to High School One Way

Travel Cost: We gave \$1.28/mile plus \$27/hr for the Driver and rounded up. It is more expensive in some places and less expensive in others but we felt the consistency was important to show % correlations.

Time Out of Classroom: We added 30 minutes per half hour of travel. We used the second number for the average, i.e. 1-2 Periods; we used the "2" for average.

Summary of Average Reduction per Proposal

	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
David Douglas Draft #5	32.5	0:41	\$75.02	1.7 Periods
ReD-Prop	8.5	0:20	\$36.20	1.0 Periods
Reduction	74%	52%	52%	42%
West Salem Draft #5	60.62	1:21	\$128.22 3.	12 Periods
ReD-Prop	21.45	0:32	\$54.46	1.4 Periods
Reduction	63%	62%	58%	55%
Sheldon Draft #5	112.64	1:54	\$203.37	4.8 Periods
ReD-Prop	16.12	0:23	\$51.49	1.42 Periods
Reduction	86%	85%	75%	70%
Sisters Draft #5	121.21	2:23	\$225.82	5.16 Periods
ReD-Prop	29.04	0:39	\$68.02	1.7 Periods
Reduction	76%	71%	70%	67%
BHHS Current League	135.4	2:44	\$243.51	6.2 Periods
Brookings-Harbor Draft #5	155.75	3:11	\$284.86	6.33 Periods
ReD-Prop	100.9	2:06	\$183.12	4.8 Periods
Reduction	35%	35%	36%	26%
Ontario Draft #5	126.4	2:00	\$224.79	4.3 Periods
ReD-Prop	55.02	0:56	\$110.42	2 Periods
Reduction	56%	52%	51%	53%
Pendleton Draft #5	188.8	3:25	\$333.46	6 Periods
ReD-Prop	91.06	1:44	\$170.55	4 Periods
Reduction	52%	49%	49%	33%

David Douglas High School in the 6A-3 Mt. Hood Conference – Draft #5

<u>School/Class</u>	<u>Distance in Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Barlow - 6	10.6	0:27	\$40.56	0-1 Periods
Centennial - 6	4.1	0:11	\$33.24	0-1 Periods
Clackamas - 6	6	0:19	\$35.68	0-1 Periods
Gresham - 6	7.7	0:22	\$37.85	0-1 Periods
Hermiston - 6	176	2:47	\$309.28	5-6 Periods
Oregon City - 6	17	0:26	\$31.69	0-1 Periods
Reynolds - 6	6.7	0:18	\$36.57	0-1 Periods
Averages	32.5	0:41	\$75.02	1.7 Periods

David Douglas High School in the 6A-3 Mt. Hood Conference – ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance in Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Barlow - 6	10.6	0:27	\$40.56	0-1 Periods
Centennial - 6	4.1	0:11	\$33.24	0-1 Periods
Clackamas - 6	6	0:19	\$35.68	0-1 Periods
Gresham - 6	7.7	0:22	\$37.85	0-1 Periods
Oregon City - 6	17	0:26	\$31.69	0-1 Periods
Reynolds - 6	6.7	0:18	\$36.57	0-1 Periods
Clackamas - 6	7.7	0:22	\$37.85	0-1 Periods
Averages	8.5	0:20	\$36.20	1.0 Periods

West Salem High School in the 6A-5 Greater Valley League– Draft #5

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Bend - 6	136	2:48	\$255.08	5-6 Periods
McMinnville - 6	23.9	0:34	\$57.59	1-2 Periods
McNary - 6	7.6	0:21	\$36.72	0-1 Periods
Mountain View - 6	135	2:49	\$253.8	5-6 Periods
Newberg - 6	33	0:54	\$96.24	1-2 Periods
South Salem - 6	4.9	0:14	\$33.27	0-1 Periods
Sprague - 6	8.6	0:20	\$38	0-1 Periods
Summit - 6	136	2:49	\$255.08	5-6 Periods
Averages	60.62	1:21	\$128.22	3.12 Periods

West Salem High School in the 6A-5 Greater Valley League ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
McNary - 6	7.6	0:21	\$36.72	0-1 Periods
South Salem - 6	4.9	0:14	\$33.27	0-1 Periods
Sprague - 6	8.6	0:20	\$38	0-1 Periods
McMinnville – 6	23.9	0:33	\$57.59	0-1 Periods
Newberg – 6	29.3	0:45	\$64.50	1-2 Periods

Tigard – 6	40	0:49	\$78.20	1-2 Periods
Tualatin – 6	35.9	0:44	\$72.95	1-2 Periods
Averages	21.45	0:32	\$54.46	1.4 Periods

Sheldon High School in the 6A-6 Southern Oregon conference– Draft #5

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Grants Pass - 6	141	2:15	\$233.48	4-5 Periods
North Medford - 6	169	2:45	\$297.32	5-6 Periods
Roseburg - 6	77.6	1:33	\$153.32	4-5 Periods
South Eugene - 6	3.6	0:13	\$31.60	0-1 Periods
South Medford - 6	172	2:44	\$301.16	6-7 Periods
Averages	112.64	1:54	\$203.37	4.8 Periods

Sheldon High School in the Hybrid Southern Oregon conference ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Roseburg - 6	77.6	1:33	\$153.32	3-4 Periods
South Eugene - 6	3.6	0:13	\$31.60	0-1 Periods
North Eugene - 5	4.3	0:09	\$32.50	0-1 Periods
Churchill - 5	6.9	0:16	\$35.83	0-1 Periods
Willamette - 5	7.2	0:12	\$36.21	0-1 Periods
Thurston - 5	10.3	0:14	\$40.18	0-1 Periods
Marist - 4	3.0	0:08	\$30.84	0-1 Periods
Averages	16.12	0:23	\$51.49	1.42 Periods

Sisters High School in the 4-A Tri-Valley Conference– Draft #5

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Corbett - 4	154	3:09	\$278.12	6-7 Periods
Estacata - 4	145	2:57	\$266.60	5-6 Periods
Madras - 4	47.3	1:00	\$114.54	2-3 Periods
Molalla - 4	125	2:29	\$241	4-5 Periods
North Marion - 4	130	2:26	\$247.40	4-5 Periods
Woodburn - 5	126	2:22	\$207.28	4-5 Periods
Averages	121.21	2:23	\$225.82	5.16 Periods

Sisters High School in the Hybrid Tri-Valley Conference ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Madras - 4	47.3	1:00	\$114.54	1-2 Periods
Redmond - 5	20	0:27	\$52.6	0-1 Period
Ridgeview - 5	21.9	0:28	\$55.03	0-1 Periods
Bend - 6	24.4	0:35	\$58.23	1-2 Periods
Mountain View - 6	23.8	0:34	\$57.46	1-2 Periods

Summit - 6	25.1	0:37	\$59.12	1-2 Periods
Prineville - 4	40.8	0:54	\$79.22	1-2 Periods
Averages	29.04	0:39	\$68.02	1.7 Periods

Brookings-Harbor High School in the 4-A Far West Conference– Current

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Marshfield	107	2:11	\$190.96	4-5 Periods
North Bend	110	2:17	\$194.80	4-5 Periods
Siuslaw	156	3:14	\$280.68	6-7 Periods
Douglas	158	3:08	\$283.24	6-7 Periods
South Umpqua	146	2:54	\$267.88	6-7 Periods
Averages	135.4	2:44	\$243.51	6.2 Periods

Brookings-Harbor High School in the 4-A Skyline Conference– Draft #5

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Henley - 4	206	4:07	\$371.68	7 Periods
Hidden Valley - 4	97.5	2:05	\$178.80	4-5 Periods
Klamath Union - 4	196	4:00	\$358.88	7 Periods
Mazama - 4	201	4:01	\$365.28	7 Periods
North Valley - 4	104	2:19	\$187.12	4-5 Periods
Phoenix - 4	130	2:38	\$247.40	6-7 Periods
Averages	155.75	3:11	\$284.86	6.33 Periods

Brookings-Harbor High School in the 4-A Skyline Conference ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Coquille - 3	101	2:03	\$183.28	4-5 Periods
North Bend - 4	110	2:16	\$194.80	4-5 Periods
Marshfield - 4	107	2:09	\$190.96	4-5 Periods
Bandon - 2	83	1:41	\$160.24	3-4 Periods
Hidden Valley - 4	97.5	2:04	\$178.80	4-5 Periods
North Valley - 4	104	2:17	\$187.12	4-5 Periods
Myrtle Point - 2	104	2:16	\$187.12	4-5 Periods
Averages	100.9	2:06	\$183.12	4.8 Periods

Brookings-Harbor High School Big Five/Little Four - Del Norte/Humboldt, CA

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Saint Bernards*	110	2:12		
Ferndale*	127	2:30		
Hoopa Valley*	103	2:45		
Southfork* (No FB)	164	3:06		
North Coast Prep* (No FB)	101	2:00		

Southern Trinity* (No FB)	175	3:40
Arcata	100	2:00
Del Norte	26	0:35
McKinleyville	94	1:53
Eureka	109	2:08
Fortuna	126	2:28
Averages	112.3	2:17

*Little 4 Conference, rest are in the Big 5. Big 5 is 450+ enrollment

Ontario High School in the 4-A Greater Oregon League– Draft #5

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Baker - 4	74.2	1:13	\$148.97	2-3 Periods
La Grande - 4	117	1:50	\$203.76	3-4 Periods
McLoughlin - 4	188	2:57	\$321.64	5-6 Periods
Averages	126.4	2:00	\$224.79	4.3 Periods

Ontario High School in the 4-A Greater Oregon League ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Vale - 3	16.7	0:25	\$48.37	0-1 Periods
Nyssa - 3	12.2	0:18	\$42.61	0-1 Periods
Baker - 4	74.2	1:13	\$148.97	2-3 Periods
La Grande - 4	117	1:50	\$203.76	2-3 Periods
Averages	55.02	0:56	\$110.42	2 Periods

Pendleton High School in the 5-A Intermountain League– Draft #5

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Crook County - 5	223	4:02	\$393.44	7 Periods
Hood River Valley - 5	151	2:31	\$274.28	4-5 Periods
Redmond - 5	221	4:21	\$390.88	7 Periods
Ridgeview - 5	223	4:04	\$393.44	7 Periods
The Dalles - 5	126	2:07	\$215.28	3-4 Periods
Averages	188.8	3:25	\$333.46	6 Periods

For the “League” below you will notice that La Grande and Baker are in two separate “Leagues”. Those two schools are with Vale, Nyssa, and Ontario in one “League” and Hood River, The Dalles, Redmond, and Ridgeview in another. They can be in the same “League” and not play each other. Vale, Nyssa, and Ontario are three hour drives away for Pendleton and La Grande is 3+ hours away from The Dalles, Hood River, Redmond, and Ridgeview. So those school would not play each other in “League” play but they have schools in their “League” that would play each other because they are closer.

Pendleton High School in the Hybrid Intermountain League ReD-Prop

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Hood River Valley - 5	151	2:31	\$274.28	4-5 Periods
The Dalles - 5	126	2:07	\$215.28	3-4 Periods
La Grande - 4	53.2	1:25	\$122.09	3-4 Periods
Baker - 5	97.7	2:02	\$179.05	4-5 Periods
Hermiston - 6	27.4	0:37	\$62.07	1-2 Periods
Averages	91.06	1:44	\$170.55	4 Periods

Analysis and Impact of Draft #5 on Brookings-Harbor High School Athletics

<u>School</u>	<u>Distance/Miles</u>	<u>Travel Time</u>	<u>Travel Cost*</u>	<u>Time Out of Classroom</u>
Henley - 4	206	4:07	\$371.68	7 Periods
Hidden Valley - 4	97.5	2:05	\$178.80	4-5 Periods
Klamath Union - 4	196	4:00	\$358.88	7 Periods
Mazama - 4	201	4:01	\$365.28	7 Periods
North Valley - 4	104	2:19	\$187.12	4-5 Periods
Phoenix - 4	130	2:38	\$247.40	6-7 Periods
Averages	155.75	3:11	\$284.86	6.33 Periods

Add 2:30 hours on average for slow bus, eating, bathroom stops, and arriving an hour early for dressing down, warm-ups, and game preparation.

Average depart time would be 5:41 before game time.

Soccer start time 3pm:	Average depart time 9:15am.	Miss 6-7 Periods
Volleyball start time 5pm:	Average depart time 11:15am.	Miss 4-5 Periods
Varsity Football start time 7pm:	Average depart time 1:15.	Miss 2-3 Periods
JV Football start time 5pm:	Average depart time 11:15am.	Miss 4-5 Periods
Basketball start time 4:15pm:	Average depart time 10:30am.	Miss 5-6 Periods
Baseball/Softball start time 5pm:	Average depart time 11:15am.	Miss 4-5 Periods

Hypothetically if you are a junior girl who is a three sport athlete that plays soccer, basketball, and softball for league games that player would make 15 away league game trips with an average of 6.33 periods missed per trip. That player would miss 75 periods or the equivalent of 13.5 days of school.

If you add in the pre season for those sports the number grows. For soccer you get 4 pre season games, basketball is 14, and softball is 16. These could change depending on the format the league has structured. If you have the same number of home and away non-league games and they are closer on average then maybe a student misses on average 3 periods. So for soccer it would be 2

games for 6 periods, basketball 7 games for 21 periods, and softball is 8 games for 24 periods. That is a total of 51 periods or 7.2 days.

Post season can be long and unpredictable but the days can add up quickly. If the team makes on average the 2nd round of the playoffs and hosts once and travels once then only 1 full day of classes would be missed per sport. That is saying that the basketball team does not make the state tournament. So that would be 14 periods for 2.0 days of school.

Other extra-curricular activities include band, choir, leadership, etc. If the kid is only involved in sports then you could stop here but the average three sport athlete has some other interests too. On average we will throw in a 3.5 periods per semester to make it an even 7 periods or 1.0 days of school.

If the kids never gets sick, never goes to the Dr, or no family emergencies/trips then you could put zero here. But let's say on average that a kid has 1 day they miss that is added up over the entire year. She shows up late after a trip, leaves early for a family vacation, etc. That would be 7 periods or 1.0 day missed for the year.

League Play: 95 periods/13.5 days of school
Pre-Season Play: 51 periods/7.2 days of school
Post-Season Play: 14 Periods/2.0 days of school
Other Extra-Curricular: 7 Periods/1 day of school
Apts., Sick, other: 7 Periods/1 day of school

Total: 174 Periods/24.9 days of school

Our largest reason for missed games in this scenario would be League Play. It could be even higher in the Winter with snowy roads. The rest of the scenarios listed are somewhat lean so you could easily add more hours/days for "things" that usually pop up. This does not take into account return time for league games on Tuesday and Thursday. The sleep and overall health of the student... Needless to say this is not an acceptable scenario.

In our current educational climate in Oregon with low graduation rates, high absenteeism, and scarce funding, we should be looking for answers to the problems in the classroom rather than adding to the problems. We can do our part to create a great athletic experience for our student-athletes without sacrificing their academic development by thinking outside of the box with a plan such as this.