

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting
Thursday, February 9, 2023
Minutes

I. Opening

A. Call to Order – 9:02 am

B. Roll Call

Present: Doug Thompson, Jackie Griffith joined at 9:05 am, Bonnie Ingram Grubb joined at 10:02 am, Joseph Papili, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, and Robert Watson.

Virtual: Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O’Hanlon, and Lenny Richardson.

Absent: Dr. Bradley Bley, Jason Miller, and Ivan Neal.

DIAA Staff Present: Donna Polk, Jed Bell, Faye Wheeler, Laura Makransky – DAG

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Mark Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda, the motion was seconded by Mr. Michael Rodriguez. The motion carried with a vote of 16 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O’Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

D. Introduction of New Board Members – Bonnie Ingram Grubb and Dr. Shawn Larrimore.

Ms. Ingram Grubb and Dr. Larrimore expressed appreciation for the appointment to the Board.

E. Approval of Minutes of January 26, 2023 DIAA Board Meeting

Mr. Matt Smith made a motion to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Mrs. Jackie Griffith. The motion carried and 5 Abstained Dr. Hodges, Dr. Larrimore, Jason Miller, Lenny Richardson and Robert Watson.

F. Approval of Executive Session Meeting Minutes of DIAA January 26, 2023 Board Meeting

Mr. Ted Laws made a motion to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Mr. Doug Thompson. The motion carried and 5 Abstained Dr. Hodges, Dr. Larrimore, Jason Miller, Lenny Richardson and Robert Watson.

G. DIAA Financial Report

Ms. Polk provided an update regarding expected income and expenses. Mrs. Wheeler reported on the School MOU status. Due to the transition in staff, school dues were not collected for the 2022-23 year. She sent an email to the unpaid schools, more than half have responded and are getting their MOUs. Some MOUs were not located and are being re-created. Unable to provide specific numbers and will be prepared for next meeting.

Mr. Mark Robinson made a motion to approve the financial report, the motion was seconded by Mr. Ted Laws. The motion carried.

II. DOE Esports Committee Update

Ms. Alyssa Moore from the Department of Education gave the Board an update on the Esports initiative and answered questions from Board Members.

III. Action Items

A. Approval of Strategic Plan

Mr. Rex Varner gave an update on the proposed Strategic Plan and answered questions from the Board. Ms. Polk thanked Mr. Varner for his work in creating a document for the Board. The Board asked clarifying questions regarding implementation. The Board asked Ms. Donna Polk to give regular updates which she agreed.

Mr. Mark Robinson made a motion to support the strategic plan, the motion was seconded by Mr. Ivan Neal. The motion carried.

B. Request to Waive Regulation 1035 3.1.1 Practice/Competition Season Start Date for Football by Diamond State Athletic Conference.

This request is like the ones received last month and creates a zero-week football season.

Dr. Amelia Hodges made a motion to approve the request as stated, the motion was seconded by Mr. Kevin Smith. The motion carried.

C. Request to Allow Eight Grade Participants at the High School Level – Regulation 1009 2.7.5

I. Tower Hill School

Ms. Polk reports this is a standard request to use eight graders for high school sports. This should be submitted annually. Several Board Members asked clarifying questions and DAG Makransky clarified the regulation and practices. The Board would like to add this topic to next month's agenda for discussion and or action, school audits related to this request.

Mr. Joe Papili made a motion to approve the request, the motion was seconded by Mr. Matt Smith. The motion carried with a vote of 16 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O'Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

Break 10:03 am – 10:16 am

Back in General Session/Roll Call 10:16 am

Roll Call – Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Bonnie Ingram Grubb, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Dr. William O'Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson and Robert Watson.

D. Approval of Sanctioned Events

Ms. Polk presented the list of suggested sanctioned events for approval. The Board has requested in the future, Ms. Polk include the date the request was submitted to the DIAA Office.

Mr. Ivan Neal made a motion to approve the request, the motion was seconded by Mr. Ted Laws. The motion carried with a vote of 17 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram Grubb, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O'Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

E. Amendments to Regulation 1040 Out of Season and Summer Athletic Activities and Contact

Ms. Polk reports our office has received feedback from Member Schools from October 2022 – the new year and based on that information is suggesting the submitted amendments to the regulation. DAG Laura Makransky explained (especially for new Board members) the process of State of Delaware regulation changes.

Mr. Mark Robinson made a motion to approve the amendments to the regulation request, the motion was seconded by Mr. Bob Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 17 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram Grubb, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O'Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

F. Dialogue Regarding Committee Appointments

This was from last month. There is a concern over the number of expired members serving on the committees and the applicants rotating in and out of committees. Chairman Thompson doesn't want anyone to get burned out. He also has charged Ms. Polk with re-evaluating committee members to ensure diversity. This includes committee assignments.

Mr. Ted Laws made a motion to proceed and have a spreadsheet format: timeline, list of committees, vacancies and applicants reported back by our next meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Bob Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 16 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram Grubb, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O'Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

G. Follow Up Regarding Annual Review of DIAA Approved Officials Associations

Chairman Thompson reports this is a continuation from last month. After discussion to ensure all Officials Associations have a fair chance of handling games. DAG Laura Makransky informed the Board of the responsibilities of Approved Associations and Committees.

Mr. Mark Robinson made a motion to charge the officials committees to certify for Fall Sports, the motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 17 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Bonnie Ingram Grubb, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Sherry Kijowski, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Dr. William O'Hanlon, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

Motion was made to move into executive session. The motion carried.

The Board went into executive session to discuss the content of a pupil file. Action Items III. H – III. K will be discussed in executive session.

Motion made by Dr. Amelia Hodges to return to general session. The motion carried with a vote of 12 Yes - Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No.

Roll Call - Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson

- H. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4. by Salesianum School Student – 2023 2-9
Motion made by Mr. Mark Robinson to deny the waiver request for Regulation 1009 2.4. by Salesianum School Student as all the five conditions have not been met; the motion was seconded by Mr. Michael Rodriguez. The motion carried - 0 No and 1 abstension.
- I. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.7 Conrad School of Science Student – 2023 2-4
Motion made by Mr. Ivan Neal to approve the waiver request to waive regulation 1009 2.4. by Salesianum School student because all the five conditions have been met; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Jackie Griffith. The motion carried.
- J. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4 by Padua Academy Student – 2023 2-5
Motion made by Mr. Dorrell Green to approve the waiver request to waive 1009 2.4 by Padua Academy Student because all five conditions have been met; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Jackie Griffith. The motion carried with a vote of 11 Yes Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No and 2 abstain Joseph Papili, Kevin Smith and 1 recusal.

Motion made by Mr. Robert Watson to move into executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Jackie Griffith. The motion carried.

The Board went into executive session to discuss the content of a pupil file. Action Items III. K – III. L will be discussed in executive session.

Motion made by Dr. Amelia Hodges to return to general session. The motion carried.

Roll Call - Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson

- K. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.4 by Red Lion Christian Academy Student – 2023 2-6
Motion made by Mr. Ivan Neal to approve the waiver request to waive regulation 1009 2.4. by Red Lion Christian Academy student as all the five conditions have been met; the motion was seconded by Mrs. Jackie Griffith. The motion carried with a vote of 14 Yes - Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Joseph Papili, Lenny Richardson, Mark Robinson, Michael Rodriguez, Kevin Smith, Matt Smith, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 0 No and 0 abstain.

- L. Request to Waive Regulation 1009 2.7.5.3 by Tower Hill Student – 2023 2-7
Motion made by Mrs. Jackie Griffith to approve the request to waive regulation 1009 2.7.5.3 by Tower Hill Student because all five conditions have been met; the motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 11 Yes - Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 3 No – Joseph Papili, Mark Robinson, Kevin Smith and 1 abstain – Matt Smith.

- M. Ratification of Executive Director’s Decision to Grant Interim Waiver
 - i. Request to Waive Regulation 1009.2.3.1 by John Dickinson School Student 2023 2-1
 - ii. Request to Waive Regulation 1009.2.3.1 by Brandywine High School Student 2023 2-2
 - iii. Request to Waive Regulation 1009.2.7 by Cape Henlopen High School Student 2023 2-3
 - iv. Request to Waive Regulation 1009.2.7 by Newark High School Student 2023 2-8Motion made by Mr. Mark Robinson to ratify the Executive Director’s Decision to Grant Interim Waivers for all four requests; the motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Watson. The motion carried with a vote of 11 Yes - Allison Alpaugh, Dorrell Green, Jackie Griffith, Dr. Amelia Hodges, Dr. Shawn Larrimore, Ted Laws, Ivan Neal, Lenny Richardson, Michael Rodriguez, Doug Thompson, Robert Watson and 3 No – Joseph Papili, Mark Robinson, Kevin Smith and 1 abstention – Kevin Smith.

- N. DIAA Personnel Matter (not discussed)

- IV. DIAA Committee Minutes (the following meeting minutes were provided for information)
 - A. DIAA Wrestling Committee Meeting of January 8, 2023
 - B. DIAA Volleyball Committee Meeting of January 8, 2023
 - C. DIAA Boys Soccer Committee Meeting of January 24, 2023

- V. Executive Director’s Report
Ms. Polk reports she had a great call with conference chairs.

Mrs. Jackie Griffith left the meeting at 3:39 pm

- VI. Other Items for Discussion Only
The Board has asked for consideration in moving the April Board Meeting back one week in consideration of Spring Break DIAA Office Staff will explore this request and future April Board Meetings should be planned around Spring Break.
Wrestling seeding meeting is on Sunday. The information will be posted on the DIAA website by 3:00 pm.

- VII. Public Comment
Mr. David Lee and Ms. Connie Conrad representing Delaware Boys Volleyball Association. Mr. Lee made comments regarding the Boys Volleyball Sport and showed frustration over lack of information and Volleyball has not become an official DIAA recognized sport.

- VIII. Adjournment
Motion made to adjourn. Motion carried.