

KPSAA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

10am-2pm

Warehouse Conference Room

I. **Call to Order** President Settlemyer called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Jesse Settlemyer, Kyle McFall, Megan Smith, Vaughn Dosko, Dan Beck, Tim Daugharty, Shannon Dwyer, Doug Hayman, Tyler Krekling

Absent: Jenna Fabian

Name	Title	Role/Location
Jesse Settlemyer	High School Representative (2025)	President / KCHS
Kyle McFall	Activities Representative (2024)	Vice-President / Kenai Alt
Megan Smith	Parent Representative (2026)	Secretary / Kenai Middle
Vaughn Dosko	Executive Secretary	Principal Kenai Middle
Dan Beck	Secondary Administrator (2024)	Member / KCHS
Tim Daugharty	Board of Education Representative	Member
Shannon Dwyer	Representative at Large (2024)	Member / Skyview
Jenna Fabian	Elementary Representative (2025)	Member / NNS Elem
Doug Hayman	K-12 Representative (2024)	Member / Connections
Tyler Krekling	Middle School Representative (2025)	Member / Homer Middle
Mary Blossom	Admin. Secretary (non-voting)	Administrative

- Guest Attendees: Mr. Byron Weeks from Connections

III. Approval of September 28, 2023 Work Session Meeting Minutes

Motion: Megan

Second: Shannon

Amendments: None

Motion carried, unanimous

IV. Approval of September 28, 2023 Executive Meeting Minutes

Motion: Shannon

Second: Megan

Amendments: None

Motion carried, unanimous

V. Approval of November 14, 2023 Executive Membership Meeting Agenda with Flexibility

Motion: Kyle

Second: Megan

Amendments: Amend and Adjust Agenda as follows:

Add Discussion Item C - Non-KPBSD Student Participation Fees

Add Discussion Item D - Middle College/Jump Start Eligibility After Dropping Classes

Add Discussion Item E - Aurora Borealis Charter School to Move from Small Schools to Middle School Basketball Tournament

Motion carried, unanimous

VI. Executive Secretary Report/Communications

A. ASAA update

One topic of discussion involved starting Big Teams for middle school; however, this would come at a pretty substantial cost. Kodiak started using Big Teams at the beginning of this school year. The problem is uploading all the district forms into Big Teams, which is not user friendly. The benefit was the parent already having the account, the knowledge was there for the kids when they got to high school making it an easy transition. Mat-Su is using the option, but not forcing Big Teams to be used.

Mr. Dosko shared that ASAA may still be working on Title IX gender equity language. Vaughn said he is concerned about current language in our middle school handbook. Substantial language would need to be changed given the path the district is leaning. What about going to straight co-ed teams for everyone? Or do we follow ASAA's language at this level as well? He also questioned who is burdened with the extra costs of the Open team? Chaperones, lockers rooms, uniforms, bathrooms, busing – there will need to be language talking about this. In addition to trainings for coaches and school administrators on how to navigate and make decisions appropriately. Vaughn will need some language in place to reference when rendering a decision. Mr. Graham said there is no policy in place at the school board level for any of this, should we be asking for their direction? He doesn't want the KPSAA board bearing the brunt. The board agrees that the high school language should mirror ASAA. The middle school handbook will need to be much more specific than "refer to the ASAA handbook", and almost completely restructured. The Board of Education needs to be ready to adopt language and provide information to school administrators and KPSAA. The board will support Mr. Dosko and agrees nothing can happen until formal policy and direction comes from the district. The next ASAA board meeting is December 4th and 5th.

B. Region III meeting update

Basketball scheduling for next year- proposal is to start Nov. 4 with two options for the length of the season. One is the same length, the other is one week shorter meaning 4 days off before State and then State would not be held during spring break.

At the state level, Lumen Christie requested to opt up to 3A basketball in the Southcentral Conference. Seward is now a 2A school, but is opting up to 3A for volleyball.

9-man football- Eielson will not have a team next year, leaving 3 teams (Nikiski, Seward and Valdez). They are instead looking to co-op with North Pole.

RPI is supported by Region III for State seeding for soccer as opposed to a committee. The downside is it's hard to get the At-large berth without playing Anchorage schools. Scheduling plays into this.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. E2 & E4 Eligibility Checks – Byron Weeks from Connections

Mr. Weeks presented the board with documents showing apparent inconsistencies and redundant language regarding the E2 and E4 eligibility checks from the HS handbook. A review and explanation of the handouts showed the potential for a student to be eligible for an activity at the E2 eligibility check and fail the semester. ASAA's eligibility rule states "students must maintain an overall 2.0 GPA during the current semester to remain eligible. Students who do not maintain an overall 2.0 GPA may regain eligibility during the current semester by achieving and maintaining an overall 2.0 GPA within the school's grading system." Mr. Weeks believes the language in the HS handbook involving the mid-quarter checks is contrary to ASAA guidelines. He contends the semester grade should always be the measure of adequate semester progress. Mr. Weeks presented the board with a hypothetical scenario showing two students – one passed Q1, but failing at E2, the other failed Q1, but passing at E2. He showed the possibility of Student 2 being eligible at the mid-quarter grade check, but not able to pass the semester because of really poor performance in Q1. Some board members questioned the suggestion that the E2 calculation does not consider Q1 grades at the mid-quarter check. Based on information received from IT, the E2 grade check is a Q2 calculation from the beginning of that quarter only and does not include Q1 progress. The board discussed the issue and believes the addition of a simple statement to include cumulative semester language as well as notifying schools is the best course of action. The board thanked Mr. Weeks for his presentation.

B. Kenai Football Officials Association Re-Start

Mr. Settlemyer brought this issue to the attention of the board due to the Anchorage Football Association making the decision to not renew an agreement with the Kenai Peninsula starting next year. The Anchorage association sent a letter of explanation and notification with no specifics given. KPSAA is aware the Kenai Peninsula will need to re-start their association in order to have officials for home games. Eric Pomerleau is the point person and the need is to get the word out via social media, radio, newspaper, etc. Football scheduling is done by committee with no real say from local teams on when home games are scheduled.

C. Non-KPBSD Student Participation Fees

Mr. Settlemyer reminded the board activity fees did get raised to \$200 per student for this

year, but there is no differentiation between KPBSD and Non-KPBSD students. Mr. Hayman said the Non-KPBSD student should be paying substantially more; not to be cost prohibitive, but cost representative. Mr. Dosko reminded the board that the state legislature has mandated for public schools to allow non-KPBSD students to participate in school-based activities. Does this open us up to any form of unfair practice or discrimination? Mr. Beck spoke about when the participation law was established and wanting to charge additional fees, but the discussion was not accepted from district administration at the time. Mr. Graham shared this issue is currently on the agenda from the request of Mr. Holland. Mr. Dosko was tasked with finding out how many non-KPBSD participants are at our local schools. The data did provide pretty good numbers, mainly from central pen. It does come down to how well the principal and/or AD monitored the forms being filled out on Big Teams. He believes we are definitely on the track of wanting to pursue the discussion of the additional fee structure. It would be a good idea to get the word out or publicize the fact that district programs have been absorbing the costs that include non-KPBSD students that don't fund the district. The board agrees it is time to notify the public how much the district is providing for non-KPBSD students to be included in our activities. Mr. Hayman will investigate the numbers to find out what the actual costs are to operate these programs. Parameters should include facilities, personnel, travel, officials, etc. The board does not want to raise fees as a punitive nature, but based on actual numbers and be defensible under questioning. Board members feel the problem could be resolved legislatively if the lawmakers would prohibit other district "home schools" from being allowed to enroll students that reside in other districts.

D. Middle College/Jump Start Eligibility After Dropping Classes

This issue relates to student participants enrolled in Middle College or Jump Start classes. The question is if a student drops a college class, how does it affect their eligibility? Mr. Settlemyer shared with the board that a student can elect to not put the college class grade on their high school transcript. Currently a situation exists where two students at different schools want to drop a college class; one may not be passing the class, the other apparently does not want a grade lower than an A on their transcript. Both are on track to graduate. Handbook language states "a student who drops a course after the first two weeks of the semester shall be ineligible until the next semester unless otherwise approved by administration". The discussion is if the student is following the college rules, how does that play into high school eligibility? If the student is enrolled in KPBSD and taking a college class that the district is funding, does that make a difference? If we are counting that class as part of their eligibility and the student elects to not have the grade posted on their high school transcript, how is that justified? The board consensus was if the student used the class grade for a grade check, the class grade should count at the end of the class. Mr. Graham and Mr. Dosko will take this issue to the superintendent and table the discussion until February.

E. Aurora Borealis Charter School Request to Move from Small Schools to Middle School Basketball Tournament

Mr. Krekling was approached by Aurora Borealis about moving up to the Middle School basketball tournament. ABCS is already playing other schools during their season. The seasons are not aligned because small schools does not have an intramural season. What are the implications for the small schools tournament? The feedback from the small schools is in support of playing middle school B teams. What would alignment look like? It would have to be both boys and girls and teams couldn't bounce back and forth. Alignment would create more busing. Possibly look at adding B Teams to the Small Schools tournament. Mr. Krekling will get information and feedback from Chapman, CIA and Ninilchik, as well as the middle school B teams.

F. Ongoing: Mid Quarter Grade Check Language – 1st Reading

1. Student Scholastic Eligibility for Participation – IV. Student Eligibility. Section C. Item 1. b.
2. Students determined to be ineligible at the mid-quarter check based upon their current cumulative semester grade will begin their ineligibility on the first school day following the grade check until the next eligibility check Students may regain their eligibility no sooner than the Thursday immediately following the initial mid-quarter grade check if they meet the 2.0 GPA requirement, are passing all classes, and turn in the completed regain eligibility form. Completed regain eligibility forms must be submitted during normal school hours. Students will be afforded seven calendar days from the initial mid-quarter check to regain their eligibility. Otherwise, they remain ineligible until the next eligibility check.

Mr. Settlemyer stated the feedback from schools was mostly positive with the proposed mid-quarter grade check language. He asked the board for any further discussion. The board will adopt official language including Mr. Weeks' proposal at the February meeting.

G. Appendix A – KPBSD Athletic/Activity Participation Registration – Enclosure, 2nd Reading

1. Delete *NOTE: If you are a student attending a KPBSD-approved correspondence, charter, alternative program or State of Alaska approved correspondence program, you must obtain the signature of the Program Director for each activity you participate in and leave a copy of this form in his/her office.*

2. Move to Action Item A

No further discussion offered.

H. Compliance with Title IX - from ASAA

Nothing additional to report, see Mr. Dosko's communication above.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS – For Board Adoption

A. Appendix A – KPBSD Athletic/Activity Participation Registration

1. Delete NOTE section from bottom of Appendix A

Motion: Megan

Second: Kyle

Amendments: None
Motion carries, unanimous

IX. Board Comments

None

X. Next Meeting

February 20, 2024

XI. Adjournment

President Settlemyer adjourned the meeting at 1:22 p.m.