

PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.  
550 GETTYSBURG ROAD, P.O. BOX 2008  
MECHANICSBURG, PA 17055-0708

PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

PIAA Board Room,  
Mechanicsburg, PA  
Wednesday, March 22, 2023

At 2:05 p.m., Wednesday, March 22, 2023, Mr. Frank M. Majikes, PIAA President, called the meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Michael A. Barber, Kennett Square .....	District 1
Stephen Brandt, Glen Mills.....	District 1
Francis M. Majikes, Wilkes-Barre .....	District 2
Michael J. Craig, Mechanicsburg .....	District 3
Patrick J. Tulley, Shillington .....	District 3
David Bitting, Hummelstown .....	District 3
Chris Venna, Coal Township.....	District 4
Paul Leonard, Cairnbrook .....	District 5
Michael Hudak, Jr., Johnstown .....	District 6
David McBain, Imperial .....	District 7
Brian Geyer, McMurray .....	District 7
Michael Allison, Aliquippa.....	District 7
Karen Arnold, Pittsburgh .....	District 8
Aaron Straub, St. Marys .....	District 9
Dr. Peter P Iacino, Sharon .....	District 10
Robert F. Hartman, Jr., Whitehall.....	District 11
Michael W. Hawkins, Fort Washington.....	District 12
Joseph D. Sette, Warminster .....	District 12
Peg Pennepacker, Red Hill .....	
Representing .....	PSBA
Dr Thomas Lesniewski, Punxsutawney .....	
Representing .....	PASA
Jonathan Bauer, King of Prussia .....	
Representing .....	PAESSP
Robert Bozzuto, Wexford .....	
Representing .....	PSADA
Ronald J. Kanaskie, Riverside .....	
Representing .....	PCA
Bonnie S. Wolbert, Tionesta .....	
Representing.....	Female Officials
Thomas F. Brady, Norristown .....	
Representing .....	Male Officials
Audrey Hall, McConnellsburg .....	
Representing .....	Girls' Athletics
Becky Flynn-Hensel, Holland .....	
Representing .....	Private Schools
Molly Pomeroy-Hoover, Bellefonte .....	
Representing .....	Female Parents' Representative
David A. Baun, Doylestown .....	
Representing .....	Male Parents' Representative

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, Executive Director ..... PIAA  
Mark E. Byers, Chief Operating Officer ..... PIAA  
Melissa N. Mertz, Associate Executive Director ..... PIAA  
Patrick B. Gebhart, Assistant Executive Director ..... PIAA  
Jennifer S. Grassel, Assistant Executive Director ..... PIAA  
Michael L. Solomon, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs ..... PIAA

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Alan R. Boynton, Jr., Esq. .... Legal Counsel  
Dana W. Chilson, Esq. .... Legal Counsel  
Catharine Connor ..... Legislative Counsel

GUESTS PRESENT

Sean Kelly, Assistant Executive Director ..... District 1  
Scott M. Seltzer, Executive Director ..... District 7  
George Shue ..... PA Football Coaches Assn.  
Sean P. McAleer, Director of Education ..... Pennsylvania Catholic Conference

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Kanaskie, seconded by Mr. McBain, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2023 meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors, as corrected and presented by the Executive Director.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Majikes called an Executive Session of the PIAA Board of Directors to discuss active litigation matters. The Board of Directors then went into Executive Session, where litigation matters were discussed.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

President Majikes returned the meeting of the PIAA Board of Directors to Regular Session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

Upon presentation of the Executive Director, the Board of Directors' acted as follows on the following subjects:

1. On a motion by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mr. Bozzuto, the Board unanimously voted to authorize the Executive Director to write a letter to Senator David Argall, the chairman of the Senate Education Committee, to support health and physical education requirements for students and to not allow an exemption to this requirement to students who participate in interscholastic sports.

2. On a motion by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Dr. Barber, it was unanimously voted to enter into an agreement with a surveyor to establish the property lines of the PIAA property and to confirm that the property has not had any land changes since the building was constructed and opened in 1980.
3. On a motion by Mr. Leonard, seconded by Mr. Geyer, the Board unanimously approved the unaudited financial statements for the months ending December 31, 2022 and January 31, 2023;
4. The Board will receive the schedule for the District Annual Meetings when completed;
5. On a motion by Mr. McBain, seconded by Mr. Geyer, the Board unanimously voted to approve a recommendation from the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to remove Section #5, the Supplemental Acknowledgement, Waiver and Release: which is the COVID 19 form from the Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE), effective immediately.
6. On a motion by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Ms. Arnold, it was unanimously voted to edit the heading before questions 47, 48, 49 & 50 in Section 5: Health History, of the Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE) to be consistent with language provided by other medical organizations.
7. On a motion by Mr. Kanaskie, seconded by Mr. Haun, it was unanimously voted to allow an authorized medical examiner, as defined in the Glossary, to authorize requests for equipment accommodations due to disabilities for items such as glucose monitors, cochlear implants, medical alert bracelets, heart monitors, joint braces and other such items.
8. On a motion by Mr. McBain, seconded by Mr. Straub, it was unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee's meeting of March 13, 2023.
9. On a motion by Dr. Iacino, seconded by Mr. Allison, it was unanimously voted to approve on a **third and final reading basis**, effective immediately, a motion to clarify part of the following revisions to Article XIII, Penalties, Section 9A, of the PIAA Bylaws, to read as follows:

#### **ARTICLE XIII, PENALTIES, Section 9, Violations by Individuals**

The District Committee may request, in writing, an investigation by the school principal and a written report to be submitted to the District Committee for the District Committee's review regarding egregious supplemental disqualifications of Contestants, Coaches, and Team personnel. Actions of spectators in violation of Section 5., Spectators, of the Sportsmanship and Unsportsmanlike Conduct provision of the PIAA Bylaws may be reviewed.

10. On a motion by Mr. McBain, seconded by Dr. Iacino, the Board unanimously voted to approve, on a **first reading basis**, adding the following statement to the Competition Formula to reflect that when a Team moves up in classification pursuant to the Competition Formula, that sport classification becomes the baseline classification for that Team in that sport in the next cycle;  
Motion passed: 22-yes, 6-no

Once a school moves up in classification due to the Competition Formula, the Competition Classification competed in becomes the baseline classification for the subsequent classification cycle.

11. On a motion by Mr. Bozzuto, seconded by Mr. McBain, the Board voted, on a **first reading basis**, to add the sports of baseball and softball with the respective number of transfers at 2 for baseball and 2 for softball to be added to the Competition Formula;
12. On a motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. McBain, the Board unanimously approved, on a **third and final reading basis and effective immediately**, the modified standards for wheelchair and para-ambulatory track and field participants, as proposed by the Executive Director, and to delete the draft certification part of the policy and the form.
13. On a motion by Ms. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Geyer, the Board unanimously approved, on a **second reading basis**, a proposal to accept PIAA sponsorship and jurisdiction of the sport of girls' wrestling;
14. On a motion by Mr. Allison, seconded by Mr. Leonard, the Board unanimously approved, on a **third and final reading basis**, a proposal to amend the provisions of the PIAA Constitution relating to the election and appointment of District Committee members and officers, and their respective terms of office. The substance having been agreed upon, it was unanimously voted to have legal counsel develop appropriate language, consistent with the Board intention regarding the amendment, to modify the language in the PIAA Constitution relating to the election and selection of members of District Committees, as set forth in Article IX, District Committees, with the amended language to replace Section 1, Composition, and Section 2, to be submitted to the membership for approval. NOTE: Said proposed language was subsequently submitted by counsel and the following proposed modified language shall be submitted to the membership for approval:

## **ARTICLE IX DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

### **A. Composition and Selection**

1. At the District's annual meeting each year, the PIAA member schools of the District shall elect a number, to be determined at the discretion of the District, of at-large members to the District Committee. Only persons affiliated with member schools in that District are eligible for election.

2. Other members of the District Committee shall include the following who, unless otherwise specified, shall, at the discretion of the District, be either appointed by the District Committee or elected by the District Committee or its member schools:
- a representative of junior high/middle schools located in that District;
  - a member of a public school board of a member school in that District, as appointed by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association;
  - one male and one female officials' representative, as elected by the PIAA-registered officials of that District;
  - a representative of the Athletic Directors of the member schools in the District;
  - a representative of girls' athletics;
  - a representative of private schools located in that District; and
  - at least one parent representative.

The officials' representatives, girls' athletics representative and the parent representative(s) need not be affiliated with member schools in the District.

#### **B. Term of Office.**

All elections and appointments shall occur prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> and all terms of office begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> following election or appointment. The school board representative, the officials' representatives and the junior high/middle school representative shall each serve for a period of two years. All other members of the District Committee shall serve for a period of one year.

15. On a motion by Dr. Barber, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, the Board unanimously approved, on a **third and final reading basis, effective July 1, 2026**, a proposal to modify Article IX, District Committees, Section 2, Officers, of the PIAA Constitution, to be submitted to the membership for approval, to read as follows:

### **ARTICLE IX, DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

#### **Section 2. Officers.**

##### **Section 2. Officers.**

The officers of each District Committee shall be a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer or a Secretary-Treasurer combined. **Effective July 1, 2026**, no individual is eligible to serve as Chairman, Vice-Chairman or as a representative of a District on the PIAA Board of Directors unless that individual is employed by a member school on a full-time, part-time or contracted basis.

#### ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Assistant Executive Director Grassel reported on the following:

1. The Board received an update on the upcoming PIAA Basketball Championships to be held March 23, 24, 25, 2023 at the GIANT Center in Hershey.

### ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Assistant Executive Director Gebhart reported on the following:

1. The Board received an update on the Spring Sports Officials' Appreciation Week, to be held April 2-8, 2023;
2. On a motion by Mr. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Craig, the Board unanimously approved, on a **third and final reading basis, effective beginning with the 2024 season**, a motion to refine the policy specifying site locations and selection criteria from the first round through the semi-final rounds of the PIAA Football Championship tournaments. All first round will be held at home sites, (with recognition of east/west and contiguous boundaries) and subsequent rounds will be at neutral sites.

### ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Associate Executive Director Mertz reported on the following:

1. The Board received information on the NFHS Student Leadership Summit to be hosted in Indianapolis, IN, July 29-31, 2023. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2023;.
2. The Board received a review of the PIAA Swimming and Diving Championships held March 15, 16, 17, 18, 2023, at Bucknell University.

### CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER'S REPORTS

Chief Operating Officer Byers reported on the following:

1. The Board received a review of the PIAA Individual Wrestling Championships held March 9, 10, 11, 2023, at the GIANT Center in Hershey;
2. On a motion by Mr. Tulley, seconded by Mr. McBain, the Board unanimously approved, on a **suspended protocol basis and effective immediately**, a motion to adopt the 2023 & 2024 4A Baseball Bracket.

### TERMINATION REQUESTS CONCERNING COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF A SPORT, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022

On a motion by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Dr. Iacino, the Board unanimously approved the following termination requests concerning cooperative sponsorships of a sport, **effective beginning July 1, 2022:**

**District IX & X – Oil City Area and Venango Catholic (baseball)**

APPROVAL OF REQUESTS FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF A SPORT  
FOR 2022-23, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022 (will not affect classification size of Team(s))

On a motion by Mr. Geyer, seconded by Mr. McBain, the Board unanimously approved the following requests for cooperative sponsorships that **will not affect** classification size of the Team(s), **effective for the 2022-2023 school year:**

**District III** - Red Land and Boiling Springs High Schools (boys' tennis)

**District III** - Red Land and West Shore Christian Academy (boys' lacrosse)

**District III** -- West Shore Christian Academy and Harrisburg Academy (baseball)

**District IV** - Shikellamy and Northumberland Christian High Schools (boys' and girls' track and field)

**District VI** - West Shamokin and Marion Center High Schools (boys' volleyball)

**District VIII** -- Westinghouse and Allerdice (pending District approval) (softball)

**District IX** - Union and Allegheny Clarion Valley Junior High Schools (baseball and softball)

**District X** -- Greenville and Jamestown Area High Schools add Reynolds (boys' soccer) (modification)

**District X** -- The Learning Center and Meadville Area Middle School (girls' volleyball)

APPROVAL OF REQUESTS FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP OF A SPORT  
FOR 2023-24, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023 (will not affect classification size of Team(s))

On a motion by Mr. McBain, seconded by Mr. Craig, the Board unanimously approved the following requests for cooperative sponsorship that **will not affect** classification size of the Team(s), **effective for the 2023-2024 school year:**

**District XII** -- Kensington Multiplex and William W. Bodine High Schools (football)

APPROVAL OF MEMBER SCHOOL APPLICATION(S),  
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023

On a motion by Mr. McBain, seconded by Mr. Geyer, the Board unanimously approved the following member school application(s), effective **July 1, 2023:**

**District VII** -- Geibel Catholic Junior High School

Respectfully Submitted,



Dr. Robert A. Lombardi  
Executive Director

**NEXT PIAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING:  
SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023,  
AT 2:00 PM, IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE PIAA OFFICE.**