

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 13, 2021– 9:00 a.m.  
Video Conference

**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Opening**

A. Call to Order

Dr. Layfield called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

B. Roll Call

Committee Members Present – Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson, Michael Rodriguez

DIAA Staff Present – Ms. Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Mrs. Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator, Ms. Tanya Reed – DIAA Secretary and Ms. Laura Makransky – Deputy Attorney General

Absent – Dr. Evelyn Edney, Stan Waterman

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bob Cilento made a motion to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Mr. Jeremy Jeanne. The motion was approved with a vote 15 Yes [Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson] and 0 No.

D. Approval of Minutes of DIAA April 8, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Mike Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA April 8, 2021 Board Meeting and the motion was seconded by Dr. Matt Donovan. The motion was approved with a vote 11 Yes [Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson, 0-No and 4-Abstain Dr. Bradley Bley, Bob Cilento, Jeremy Jeanne, Mike Breeding]

E. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of DIAA April 8, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Doug Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA April 8, 2021 Executive Session Minutes and the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion was approved with a vote 11 Yes [Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson, 0-No and 4-Abstain Dr. Bradley Bley, Bob Cilento, Jeremy Jeanne, Mike Breeding].

F. Approval of Minutes of DIAA April 19, 2021 Board Meeting

Mr. Bob Cilento made a motion to approve the minutes of DIAA April 19, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes and the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion was approved with a vote 13 Yes [Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Dr. Bradley Bley, Bob Cilento, Jeremy Jeanne, Mike Breeding, Mike Hart, Ted Laws,

Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson, 0-No and 2-Abstain Bruce Harris, Dr. Amelia Hodges].

#### G. DIAA Financial Report

Ms. Donna Polk gave the DIAA Financial Report, stating that DIAA's cash balance is \$504,000.00. \$19,000 came in from winter championships, numbers are low but hoping to recoup that with the spring championships. Mr. Bruce Harris made a motion to approve the financial report, the motion was seconded by Mr. Bob Cilento. The motion carried with [15- Yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0-No].

### II. **Division of Public Health Update**

Ms. Dana Carr and Mr. Jamie Mack gave an update to the Governors 28<sup>th</sup> Modification, stating the biggest change is the social distancing changing from 6 feet to 3 feet and that will apply to spectator crowds. There is also a little bit more flexibility for mask outdoors. Mr. Mack stated that referees should be able to take masks off as well once they are on the field playing. Mr. Mack reminded the board this does not go into effect until May 21<sup>st</sup>, this will allow sometime between now and then to figure out some of the specifics. The restrictions for busing has been removed from the order. DPH will be working with DOE to develop some guidelines for transportation of kids whether that be for the school day or other activities, the goal is to be able to get more kids on a bus. Ms. Carr added to please understand that while moving forward this does carry some risks and if students are unmasked its really going to be up to the adult present to ensure that mask do go back on when they are on the sidelines or when huddled up. In the past couple weeks as masks have been removed we have seen an additional need to quarantine more students especially during play because cannot account for the proximity and time spent in close contact. We could be seeing more quarantines as we move forward with less restrictions. Ms. Carr stated to encourage athletes to get vaccinated the more 12 and older we can vaccinate the better off we all are. There are a lot of vaccination clinics going around in a lot of communities and schools right now.

### III. **Joint Legislative Oversight Sunset Committee Update from May 4, 2021 Recommendations Meeting**

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update on Sunset. Ms. Polk stated that the Sunset Committee went through each recommendation and all were adopted. Ms. Polk reviewed each recommendation and the options that were chosen. Ms. Polk stated that all committees are now showing on the DIAA website. Ms. Polk stated she will let the board know when the next Sunset committee meeting is to be held. Dr. Layfield gave an update to senate bill 130 on out of season coaching.

### IV. **Action Items**

#### A. Sanctions

Ms. Polk stated the office started receiving sanction requests. Gave an updated in regards to sanctioning. Ms. Polk made sure for each request there was DPH approval to conduct them. Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to approve the tournament sanction details as presented, the motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Hart. The motion carries with [15-Yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0-No].

#### B. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4 by Sussex Academy – 2021.5.1\*

Bruce Harris recused himself from this matter.

Mr. Bob Cilento made a motion to move into executive session, the motion was seconded by Mr. Chuck Little. The motion carried with [14-Yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley,

Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson, and 0-No].

The board moved into executive session at 10:08 AM

Ted Laws left the meeting at 10:29 AM

The board returned from executive session at 10:59 AM

Stan Waterman joined the meeting at 10:59 AM

#### Roll Call

Committee Members Present – Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Stan Waterman, Robert Watson, Michael Rodriguez.

DIAA Staff Present – Ms. Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Mrs. Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator, Ms. Tanya Reed – DIAA Secretary and Ms. Laura Makransky – Deputy Attorney General

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to approve the request for a waiver for case #2021.5.1 because all 5 conditions of the waiver request were established. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeremy Jeanne. The motion carried with [12-Yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Chuck Little, Robert Watson, 1-Abstention Doug Thompson and 0-No].

Ted Laws returned to the meeting at 11:01 AM

#### C. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4 by Delaware Military Academy – 2021.5.2\*

Dorrell Green and Jeremy Jeanne recused themselves from this matter.

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to move into executive session, the motion was seconded by Dr. Amelia Hodges. The motion carried with [14-Yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Stan Waterman, Robert Watson, Bruce Harris and 0-No].

The board moved into executive session at 11:06 AM

The board returned from executive session at 12:15 PM

#### Roll Call

Committee Members Present – Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Stan Waterman, Robert Watson, Michael Rodriguez.

DIAA Staff Present – Ms. Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Mrs. Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator, Ms. Tanya Reed – DIAA Secretary and Ms. Laura Makransky – Deputy Attorney General

Mr. Mike Hart made a motion to grant the request for a waiver in case #2021.5.2 because all five conditions for granting a waiver were established. The motion was seconded by Ted Laws. The motion passed with [7 yes Vetra Evans-Gunther, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Stan Waterman, Bob Watson; 5 No Dr. Bradley Layfield, Mike Breeding,

Bob Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Doug Thompson, 2-Abstentions Dr. Bradley Bley and Dr. Amelia Hodges].

The committee took a recess at 12:21 PM

The committee returned from recess at 12:34 PM

#### Roll Call

Committee Members Present – Dr. Bradley Layfield, Dr. Bradley Bley, Mike Breeding, Robert Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Dorrell Green, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Jeremy Jeanne, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Doug Thompson, Stan Waterman, Robert Watson, Michael Rodriguez.

DIAA Staff Present – Ms. Donna Polk – DIAA Executive Director, Mrs. Stephanie Mark – DIAA Coordinator, Ms. Tanya Reed – DIAA Secretary and Ms. Laura Makrandsky – Deputy Attorney General

#### D. DIAA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule 2021 – 2022

Dr. Bradley Layfield and Ms. Donna Polk reviewed the recommended meeting dates with the board. DAG Laura Makrandsky recommended adding any procedural changes to meetings be included on June's agenda.

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to keep the 2022 meeting schedule as presented, with the January meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> after the annual meeting, and the April meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Bob Cilento seconded the motion. The motion carried with [16 yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Stan Waterman, Bob Watson, Mike Breeding Bob Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Doug Thompson, Dr. Bradley Bley, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dorrell Green and Jeremy Jeanne].

#### E. Date of DIAA Board Meeting June 2021

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to keep the June meeting date as is. The motion was seconded by Dr. Amelia Hodges. The motion carried with [16 yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Stan Waterman, Bob Watson, Mike Breeding Bob Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Doug Thompson, Dr. Bradley Bley, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dorrell Green and Jeremy Jeanne].

#### F. Leadership Conferences Summer 2021 – NFHS/DIAA

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update regarding NFHS and DIAA leadership conferences, stating the NFHS in-person conference will not happen this year due to low number of registrations, so therefore it will be a virtual summit again this year. Ms. Polk is hoping to get a couple hundred Delaware student athletes to attend that. The dates are August 8-10<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Polk gave an update to ideas for DIAA student athlete's conferences. No in-person DIAA Leadership Conference for 2021.

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to approve the DIAA Leadership Outline for the summer as well as next school year. The motion was seconded by Dorrell Green the motion carried with [16 yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Stan Waterman, Bob Watson, Mike Breeding Bob Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Doug Thompson, Dr. Bradley Bley, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dorrell Green and Jeremy Jeanne].

#### G. DIAA Sportsmanship Award

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update on sportsmanship award for 2021 and confirming that the board is wants to move forward with the sportsmanship award again this year. The

sportsmanship committee will meet next month and during that meeting need to look at criteria for the award.

#### H. Strategic Plan Discussion and Action

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update and went over outline and timeline of the strategic plan.

Dr. Bradley Layfield made a motion to approve the draft of the strategic plan. The motion was seconded by Dr. Amelia Hodges the motion carried with [16 yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Stan Waterman, Bob Watson, Mike Breeding Bob Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Doug Thompson, Dr. Bradley Bley, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dorrell Green and Jeremy Jeanne].

### V. **Coronavirus COVID-19 Impact**

#### A. Sports Seasons Consideration during the Academic Year 2020-21

##### i. Spring Sports 2021

##### 1. COVID-19 Positive Cases Update

Mrs. Stephanie Mark gave an update to the COVID-19 numbers, showing a graph with the weekly numbers of athletes that were screened. Mrs. Mark also shared a graph showing athletes that recently tested positive. A graph showing the number of games that were cancelled or postponed due to COVID.

Dr. Bley asked since Governors order went into effect if there were any reports or concerns from athletes not wearing mask on the playing field. Mrs. Mark stated she should have a graph regarding that in the next couple weeks. Ms. Polk stated she has not received any complaints.

##### 2. Determination for Spring Sports Tournament

Mrs. Stephanie Mark gave an update to the Tournament Schedule  
Ms. Donna Polk gave an update to the locations of where the Championship games for spring sports are being held. Ms. Polk stated she wants to assure that the softball athletes have the same comparable experience as the Baseball athletes.

##### 3. Spring Sports Championships Logistics/Operation Dissuasion and Action

Ms. Polk gave an update to the logistics and operations for spring championships. Ms. Polk stated going into planning the new executive order was not in place; however, now that the revised executive order has been released it provides relief as it relates to the mask use. There have been many reports from the community, officials, and member schools in regards to the noncompliance of spectators not adhering to the mask use. With the revised executive order effective May 21<sup>st</sup>, relief is provided for championship operations and enforcement of mask use ensuring the states order is followed. However, there will be three days where the current executive order must be followed with mask use. Ms. Mark gave an update in regards to spectator limits and schools with capability to live stream the events.

### VI. **DIAA Board Members Powers, Duties and Authority Legal Training**

Ms. Laura Makransky presented a training to the board on the Board's powers, duties and authority.

### VII. **DIAA Committee Tournament Reports**

#### A. Girls Basketball Committee

Ms. Donna Polk shared the girls' basketball committee report with the board. Ms. Polk stated she will have the track and boys' basketball report for next month's meeting.

### **VIII. DIAA Committee Meeting Updates**

#### **A. Sports Medicine Advisory Committee**

Dr. Bley stated there was nothing new from the Committee

#### **B. Rules and Regulations Committee**

Dr. Matt Donovan gave an update in regards to Rules and Regulations Committee. Minutes shared with the board.

#### **C. Sportsmanship Committee**

Mrs. Stephanie Mark gave an update for the Sportsmanship Committee, she stated that Mr. Jeremy Jeanne joined the last committee meeting and there was great discussion about how to expand more initiative to be more proactive in the DIAA with parents, officials and student athletes and some of the initiatives we want to think about doing in the upcoming year. Minutes shared with the board.

#### **D. Track Committee**

Mrs. Stephanie Mark gave an update for the Track Committee. Minutes shared with the board.

#### **E. Football Committee**

Ms. Donna Polk gave an update for the Football Committee. Minutes shared with the board.

### **IX. Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Donna Polk gave a report stating there have been several calls and concerns in regards to masks however most of those have been resolved with most recent executive order. Ms. Polk stated meetings with DPH have moved to every other week versus weekly, also starting to have conversations around fall sports and what that is going to look like and what measures will need to be put in place.

Mrs. Stephanie Mark gave an update in regards to the two interns that are helping with the DIAA office. Ms. Mark also spoke of the partnership with the American Lung Association and the tobacco education awareness. Mrs. Mark also spoke about the 14 day viewing vaping education contest that was available free through the NFHS Learn site. There are seven \$500.00 awards to be given out for high school winners, there will be one in each conference, one non-conference high school and two middle school. There have been 250 views so far and hoping there can be a push for the last few days.

Ms. Polk also gave an update in regards to sportsmanship and concerns that have been received.

Ms. Stephanie Mark also stated DIAA has been doing a championship countdown each day, highlighting previous champions and bringing awareness to championship events and the previous member school winners.

### **X. Other Items for Discussion Only**

The board had a discussion in regards to regulation 1011.

### **XI. Public Comment**

Ms. Trina LeClerc gave comment regards to out of season coaching and the progress there, stated she is excited to see the bill being sponsored by the Sunset committee, she feels it's heading in a very good direction. Ms. LeClerc feels Sunset committee is willing to help with some of the obstacles that the Board was experiencing, she feels it's great that they stepped in and the Board was able to let them know what was needed of them. She is excited to see movement on that, she is still a little concerned with some of the in school setting stuff and how athletic directors are going to be able to manage that. Ms. LeClerc said hats off to everyone on a successful sports season, and she is excited to see some of the changes from DPH that are helping the athletes be able to participate and still stay as safe as possible as we move out of the pandemic. She stated she thought the presentation by Ms. Laura Makransky was very good and reminds of a lot of things. However she thought the board was there to represent various constituents, whether public member or school board member, or representing a blue hen conference or Sussex county it is sometimes difficult to do that effectively if you are not able to speak to your constituents. She thinks that senators and representatives are always willing to take that phone call and hear that. She doesn't see how you can represent your constituents if you are not speaking to them and hearing their input so that's quite interesting to her as she thought that was what a board was about. She stated having been on a board she feels it's important to hear from the people that you are there to represent, she feels that may be some of the issues that DIAA has had because are not really hearing from your constituents and representing them as best as you possibly can and that is where you get comments and public comment, concerns and negative press. Ms. LeClerc hears that there are rules and maybe that's why there is a problem with being part of the government. She feels it's been made really strict if you can't talk or ever hear from anyone and doesn't see how you can be effective and how you can serve your community if you do not listen to your community. She thinks recently it's amazing because she feels like public comment is now being listened to. Ms. LeClerc is excited about the championships and is happy to hear things are moving forward.

## **XII. Adjournment**

Dr. Amelia Hodges made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Matt Donovan the motion carried with [16 yes Dr. Bradley Layfield, Vetra Evans-Gunther, Bruce Harris, Mike Hart, Ted Laws, Chuck Little, Stan Waterman, Bob Watson, Mike Breeding Bob Cilento, Dr. Matt Donovan, Doug Thompson, Dr. Bradley Bley, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dorrell Green and Jeremy Jeanne] and 0-no.

The meeting adjourned at 2:41 PM