

NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION  
OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors met on April 13, 2023, at the NSAA office in Lincoln with members present as follows:

District I -- Kara Graham, Lincoln Southeast  
District I -- Dr. Dana Wiseman, Sutton  
District II -- Dr. Nick Wemhoff, Fort Calhoun  
District II -- Thomas Lee, Omaha Westview  
District III -- Dr. Jon Cerny, Bancroft-Rosalie  
District IV -- Ryan Ruhl, Centura  
District V -- Robert Drews, Arapahoe  
District VI -- Dr. Troy Unzicker, Alliance

Also in attendance: Bobby Truhe; NSAA Legal Counsel; Kim Snyder, Nebraska Department of Education Liaison; Jeff Maul, Visit Lincoln; Derek Bombeck, Visit Lincoln; Tim Savona, Pinnacle Bank Arena; Matt Davidson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Derek Bond, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and Dr. JJ Toczek, Lincoln Public Schools.

Drews called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

1. The Consent Agenda was approved on a motion by Ruhl, seconded by Lee. **Motion Carried, 8-0.** Items approved on the Consent Agenda included: approval of the agenda as amended, approval of the minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting, approval of the minutes of the March 15<sup>th</sup> Classification Committee meeting, and approval of the financial statements.

The following cooperative sponsorships were approved for renewal:

- Papillion-La Vista & Papillion-La Vista South for Boys Swimming and Girls Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- McCook, Medicine Valley & Southwest for Boys Swimming and Girls Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- Cross County & Osceola for Wrestling for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- North Platte & Ogallala for Boys Swimming and Girls Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- Sargent & Loup County for Wrestling, Boys Basketball, and Girls Basketball for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- Ralston & Omaha Gross Catholic for Boys Swimming and Girls Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- Hastings, Adams Central & Hastings St. Cecilia for Boys Swimming and Girls Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- Bellevue East & Platteview for Boys Swimming and Girls Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.
- Omaha Skutt Catholic & Mount Michael Benedictine for Boys Swimming for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years.

The following cooperative sponsorship was approved for dissolution:

- Lawrence-Nelson & Sandy Creek for Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, and Wrestling for the 2023-24 school year.
2. It was moved by Wemhoff, seconded by Wiseman to consider all NSAA Approved Ruling proposals. **Motion Carried Unanimously.**
    - i. Basketball – Class B Shot Clock. **Motion Carried, 7 For and 1 Against (Drews).**
    - ii. Bowling – District Tournament Format. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
    - iii. Cross Country – Class B Districts qualify first 30 runners, team 4 runners, runners finishing lower than 6<sup>th</sup> may only qualify for state as an individual. **Motion Failed, 4 For (Graham, Wiseman, Cerny, Unzicker) and 4 Against (Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Drews).**

- iv. Cross Country – Class B Districts qualify first 30 runners, team 4 runners, runners finishing lower than 3<sup>rd</sup> may only qualify for state as an individual. **Motion Failed, 0-8.**
- v. Classification – Class A combined enrollment of 1000 and above. **Motion Failed, 2 For (Wemhoff, Cerny) and 6 Against (Graham, Wiseman, Lee, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker).**
- vi. Classification – Class A combined enrollment of 900 and above. **Motion Failed, 3 For (Wiseman, Wemhoff, Unzicker) and 5 Against (Graham, Lee, Cerny, Ruhl, Drews).**
- vii. Football – 8-man eligibility number of 51. **Motion Failed, 3 For (Graham, Wiseman, Cerny) and 5 Against (Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker).**
- viii. Football – 8-man eligibility number of 55. **Motion Failed, 2 For (Wemhoff, Cerny) and 6 Against (Graham, Wiseman, Lee, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker).**
- ix. Football – 11-man classification numbers: Class A 500 and above, Class B 499-200, Class C1 and C2 199 and below divided equally. **Motion Failed, 1 For (Cerny) and 7 Against.**
- x. Football – 11-man classification numbers: Class A 450 and above, Class B 449-200, Class C1 and C2 199 and below divided equally. **Motion Failed, 1 For (Unzicker) and 7 Against.**
- xi. Football – Class C2 highest seed hosts the playoffs. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
- xii. Football – 6-man highest seed hosts the playoffs. **Motion Failed, 4 For (Graham, Cerny, Drews, Unzicker) and 4 Against (Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl).**
- xiii. Football – 8-man and 6-man running clock. **Motion Failed, 4 For (Graham, Wiseman, Lee, Unzicker) and 4 Against (Wemhoff, Cerny, Ruhl, Drews).**
- xiv. Penalties – remove \$200 assessment for not opting out of the postseason. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Drews, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Cerny, Ruhl).**
- xv. Golf – Removal of Class A state scoring monitors. **Motion Failed, 4 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee) and 4 Against (Cerny, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker).**
- xvi. College camps/clinics – During the season of a sport students are permitted to attend and take part in college camps/clinics. **Motion Carried, 5 For (Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Unzicker) and 3 Against (Graham, Cerny, Drews).**
- xvii. Journalism – Adding judge critiques to the state contest. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
- xviii. Journalism – A complete list of judges will be provided to participating schools. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Drews, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Cerny, Ruhl).**
- xix. Journalism – Two judges will be used at the state competition. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Cerny, Drews).**
- xx. Play Production – Districts will utilize one judge for technical award. **Motion Carried, 5 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl) and 3 Against (Cerny, Drews, Unzicker).**
- xxi. Play Production – District Technical Award winner will receive a plaque. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Drews) and 2 Against (Cerny, Unzicker).**
- xxii. Play Production – Districts will award one outstanding female performer and one outstanding male performer. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Cerny, Drews).**
- xxiii. Play Production – Districts will award two outstanding performers. **Motion Failed, 2 For (Cerny, Drews) and 6 Against (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Unzicker).**
- xxiv. Replacement Games – When a team cancels/forfeits its season, affected teams may replace the forfeited contest. **Motion Carried, 7 For and 1 Against (Cerny).**
- xxv. Speech – OI D's use of staging devices is limited to boxes, stools, or chairs. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
- xxvi. Tennis – Increase play date limit to 18. **Motion Carried, 7 for and 1 Against (Cerny).**
- xxvii. Tennis – A maximum of two coaches are permitted to coach at duals and invites. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
- xxviii. Track and Field – Eliminate the prelims in the 300 m hurdles and 400 m dash at the state championships. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Graham, Wiseman, Cerny, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Wemhoff, Lee).**
- xxix. Track and Field – Eliminate the prelims in the 300 m hurdles and the 400 m dash and add three relays (800 meter relay, 800 meter sprint medley relay and 1600 meter distance medley). **Motion Failed, 2 For (Cerny, Unzicker) and 6 Against (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Drews).**

- xxx. Track and Field – A tie for the last qualifying spot in all running events and relays will be broken by using the FAT time to the thousandth place. If a tie still remains the school name will be used. **Motion Failed, 2 For (Cerny, Ruhl) and 6 Against (Graham, Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Drews, Unzicker).**
  - xxxi. Track and Field – A tie for the last qualifying spot in all running events and relays will be broken using the FAT results beyond the hundredths. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
  - xxxii. Transfer Eligibility – Students who did not meet the May 1<sup>st</sup> transfer deadline and enroll at the school they transferred to on the first day of classes would be immediately eligible on the last day of the moratorium or after the first semester ends. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Wiseman, Wemhoff, Lee, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Graham, Cerny).**
  - xxxiii. Volleyball – Out-of-state tournaments played to 21 points will count in wildcard standings. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
  - xxxiv. Wrestling – State Championship seeding separating district champions. **Motion Carried, 6 For (Wemhoff, Lee, Cerny, Ruhl, Drews, Unzicker) and 2 Against (Graham, Wiseman).**
3. The Board Summer Retreat will be held June 14-15 in Kearney.
  4. The Board was provided a progress update on the UNL Raikes Design Studio's reconstruction of the NSAA website.
  5. The Board heard a presentation from Lincoln for the NSAA Girls and Boys State Basketball Championship.
  6. It was moved by Cerny, seconded by Graham to award the NSAA Girls and Boys State Basketball Championship to Lincoln for the 2024-2028 seasons. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
  7. It was moved by Lee, seconded by Ruhl to adopt the following football language beginning with the 2023 season: (1) Any school that forfeits a regular season contest will be ineligible for the postseason. (2) Any school that forfeits a regular season or postseason contest will be fined \$1,000 with the money going to the opponent if the game was to be the opponent's home game. The fine will be waived if the NSAA is able to replace the opponent's home game. (3) Any school that forfeits a regular season or postseason contest will be responsible for paying the officials. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
  8. It was moved by Ruhl, seconded by Wiseman to permit Class A Girls and Boys Basketball to use the shot clock beginning with the 2023-24 season. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
  9. The Board discussed ways to support diversity, equity, and inclusion.
  10. It was moved by Unzicker, seconded by Wemhoff to permit the following schools to begin football practice one week early and play in week zero: Elkhorn North, Beatrice, Blair, Norris, Lincoln Northwest, Lincoln Pius X, Omaha Westview, and Crete. Additionally, the NSAA staff may permit other schools the ability to practice early and play week zero contests if the need arises. **Motion Carried, 8-0.**
  11. The Board heard a presentation from Raymond James Financial.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be May 19, 2023, at the Embassy Suites in La Vista.

---

Jennifer Schwartz, Associate Director