

UTAH HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 19, 2024
@ UHSAA Offices
9:00 AM

Board Members in Attendance: Jerre Holmes, Marilyn Richards, Amber Shill, Burke Staheli, David Warren, David Lund, Zack McKee, Paul Sweat, Luke Rasmussen, Jason Smith, Mike Mees, Devin Smith, Bryan Durst, Patrick Lambert, Brent Strate. **Minutes:** Jennifer Thomas

1. Welcome & Chairperson Business:

- A. Chair's General Observations:** Chair Jerre Holmes welcomed the board and thanked them for their tireless efforts with realignment. He also welcomed individuals seated in the gallery.
- B. Reverence/Thought:** Ms. Marilyn Richards shared a quote by Tony Robbins: "*Stay committed to your decisions but stay flexible in your approach.*" She reminded the board that it is important that they listen and try to understand different points of view, but when a decision is made they stay committed to it.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought:** Mr. Brent Strate provided a copy of the Sullivan Ballou letter to each board member. This letter was penned by a civil war soldier. Mr. Strate read it to the board and then led them in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- D. Approval of Minutes: From December, 12, 2024:**

MOTION: Mr. David Warren made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2024, board meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Dave Lund. The motion carried.
- E. Approval of Board Agenda**

MOTION: Mr. Lund made a motion to approve the board agenda for today's meeting. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. Realignment: Chair Holmes turned the time over to Mr. Rob Cuff, who outlined the procedures below and explained the materials provided that would assist with the realignment. Mr. Cuff asked if there were any questions regarding the materials. There were none. Mr. Holmes pointed out that a lot of feedback had been given to the Board regarding the realignment on both sides, which is typical for an alignment process.

- A. Timetable**
- B. Format and Procedures**
- C. Member School Profile**
- D. Current 2024-25 Classifications and Regions**

E. Second Consideration of Regions

F. School Requests by Sport or Activity Considerations

G. Further Consideration of Region Placement: Mr. Holmes asked individuals seated in the gallery if any would like to speak on the current realignment, starting with 6A. There were multiple schools that requested to speak, and they were given time to do so. The board asked questions and received feedback from the 6A representatives.

Mr. Holmes recommended that a board member make a motion to go with the current consideration or change to what was proposed last week.

MOTION: Ms. Amber Shill made a motion to swap Corner Canyon with Cedar Valley, otherwise everything would remain the same. Mr. Patrick Lambert seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The motion was withdrawn.

MOTION: Ms. Richards made a motion to the 5-7-5 configuration (going back to the first consideration), with every sport except football, with Cedar Valley and Westlake moving to region two, recognizing that it will be hard for the five school regions to schedule. Mr. Paul Sweat seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Brent Strate made a substitute motion to make two regions in 6A and leave the other sports the same. No second was made.

The board then moved to 5A.

MOTION: Ms. Shill made a motion to keep the realignment for 5A as was configured in the second consideration. Mr. Luke Rasmussen seconded the motion. The motion carried. (There was one opposed).

4A and 3A were then discussed together and the gallery members were invited to speak. The board members also spoke and asked questions of the schools in attendance.

MOTION: Mr. David Warren made a motion to keep Cedar in 4A and align them with the Washington County Schools and adopt the proposal for 3 regions in 3A. It was seconded by Mr. Dave Lund. The motion carried. (There were two opposed).

MOTION: Mr. Bryan Durst made a motion to move Summit Academy to Class 3A, Region 8 and Park City to region 10. It was seconded by Mr. Patrick Lambert. The motion carried.

2A and 1A were then discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Devin Smith made a motion to accept 2A and 1A as was previously proposed for the second consideration. It was seconded by Mr. Lund. The motion carried.

Football realignments were then discussed starting with 6A. Individuals seated in the gallery were invited to speak.

MOTION: Ms. Richards made a motion to keep 6A the same as all other sports. Ms. Shill seconded the motion. The motion carried. (There was one opposed).

5A football was then discussed with the gallery being asked if they had any comments.

MOTION: Mr. J. Smith made a motion to move Orem from Region 6 to Region 7 for football only. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4A football was then discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Durst made a motion to keep 4A football as it currently stands. Mr. Strate seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3A, 2A and 1A football was then opened for discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Lund made a motion to keep 3A, 2A and 1A as currently proposed. It was seconded by Zack McKee. The motion carried.

Member schools were then invited to present their requests to move up, only in specific sports.

MOTION: Mr. Rasmussen made a motion to allow East and Judge in boys lacrosse, and Park City, in boys and girls lacrosse to compete in 5A. Mr. Lambert seconded the motion. The motion carried.

American Heritage HS, Highland HS and Orem HS requested to move in boys basketball.

MOTION: Ms. Richards made a motion to allow American Heritage to move up to 3A in boys' basketball, and for Highland and Orem to move up to 5A in boys' basketball. It was seconded by Ms. Shill. The motion carried.

Jordan HS, Orem HS, Stansbury HS and Timpanogos HS requested 5A for baseball.

MOTION: Mr. Paul Sweat made a motion to allow Jordan, Orem, Stansbury, and Timpanogos to compete in 5A baseball. Seconded by Ms. Richards. The motion did not carry.

MOTION: Mr. Smith made the motion to deny Jordan, Orem, Stansbury, and Timpanogos to compete in 5A for baseball. Mr. Burke Staheli seconded the motion. The motion carried. (There was one opposed).

Jordan HS then requested to move to 6A in baseball.

MOTION: Ms. Shill made the motion to allow Jordan HS to move to 6A Region 3 in baseball. It was seconded by Ms. Richards. The motion carried.

Wasatch requested to move from 5A to 6A, Region 3 in swimming. Brighton requested to move to 6A Region 1. The schools were allowed to explain their reasoning.

MOTION: Ms. Richards made a motion to approve Brighton HS and Wasatch HS to compete in 6A swimming. Mr. Rasmussen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Salt Lake Academy requested to move to 6A in soccer. They would prefer region 2.

MOTION: Mr. Durst made a motion to allow Salt Lake Academy to be allowed in 6A, Region 2. Mr. Staheli seconded the motion. The motion carried. (8 board members voted yes, 6 board members voted no).

Park City requested to compete 5A in Speech and Debate. Rowland Hall requested to compete in 3A Speech and Debate.

MOTION: Mr. Durst made a motion to allow Park City to compete in 5A Speech and Debate, with Rowland Hall being allowed to compete in 3A. It was seconded by Ms Shill. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Lund made a motion to approve the work that was done today as it relates to re-classification and region placement in all sports except football, to include the requests to move up. and then the football only reclassification as it stands. Ms. Richards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. **Legal Report:** Mr. Mark Van Wagoner provided a legal report. No decision has been made in the current court case regarding the student visa eligibility rule.
4. **Acknowledge Outgoing BOT Members:** The board members were thanked for their service and then asked to speak for a few minutes.
 - A. **Marilyn Richards – 6A School Board**
 - B. **Dave Lund – 2A School Board**
 - C. **Brent Strate – USBE Representative**

Mr. Cuff thanked the entire board for all their hard work regarding the realignment. Mr. Holmes also expressed gratitude to the board and thanked them for carrying out the burden of getting through the realignment. He thanked Nate Marshall for his efforts in creating the success factor data analysis, which was a very beneficial tool in this year's realignment.

MOTION: Mr. Warren made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Strate seconded the motion. The motion carried.