



Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1
Wilsonville, OR 97070

503.682.6722 fax: 503.682.0960 <http://www.osaa.org>



November 27, 2018

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors
FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director
Kelly Foster, Associate Executive Director
SUBJECT: Update from the Petition to Play Down Task Force – October 17, 2018

The Petition to Play Down Task Force met at the OSAA Offices in Wilsonville on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 to start reviewing the current Petition to Play Down policy and examine potential changes. The task force was put together by the OSAA Executive Board after the most recent Classification and Districting Committee concluded. The OSAA Executive Board felt that a discussion and review of the current policy and how it may be improved warranted creation of a task force.

The task force was welcomed by OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber along with OSAA staff members Kris Welch and Kelly Foster. As it was the task force's initial meeting, the OSAA staff solely focused on the charge, the history and current policy in place for Petition to Play Down, areas of concern that have arisen over time and the goals of the task force.

Staff members Kris Welch and Kelly Foster went through the following documents with the task force:

- 1) Current policy regarding Petition to Play Down from OSAA Handbook
- 2) Information for schools that have filed a petition but were denied for not meeting all four criteria
- 3) Information for schools that have filed a petition that was granted based on meeting all four criteria
- 4) Correspondence received from member schools during the recent Classification and Districting process regarding Petition to Play Down

The Task Force requested a variety of information from the staff for its next meeting, including:

- Data for schools that have previously been granted a petition to play down, including league vs. non-league and in-classification vs. outside classification contests
- Impact on participation numbers for schools that have successfully petitioned to play down
- The role that Special District results play in petitions to play down
- Results for schools that unsuccessfully petitioned to play down
- Review the requirement that all programs within school are moved down when a petition is granted
- Review of a potential point criteria for successful programs at schools that were granted petitions to play down
- Analysis of how individual sports could be factored in to this policy, including looking at qualifiers, state finishes and number of participants
- Explore the possibility of moving a school down two classifications, either as a whole or activity by activity

The Task Force set its next meeting date for Thursday, December 13 at 9:00am at the OSAA Office in Wilsonville. This meeting is a closed work session for the task force, but the task force invites feedback from member schools on the Petition to Play Down policy and any areas the task force should address during its work.

The OSAA staff will provide a Task Force update, similar to this one, to all superintendents, principals, and athletic directors following each meeting. The Task Force roster, charge, and any additional information is available at <http://www.osaa.org/governance/task-forces>.

Written suggestions and proposals should be mailed or emailed to the OSAA (Kelly Foster kellyf@osaa.org, or Kris Welch krisw@osaa.org). Any communication received by the OSAA staff will be shared with all Task Force members for review and discussion.

The Task Force appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Kelly Foster kellyf@osaa.org or Kris Welch krisw@osaa.org at the OSAA if you have any questions.