

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 17, 2024
8:00 AM @ Siempre Utah – South Mountain Golf Course

Welcome and Chair Business: Mr. Craig Hammer welcomed the board.

Reverence/thought: Mr. Rodney Shaw shared that several of his family members participated in World War II. He shared the story of Admiral Nimitz, who arrived at Pearl Harbor soon after the bombing and shared three mistakes the Japanese made. Instead of seeing the devastation as a negative, he saw the positive. Mr. Shaw recommended the committee apply this to their schools and focus on the positive.

Pledge of Allegiance/Patriotic thought: Mr. Steve Gordon shared a couple of quotes by Martin Luther King and invited the board to apply them to their lives.

Winter Sports Assignment Sheets: Ms. Jan Whittaker shared a sign-up sheet with the board and encouraged them to sign-up to help with the upcoming winter state tournaments.

Distinguished Service Luncheon: Mr. Rob Cuff reviewed the committee assignments to introduce the honorees for the upcoming luncheon and provided the needed materials to each committee member.

BOT Meeting Report:

November 16, 2023: Mr. Jade Shepherd shared a brief report of the items discussed in the last Board of Trustees meeting.

USBE Report: Ms. Teri Davis spoke about the upcoming SHAPE conference on March 12-16, 2024. She encouraged coaches to attend as there would be multiple classes that provide professional development credit. She encouraged schools to add Unified Sports and said that First Lady Abby Cox will provide ideas of how to implement them into their schools.

Fall Activities Report:

Fall Results: Mr. Cuff referred the committee to the list of state tournament winners and congratulated all who participated.

Calendar:

Fall Golf (Boys): Tournament sites are still being finalized.

Baseball: The baseball sites are almost finalized.

2023-2024: The calendar is located on the UHSAA website and will be updated as needed.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made a motion to approve the 2024-25 calendar. It was seconded by Mr. Darin Jenkins. The motion carried.

2024-2025: Due to the above motion, this document will be added to the UHSAA website today. It will be adjusted as needed by the Executive Committee.

UIAAA: Mr. Marc Hunter reminded the committee that the UIAAA Conference will be held in St. George on April 17-20, 2024. Classes will be offered to middle school coaches, so please encourage them to attend. He also reported the NIAAA Conference in Orlando, Florida, went well and was the second biggest attended NIAAA conference thus far.

Diversity & Inclusion: Mr. Kelepolo thanked Mountain View for allowing them to meet at their school and Ms. Mackay-Whiteurs for her work and putting things together for the agenda. He mentioned the book *The Locker Room*. It provides better understanding on Diversity and Inclusion issues. Mr. Kelepolo recommended all to read it.

Staff Items:

Sportsmanship Items: Ms. Whittaker shared that regions are still holding their Student Leadership Conferences through the winter. If a region has not yet held one, Ms. Whittaker encouraged them to do so.

Sportsmanship/Gold Star Coach Award: Winners will be announced next month.

Boys Volleyball Update: Many schools have added boys' volleyball. All classifications except 1A have teams.

Volleyball State Tournament: The feedback on how to shorten the state tournament is still on going. Committee members were encouraged to continue to get feedback from their regions and bring it to the March meeting so a decision can be made.

Volleyball Concerns: Some parents are concerned about school volleyball coaches also being club coaches. They feel players that are on their club teams are given preference on the school team. It was discussed if UHSAA could do anything about this. It was decided that the schools districts will handle this as they are the employers of the coaches.

Academic All-State: Mr. Chris Shipman explained that the winter period is open at this time. Home school students will be considered for this award on a case-by-case basis.

Credentials: Mr. Cluff shared that winter credentials have been sent to all schools. They were picked up by some schools at ADEC and the remainder were mailed.

Officials Update: The implementation of waiving the registration fee for first year coaches has netted over 100 more officials. This has resulted in less issues covering all sports. Mr. Cluff feels like things are improving in that area.

Ejections Report: Ejections were at a good level until the last couple of weeks, but there have been multiple in boys' basketball recently. Mr. Cluff encouraged the board to reach out to their coaches and students and remind them of the importance of school sportsmanship. He is also dealing with a couple of officials that have made some mistakes. It is an ongoing issue and efforts need to be made to improve sportsmanship all around. Most problems come from parents, but coaches, players and fans also are an issue. It needs to improve in all areas.

Tennis Items: Ms. Missy Mackay-Whiteurs shared that 3A and 4A classifications will hold a play-in matches the day before the state tournament.

Softball Items: There were not enough teams to separate 1A into its own state tournament. 1A will stay with 2A.

Swim Items: Mr. Steve Marsing shared that unified swimming is growing. In 2A, the first and second place 2A teams will receive their own trophies. Medals will remain the same.

Sports Medicine Advisory Report: An article from High School Today was provided to the committee regarding compliance with the Emergency Action Plans.

UHSAA Moratoriums: The summer moratorium will only be allowed to be moved on a school-wide basis. Individual sports cannot move. There are some things allowed on the 4th of July or one other day that week, as outlined in the UHSAA Handbook. Moratorium changes will be displayed on the web site.

Boys Soccer Items: Mr. Cluff reminded the board that the contract regarding penalties for principals and head coaches to sign and return is due March 4. It will be sent out next week. The ejection reports that the school is supposed to fill out are being done at less than 50%. Schools need to do a better job of completing these.

Basketball Items: The state tournament dates for 5A and 6A will need to be modified due to conflicts at the University of Utah.

MOTION: Mr. Rodney Shaw made the motion to modify the state basketball state tournament dates for 6A to allow the games to all be at the University of Utah. Mr. Jed Johansen seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Jason Smith made the motion to modify the state basketball state tournament dates for 5A to allow the games to all be at the University of Utah. It was seconded by Mr. Ryan Bishop. The motion carried.

Football Endowment Game Request: West HS has requested to move their endowment game to week two of the season, due to them travelling out of state in week one for a game.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop made the motion to allow West HS to move their endowment game to the second week of the season. Ms. Hardy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop made a motion to play the KJZZ Game of the Week on Thursday. Mr. Jared Wright seconded the motion. The motion carried.

New Member School Applications:

New School Applications for 2024-25:

Vanguard Academy: Mr. Charlie Reynolds, the school director at Vanguard Academy and The AD Tim Gustavason presented to the committee and shared details about their school. Mr. Cuff and Mr. Cluff recently visited the school and athletic facilities. Mr. Cluff shared information about the site. They are hoping to participate in Cross Country, Swimming, Basketball and Track and have the numbers to have JV and Varsity teams in basketball.

Weber School District: West Field will start with 1010 students. Fremont will lose 941 students, starting the year with 1272 students. There are some boundary exceptions. West Field will be capped at 1250 students. West Field is requesting to go 4A, Region 11, with the Cache County schools and Bear River. Fremont wants to go 5A for a year in Region 5 if possible so they can stay with their other two region schools.

Discussion Items: A recommendation needs to be made on Vanguard. Region 17, 2A. They will be independent.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to add Vanguard to Region 17. Mr. Shepherd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Nate Marshall made the motion to add Westfield to Region 11. It was seconded by Mr. Jenkins. The motion carried.

It was decided to table the recommendation of where to put Fremont until Mr. Smith discusses the potential move with his region. He will reach out to Mr. Cuff with the results of the discussion within a week.

Realignment 2025-2027:

Competitive Equity Committee Report: Mr. Nate Marshall shared an overview of the standard deviation for each sport. Mr. Cluff then shared the data that he has compiled by sport for each state tournament over the years of 2019-2022. A discussion ensued on how this can be implemented to help determine realignment and what factors are used to move schools up and down through classifications. Mr. Cluff recommended they hold a Zoom meeting about this issue. Mr. Cuff asked if the classifications feel the same or feel differently. Mr. Hammer recommended the wait until after the Board of Trustees meeting and then hold the Zoom meeting.

Soccer Requests: Mr. Kim Bailey from Parowan & Mr. Harold Robison from Millard HS presented a request for Millard and Parowan to move up to 3A in girls soccer. The region they are requesting already has eight teams and plays each team twice. They only have two available games in the pre-season. The recommendation was to table it until the next meeting to allow the two schools to try to see if they can find their own schedule. They will visit the issue again at the March meeting.

For the Good of the Order:

BOT Election Results: There were two elections. In the 3A classification, David Warren was running again and was re-elected. In 4A, Mr. Burke Staheli was elected as Mr. Jeffery Neilson from Cache County did not run again. He is from the Washington School District. The private school representative election is coming up and will take place in April for a 3-year term. The committee needs to approve a 5A principal for the Executive Committee.

MOTION: Mr. Bishop made the motion that Mr. Smith be appointed as the 5A principal for the Board of Trustees. It was seconded by Mr. Wright. The motion carried.

The superintendent for the 1A/2A position will be appointed by the Superintendent's Association.

UHSAA Super Fans: They are normally honored during one of the basketball state tournaments. Mr. Cuff shared the names of who is being nominated. He asked if there was any discussion.

MOTION: Mr. Morris made the motion to approve the six nominees in each classification. It was seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion carried.

UHSAA Circle of Fame: Mr. Cuff shared the three nominees. The three nominees are Mr. Craig Drury, former high school boys' basketball coach, Mr. Bill Boyle served as Chair of the Board of Trustees for four years and served on the Board for two years, and Marc Hunter for all of his work as an athletic director and as Executive Director of UIAAA.

MOTION: Ms. Hardy made the motion to approve the three nominees. Mr. Gordon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Heart of the Arts & Spirit of Sport Awards: Mr. Cuff shared the name of the winner; Ella McKinley and asked Mr. Ryan Oaks to share details about the student. Two winners were selected for the Spirit of Sport Award. Mr. Bailey shared details about his student from Parowan. Her family was in an accident where her uncle and cousin were killed. She also had a softball accident and tore her knee. She is a great person. The other winner is Joe Lomu. He lost his leg to cancer. He is an outstanding young man.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ms. Hardy to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion carried.