

**UTAH HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, December 4, 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:** Mr. Jerre Holmes welcomed the board and informed the schools that they would have two minutes each to speak.
- B. Reverence/Thought:** Mr. Zack McKee shared that he loves this time of year. The world gets a little bit more joyous, and we all get a little bit better. He then expressed gratitude for everyone and then offered the prayer.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic Thought:** Mr. Luke Rasmussen expressed gratitude that we live in the greatest country in the world. He spoke about the Dignity Index, which is all about easing the division, preventing violence, and solving problems. The highest score on the Dignity Index states that each one of us is born with inherent worth, so we treat everyone with dignity no matter what. And we fully engage with the other side. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- D. Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2024 (summary on UHSAA website):**  
  
**MOTION:** Ms. Marilyn Richards made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Board of Trustees meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Luke Rasmussen. The motion carried.
- E. Approval of Board Agenda:**  
  
**MOTION:** Mr. Brent Strate made a motion to approve the board agenda. Mr. Burke Staheli seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2. Realignment 2025-2027:**

- A. Timetable:** Mr. Rob Cuff outlined the timetable and explained that today the original bubble schools would have an opportunity to declare a preference. Next Wednesday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m. there will be a public hearing Zoom meeting. Information will be sent to districts and schools on Monday, December 9, 2024. Today is pretty much reserved for the bubble or tied schools, but on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, anyone can speak to their region placement or any other concerns that they may want the board to hear. Then the board will meet on December 12th to look at a second consideration of assigned regions. Then, December 19th will be the final meeting of the realignment. That day will also be consideration for sport by sport in higher classifications.

- B. Letters to Districts and Schools:** The meeting materials include the letter that was sent out to districts and member schools on November 25th talking about today's meeting, and also talking about the Zoom meeting on the 11th.
- C. Current 2024-25 Classifications and Regions:** The meeting handout contains a list of schools that are tied between two classifications. There are 21 schools who are tied between 5A and 6A classifications. Remember that if a school is tied, it doesn't matter if the school is on the left or the right; they are all tied. So, if a school is a bubble school on the left or the right of the bottom of the 6A classification and the top of the 5A, they are considered tied now in enrollment. And it's up to the board now to determine the tiebreakers for those ties. There are 20 schools tied between the 4A classification and the 5A classification, two schools tied between 3A and 4A, five schools between 2A and 3A, two schools between 1A and 2A, and then there are some football bubble schools as well that we'll get to today.
- D. First Consideration of Classifications:** Another provided meeting handout is the list of the first consideration of classification placement. The first general alignment is on the front, on the back is the specific football alignment.
- E. Format and Procedures:** There are format procedures that were approved for this alignment. In other words, there are rules that the board must follow when it comes to placement of schools. Those rules can be found on our website at uhsaa.org, in article five of the constitution, classification and alignment. Those have been posted there now for a few months. The board was given these in the meeting materials. Those may be referred to during the meeting.
- F. Member School Profile:** A copy of the UHSAA member school profile and a description of how it works, and the data was also provided to the board. They were asked to use the data provided. There was a situation where one school was left off one of the classifications, but it was updated and presented for consideration. It's already been approved by the motion.

The bubble schools were then invited to speak with a two-minute time limit per school, starting with 5A-6A alphabetically and going down to 1A-2A.

Once all schools had spoken, the board convened to discuss the requests from the bubble schools.

**MOTION:** Ms. Richards made a motion to accept the proposal for realignment of UHSAA member schools into classifications and regions. The motion was seconded by Mr. McKee. The motion carried.

- 3. Legal Report:** Mr. Van Wagoner discussed the current court case and explained they had a hearing on November 27, 2024 and are awaiting the judges' decision.
- 4. UHSAA Items**
  - A. Student Visa Eligibility Rule:** Mr. Holmes invited Mr. Patrick Lambert to speak regarding the student visa eligibility rule.

**MOTION:** Mr. Lambert made a motion to have the UHSAA team explore options to expand the investigative process. Mr. Strate seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**MOTION:** Mr. Lambert made a motion to rescind the student visa eligibility rule by going back through the process of changing the rule. The motion did not carry for lack of a second to the motion.

**MOTION:** Mr. Staheli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Mr. David Warren. The motion carried.