

KPSAA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 12, 2020
10am-12pm
Virtual Meeting (via Zoom)

I. Call to Order
10:01am

II. Roll Call

Name	Title / Role	Present Y/N
Dan Beck	President / Middle School Representative (2021)	N
Dan Carstens	Vice President / Secondary Administrator (2022)	Y
Kari Dendurent	KPSAA Executive Secretary	Y
Jeff Ambrosier	Secretary / K-12 Schools Representative (2022)	Y
Mike Illg	Board of Education Representative	Y
Teala Lund	Parent Representative (2023)	Y
Kyle McFall	Activities Representative (2022)	Y
Al Plan	Representative at Large (2022)	Y
Jesse Settlemyer	High School Representative (2021)	Y
Bill Withrow	Elementary School Representative (2021)	Y @ 10:07
Mary Blossom	Admin. Secretary (non-voting)	Y

A. Guest Attendees:

Beth Swaby, Distance Ed Technology teacher
Bradley Smith, East High School ESports coach

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (9.10.2020)

Motion: Jesse Settlemyer

Second: Kyle McFall

Amendments: None; Unanimous consent

IV. Approval of Current Agenda (11.12.20)

Motion: Jeff Ambrosier

Second: Kyle McFall

Amendments:

A. Flexibility to allow for Mr. Bradley Smith to join when he's available.

B. Add Discussion Item c. - general discussion regarding skiing and winter sports

Unanimous consent

V. Executive Secretary Report/Communications

A. Notice of KPSAA Administrative Secretary Change

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- B. Approval of moving Nanwalek Academic Coach Stipend to Student Council Advisor, Range 3
- C. Approval to re-start Soldotna High Basketball Cheer Program
- D. Approval of Nikolaevsk adding ESports club program for one year, probationary

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. ESports – Mike Illg spoke about the demand and request for ESports is on the increase, especially due to Covid-19. Through informal discussions with other school board members, they expressed their support of moving forward as a way to keep students engaged and connected. We know there will be tough fiscal issues ahead, and financial constraints could play into any decision.

1. *Beth Swaby, Distance Ed/Technology Teacher*, shared with KPSAA her desire to advocate for ESports. She has spoken with many administrators who are open, but hesitant at the unknown. The cost to the school would be minimal, as the current infrastructure is already in place. The cost to participate would be \$64 per player per season (there would be a fall and spring season). High school teams compete, middle schools in the state offer intramural programs. Mrs. Swaby offered to act as the district coordinator for ESports and help educate schools and families, and work with the IT department.

Further discussion explained points of interest: Schools can have multiple teams. A team should be 5-7 players. Only one team per school advances to the playoffs. League of Legends is 5-on-5, Rocket League is 3-on-3. Schools can apply for an ESport club activity, but costs are only supported by the school with no district stipend. While not ideal, players can compete remotely. During competitions coaches must be present. If competing virtually, coaches must have a line of communication to their players.

2. *Bradley Smith, East High School ESports Coach*, addressed the board sharing his perspective. Mr. Smith has been coaching for three years and said by far League of Legends is the most popular game. He coaches two teams (7 players on each team), practice is ~3 times a week, with one game per week. Games last 45 minutes to an hour and they play two games. The draw for ESports is an opportunity for kids that wouldn't normally participate in any other sport to be part of a team. Besides scholarship opportunities, what he sees is job opportunities such as marketing and streaming. The board appreciates Mr. Smith's time and insight.

Vote was held during Discussion – Mike moved to support the approval of ESports as an Action Item and to allow qualified, interested schools to participate in ESports spring club this year, and formal ESports starting in Fall 2021. Second by Jeff. Unanimous consent. Formal language change will be presented at the February board meeting.

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B. ASAA Updates – Kari Dendurent

1. October 12-13, 2020

- Calendar changes for winter and spring sports
- NFHS Rule modifications for basketball, softball and hockey
- Unified sports eligibility
- Changing schools during a sports season
- Cold weather policy – rule states if temperature (including wind chill) at the field or rink is -20 degrees, the competition shall be cancelled
- Suspension of the Bylaws in case of emergency, such as natural disasters or pandemics
- Mix-6 State Tournaments changed to best of three games to 25 points (win by 2)
- Changes to DDF State format, now virtual for 2021 tournament
- No in-person component of the All-State Music Festival
- Out of State Travel requires participants to notify their school of eligibility if traveling out of state and must follow all state and local travel mandates.
- Schools forming co-op programs should be geographically close

2. November 9, 2020

- Reclassification policies were changed, including basketball. Geographic and competitive considerations along with a Classification Time Schedule was passed. Region 3 proposed a 5-classification option.
- Nordic Skiing is scheduled to start November 16th, Hockey January 4th, ESports February 1st, DDF November 16th with the State Event February 25th-27th, and tabled Wrestling calendar change until the December meeting.
- Tabled the Out of Season Policy until December; as of November 2nd, coaches are not allowed to coach in out of season game/scrimmage in any activity. Practices up to six hours a week is still allowed.

C. Winter and Spring Sports – Jesse Settlemyer

Built a preliminary basketball schedule (thanks to Kyle McFall) and mitigation plan. Looking for guidance moving forward and schools collaborating their mitigation plans, making them the same. Looking at skiing, possibly submitting the same plan as ASD. Disadvantage in KPBSD is proximity to trails and if no snow, then practice would be indoors and not allowed as of now. The board decided until the superintendent communicates otherwise, they will postpone any recommendations or guidance until activities resume.

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VII. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Recommended Stipend Changes, (Coaching Allocation Changes) Tabled from 9/10/20 – Kari Dendurent

Motion:

Second:

Amendments:

The board determined no action is needed at this time. The stipend language will be presented at the February meeting in handbook format.

- B. Suggested Language Changes to KPSAA regarding eligiblity – Tabled from 9/10/20
Kyle McFall / Phil Leck

Pertains to regaining eligibility after the fall semester. Intent is to create a pathway for students to regain eligibility after the third quarter and participate in spring sports.

Motion:

Second:

Amendments: None

Tabled until the February meeting. Mary will present language with strikeouts in handbook format.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: Jeff Ambrosier

Second: Kyle McFall

Unanimous consent

IX. Notice of Next Meeting

Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.