

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING  
Tuesday, April 30, 2019**

The spring meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Sandy George at 7:58 a.m. at the Simon F. Terrell Building in Chapel Hill. Members in attendance included Brad Craddock, Joe Poletti, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Brian Edkins, Patty Evers, Tim Foster, Michael Gainey, Darrin Hartness, Rob Jackson, John Luciano, Lynn Moody, Jerry Simmons, Scarlett Steinert, Masanori Toguchi, Bobby Wilkins, and Terry Worrell. Darren Hartness was not in attendance.

Affiliate members included Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, David Brown of Piedmont Baseball Umpires Association representing Officials and Regional Supervisors, Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association, and Jeff Morris representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association.

NCHSAA staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, James Alverson, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, Ken Brown, and Pepper Hines.

The Board went into closed session to hear appeals from two NCHSAA member schools concerning ineligible player violations.

After closed session, the minutes from the Winter 2018 Board meeting were submitted for approval; motion by George to accept as presented, second by Simmons. Approved 17-0.

<b>CONSENT AGENDA</b> <b>NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION</b> <b>2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING</b> (Cases handled since November 7, 2018 and before April 15, 2019)
--

**NCHSAA MEMBERSHIP**

1. **BETHANY COMMUNITY SCHOOL:** Accepted NCHSAA membership application from Bethany Community School, effective 2019-20 school year.
2. **WILSON PREPARATORY ACADEMY:** Accepted NCHSAA membership application from Wilson Preparatory Academy, effective 2019-20 school year.

**CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP**

1. **CHATHAM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL:** 1A Central Tarheel Conference has released Chatham Central High School and 1A Yadkin Valley Conference accepted them as a conference member, effective 2019-20 school year.
2. **TRIANGLE MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY:** 1A North Central Athletic Conference accepted Triangle Math and Science Academy as a conference member, effective 2019-20 school year.
3. **WILSON PREPARATORY ACADEMY:** 1A Tar Roanoke Athletic Conference accepted Wilson Preparatory Academy as a conference member, effective 2019-20 school year.

**HARDSHIPS**

1. **BEN L. SMITH:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Xavien Ziare Whitney-Taylor.
2. **NORTH LINCOLN:** Denied waiver of Residence Requirements for Conner Chase Hanley. The residence rule had already been acted upon through the NCHSAA Transfer Process.
3. **WEST FORSYTH:** Approved waiver of Residence Requirements for Tyler Gile.
4. **WESTERN GUILFORD:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for KeAnthony Velasquez. According to the documentation provided, the student failed two of six classes the previous semester. In a letter from student's mother, she states that "grades were not being posted all of the time to the parent portal which made it difficult to follow and ensure he was on the right track."
5. **EASTERN GUILFORD:** Denied waiver of Residence Requirements for Jeoneta Scott. According to the documentation provided, the student does not live with his parent/legal custodian. One letter states the mother "reports that she has been diagnosed with Generalized Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and is unable to provide an environment that would support her son." However, there was no medical documentation supporting the claim.
6. **SOUTH MECKLENBURG:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Zaeontae' Tyon Robinson.
7. **GRIMSLEY:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Destiny Woodburn. According to the documentation provided, the student failed two of six classes the previous semester. In a letter from the student's grandmother, she states that "the grades received were due to the passing of her mother, Destiny's great-grandmother." However, the passing of the student's great-grandmother was in December of 2017.
8. **PROVIDENCE:** Approved waiver of Residence Requirements for Kyle Riddle.
9. **J.H. ROSE:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Destiny Best.
10. **TUSCOLA:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Blake Jack Collins.
11. **WINSTON-SALEM PREP:** Denied waiver of Residence Requirements for Dericko Williams. According to the documentation provided, the student's change of school was prior to the change of residence by the parent/legal custodian. NCHSAA Rule 1.2.9(j) states that in no case will any exception be made to the following principles: (2) change of schools must be contemporaneous with the change in residence.
12. **CHARLOTTE CATHOLIC:** Approved waiver of Eight Semester Rule for William Alston.

13. **MYERS PARK:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Adam Sneden. According to the documentation provided, the student was only enrolled in 3 A/B courses and 1 Block course.
14. **PIEDMONT:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for JoElla Sabatino.
15. **TRINITY:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Tyler Bova.
16. **WILLIAMS:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Thomas Frank Roupas.
17. **R.J. REYNOLDS:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Nate Allen. According to the documentation provided, the student was given an administrative FF for attendance in English. However, the Principal of the Career Center stated that the student was given an option to make up the time during "night school" which he did not take advantage of.
18. **NORTH GASTON:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Joseph Logen Blattau. According to the documentation provided, the student took 2 classes in the fall semester of the school year (2018-2019) instead of the required minimum 3 classes.
19. **LAKEWOOD:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Blake Owen Gray Wallace.
20. **NORTH DUPLIN:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Mark Zambrano.
21. **EAST RUTHERFORD:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Makayla Ramsey.
22. **GREEN HOPE:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Bradley S. McRobb.
23. **HOUGH:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Elise Francoise Von Leupoldt.
24. **SANDERSON:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Nicole Marie Keane.
25. **JAY M. ROBINSON:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Bailey Moore. According to the documentation provided, the student took 2 graded classes in the fall semester of the school year (2018-2019) instead of the required minimum of 3.
26. **SMITHFIELD-SELMA:** Approved waiver of Scholastic and Residence Requirements for Marvin Barrios.
27. **ARDREY KELL:** Approved waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Maxwell Davis.
28. **ALBEMARLE:** Denied waiver of Scholastic Requirements for Zachary Simmons. According to the documentation provided, the student dropped 2 classes in which he was enrolled through the local community college. The student only passed 2 courses rather than the required minimum of 3.

President George made a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted; second by Poletti. Approved 18-0.

The Board then went into committee work:

**FINANCE/PERSONNEL:** chairperson Brad Craddock, vice-chair Sandy George, Wendell Hall, Rob Jackson, Jerry Simmons, and Terry Worrell. Staff advisors Que Tucker and Karen DeHart.

**POLICY:** chairperson Scarlett Steinert, Ronnie Beverly, Tim Foster, Burt Jenkins, and Joe Poletti. Staff advisor Brad Alford.

**SPORTS:** chairperson Patty Evers, vice-chair Masanori Toguchi, Chris Blanton, Brian Edkins, Joe Franks, and Jeff Morris. Staff advisors Tra Waters and Chiquana Dancy.

**REVIEW/OFFICIATING:** chairperson Lynn Moody, vice-chair Bobby Wilkins, Neil Blankenship, David Brown, Michael Gainey, and John Luciano. Staff advisor Mark Dreibelbis.

After committee work, the Board heard a report from Jimmy Tillman:

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:** Jimmy Tillman, System Athletic Director for Wilson County School and chairperson of the Nominating Committee presented the report to the Board. There are seven board members concluding their service with the NCHSAA Board of Directors following this meeting: Patty Evers, Darrin Hartness, Lynn Moody, Scarlett Steinert, Terry Worrell, past president Joe Poletti. Jeff Morris is completing his role as NC Athletic Directors Association representative.

Tillman noted that based on ByLaw IV of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Nominating Committee shall submit to the membership at the Annual Meeting the following recommendations for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Elect Brad Craddock, Principal at Glenn High School in Region 5 as President
- Elect Jerry Simmons, Principal at New Bern High School in Region 2 as Vice President
- Elect Sandy George, current President and Principal at Mount Airy High School in Region 7 as Past President
- Elect Fred Lynch, Athletic Director at Laney High School in Region 2 at the 4A level for a four-year term
- Elect Kathy Moore, Superintendent at Wake County Public Schools in Region 3 at the 4A level for a four-year term
- Elect Troy Lindsay, Athletic Director at Gray's Creek High School in Region 4 at the 3A level for a four-year term
- Elect Stephen Gainey, Superintendent at Randolph County Schools in Region 5 at the 3A level for a four-year term
- Elect Joy Warner, Principal at Community School of Davidson in Region 6 at the 1A level for a four-year term
- Elect Mark Bird, Superintendent at Wilkes County Schools in Region 7 at the 2A level for a four-year term
- Accept Vernon Aldridge to replace Jeff Morris as the representative for the NC Athletic Directors Association

The Board took a short break for lunch.

The Board then went into closed session to hear appeals of NCHSAA staff rulings from two NCHSAA member schools concerning pitch count violations.

The Board then heard lengthy reports and discussion relative to "in-committee" work on all agenda items. Based on the committee work, recommendations will be made on Wednesday, May 1.

**TOPICAL DISCUSSION:** Commissioner Tucker introduced the topical discussion section of the agenda by reviewing information discussed by the Education and Athletics Committee, the Gender Identity Inclusion Committee, the Homeschool Participation Committee and the Non-Traditional Schools Committee. She also discussed the need to settle the process for 2021-2025 Realignment. The Board discussed each of these items at length, adjourning for the day at 5:30.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING  
Wednesday, May 1, 2019**

The spring meeting of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Board of Directors was called to order by President Sandy George at 9:38 a.m. at the Simon F. Terrell Building in Chapel Hill. Members in attendance included Brad Craddock, Joe Poletti, Ronnie Beverly, Neil Blankenship, Chris Blanton, Brian Edkins, Patty Evers, Tim Foster, Michael Gainey, Rob Jackson, John Luciano, Lynn Moody, Jerry Simmons, Scarlett Steinert, Masanori Toguchi, Bobby Wilkins, and Terry Worrell. Darren Hartness was not in attendance.

Affiliate members included Burt Jenkins of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Joe Franks of the North Carolina Coaches Association, David Brown of Piedmont Baseball Umpires Association representing Officials and Regional Supervisors, and Jeff Morris representing the North Carolina High School Athletic Directors Association. Wendell Hall who represents the North Carolina School Boards Association, was not in attendance.

NCHSAA staff in attendance included Commissioner Que Tucker, Karen DeHart, Mark Dreibelbis, Tra Waters, James Alverson, Brad Alford, Chiquana Dancy, Ken Brown, and Pepper Hines.

President George began the meeting with a moment of silence for the victims of the April 31<sup>st</sup> shooting at UNC-Charlotte.

**SAAC REPORT:** Talia Triggs from Neuse Charter School address the Board on behalf of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. Noted that leadership and responsibility were the two traits she developed most through education-based athletics. Has enjoyed being the communicator of concerns. Noted the Student Leadership Conference as a highlight of SAAC's work, detailing the instruction in goal setting and prioritization. She mentioned SAAC Community Service Projects and the great success that have been achieved through these projects. Students have worked with Special Olympics, others have helped clean in their communities, and others raised money for hurricane or disaster relief. Noted that SAAC has had numerous conversations and have worked with athletic directors and fellow students about ejections and sportsmanship issues.

The Board went into a brief executive session before hearing affiliate member reports. After the executive session, the Board welcomed members of the media in attendance. Media in attendance included Joe Sirera from *Greensboro News & Record*, Nick Stevens from *HighSchoolOT.com*, David Kehrli from *Burlington Times-News*, and John Teal from *CarolinaPreps.com*.

**NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:** Burt Jenkins presented on behalf of the organization. He noted that DPI will be pushing sportsmanship in their meetings, but it is time for all coaches to understand their role in ensuring good sportsmanship. Middle School Manual will go to the State Board for approval in June. Dealing with local implementations of pitch counts even though there is not a state rule for pitch counts. A new website for athletics and middle school athletics has been implemented. The 2018 Gfeller-Waller Audit revealed 4 non-NCHSAA Member schools, 3 NCHSAA Members, 2 Middle Schools and 1 district not identified as either middle or high school that were out of compliance. Lateral entry is a topic that DPI is working on to help give some guidance on how this should be handled.

**REGIONAL SUPERVISORS AND OFFICIALS REPORT:** David Brown made the presentation for the group. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve alongside this group. He thanked the staff, highlighting the role they play in serving regional supervisors and officials. Discussed the cost of officiating and trying to change the dichotomy of how we speak about officiating. Highlighted the zero-tolerance for profanity stand, and noted we should continue this emphasis, need support from AD's and Coaches. Outlined the accountability in place for officials from the NCHSAA and regional supervisors. Emphasized the need for creative thinking in dealing with the official shortage. Mentioned he believed there is some work to do in working with the NCCA in getting regional supervisors integrated.

**NC ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION:** Jeff Morris made the presentation on behalf of the group. Mentioned their completed state conference last month, and the excellent turnout. He requested that the Board consider having their Athletic Director come be a part of their annual conferences. Noted they will hold a summer leadership academy in conjunction with the NCCA in July. They continue to push more certified athletic directors across the state and discussed the rigors of that certification process. Discussed a lot of turnover with athletic directors and mentioned the NCADA's Mentoring Program to assist new AD's. Noted Vernon Aldridge will be the new representative for the NCADA coming on board in December.

**NC COACHES ASSOCIATION:** Joe Franks made the presentation on behalf of the group. Noted the great working relationship with the NCHSAA and NCADA. He discussed the partnerships during the Coaches Clinic and space and to do clinics and presentations. Mentioned that the Clinic is the second largest all sports clinic in the country. Discussed the student first responder clinic over the summer in conjunction with the clinic. Coaches can sign up Sunday through Thursday of the clinic to take their CPR Classes. Clarified the difference in the types of coaches' association cards. Emphasized the value of the newsletter "From the Gym to the Jury"; each school's Athletic Director receives the newsletter, which gives great information about liability in sports arena. Discussed the revamped website that is under construction. Talked about the Coaches Summit that they held in Greensboro inviting a diverse group of coaches from across the state to help identify ways to serve coaches better and improve what the NCCA does.

**FINANCE/PERSONNEL:** Brad Craddock made the report on behalf of the committee:

1. Reviewed the 2018-19 budget versus actual revenues and expenses through March 31, 2019.
2. Reviewed the 2018-19 sports comparison financial report relative to previous year(s).
3. Reviewed investment accounts based on market report perspectives from management groups and quarterly statement ending on March 31, 2019.

4. Reported on funds collected in relief efforts and distributed to schools impacted by Hurricane Florence. Note that the Board of Directors approved, via email ballot, distribution of Hurricane Relief funds in the amount of \$38,000, which included \$4,000 of undesignated corporate funds.
5. Reviewed status report regarding use of fine monies collected from coaches' failure to take required courses through NFHS Learn. Coaches who have completed AIC, CIC or both will be eligible to receive partial reimbursement for courses.
6. Reviewed introductory information on e-sports.
7. Recommendation to establish a grant program through which Endowment interest funds are made available, per Board's approval, to aid schools financially in specific areas of focus. This would be an application-based program, dependent upon available interest earned annually, with focus areas to be determined at a later date. Motion by Craddock, second by Worrell, approved 18-0. Committee asked that these grant recipients be recognized in the Annual Meeting.
8. Review updates regarding television partner, Sinclair Broadcasting, and streaming partner, NFHS Network. Recommendation to approve three-year contract proposal from Sinclair Broadcasting. Motion by Craddock, second by Jackson, approved 18-0.
9. Recommend required use of the official and adopted Wilson game balls in the first round of the playoffs through state final events in volleyball, soccer, football, basketball, softball, baseball, and tennis, with a penalty for use of illegal equipment to be assessed when official ball is not used in these contests or games. Effective for the 2020-2021 school year. Strongly recommend adoption and use of official ball during regular season play. Motion by Craddock, second by Steinert, approved 15-3.
10. Reviewed Staff Updates. No major changes.

**REVIEW/OFFICIATING:** Lynn Moody made the report on behalf of the committee:

1. Reviewed and approved the comprehensive listing of incidents per school including fine(s) assessed. Motion by Moody, second by Toguchi, approved 18-0.
2. Reviewed and discussed the ejection report to-date.
3. Recommendation to approve a \$100 fine to a school for a coach being ejected from a contest or event did not emerge from committee.
4. Recommendation to approve a \$100 fine to a school for player being ejected from a contest or event did not emerge from committee.
5. Proposal for a policy that penalizes schools with loss of rights to host playoff games if fans interact onto the playing surface of a contest has been tabled in committee until winter.
6. Recommendation to approve new regional supervisors as follows:
  - a. Brenda Halford for Western Piedmont Volleyball
  - b. Elbert Lassiter for North State Football
  - c. Jim Coleman for Inner Piedmont Football
  - d. Jeff Ledford for West Central Wrestling
 Motion by Moody, second by Wilkins, approved 18-0
7. Recommendation to institute a 5% increase for officiating fees to be locked in every four (4) years beginning with the 2020-21 academic year. Motion by Moody, second by Worrell, approved 18-0.
8. Recommendation to approve, by state adoption, amending the length of a Baseball or Softball game as follows:
  - a. By mutual agreement, two member schools may agree to play two five inning games in a doubleheader.
  - b. Single games must still be played under NFHS rules requiring seven inning games or until a regulation game is completed.
  - c. Maintain current NCHSAA Handbook regulation regarding suspended games.
 Motion by Moody, second by Foster, approved 18-0.
9. Reviewed and discussed survey feedback of Yellow Card Tracking.
10. Reviewed and discussed a graph displaying age distribution of current membership of NCHSAA officials.
11. Reviewed and discussed survey feedback of Winter and Spring sports' online clinics.
12. Reviewed and discussed change fees for regional supervisors.
13. Reviewed and discussed current state of Student Services Program. George noted and thanked Chiquana Dancy for the work she does in these programs.

**SPORTS:** Patty Evers presented on behalf of the committee:

1. Recommendation to adjust the wrestling match limitation to allow athletes to participate in two different tournaments on a given day with provisions listed below:
  - a. May not exceed other established weekly limitations.
  - b. Tournaments must be conducted on the same day.
  - c. Varsity only
  - d. Maximum of three (3) times per season.
  - e. Must submit request to the NCHSAA for posting on website.
  - f. Cannot be two (2) dual team tournaments.
 Motion by Evers, second by Edkins, approved 18-0.
2. Recommendation to adjust the approved 2019-2020 calendar in dual team wrestling, did not emerge from committee.
3. Recommendation to allow a team to regain an Eight Quarter position due to a season ending injury, catastrophic event or transfer. Motion by Evers, second by Toguchi, approved 18-0.
4. Recommendation to allow 1A and 2A schools to use the eight-quarter rule for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. Motion by Evers, second by Simmons, approved 18-0.

5. Recommendation to reduce the number of athletes allowed from one school on any outside team on a given day for football from 21 to 10. Motion by Evers, second by Worrell, approved 18-0.
6. Recommendation that regional assignments will be determined by conference affiliation, not the actual longitude of the school in Cross Country, Golf, Swimming and Diving, and Track and Field. Motion by Evers, second by Foster, approved 18-0.
7. Recommendation to approve an annual North Carolina Women's Wrestling Invitational Tournament. Motion by Evers, second by Steinert, approved 18-0.
8. Proposal to change the current format of the baseball state championship series from a two-day series to a three-day series on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday did not emerge from committee.
9. Proposal to adjust the current baseball playoff format as proposed by the North Carolina Baseball Coaches Association did not emerge from committee.
10. Reviewed and discussed the rule passed in spring of 2018 with a summer amendment that a winner is declared in all regular season soccer games.
11. Proposal to amend the playoff tie-breaking procedure in NCHSAA Handbook Rule 4.1.13.c immediately after item 6 and before item 7 to include MaxPreps Rankings, did not emerge from committee.
12. Reviewed plans for earlier state championship start times for the Friday session of indoor track and Thursday session of individual wrestling.
13. Recommendation to allow schools that do not qualify as a team from the regional to the state championship to compete as a team if they have at least five (5) individual qualifiers from the regional meet. No additional individual qualifiers will be substituted in to fill these positions. Motion by Evers, second by Blankenship, approved 18-0.

Please note that the following items pertaining to sports were handled via email during the time between the winter 2018 meeting and this meeting:

1. Staff recommendation to allow, by mutual agreement in baseball and softball, two member schools may agree to play two five (5)-inning games in a doubleheader. (Note: this does not violate NFHS playing rules and is permissible by state association adoption) This would not remove the current option of playing a doubleheader as two seven (7)-inning games, or until a regulation game is completed. Vote was conducted via email ballot during the spring and passed unanimously.
2. Staff recommendation to amend the weekly limitation in lacrosse and women's soccer to allow for a fourth game or match in a week, provided that the fourth game or match is on a non-school day. Vote was conducted by email during the spring and passed unanimously.
3. Staff recommendation to amend the 2019-2020 Athletic Calendar as follows because of a calendar conflict for the Western Regional Swimming Championships. Vote was conducted via email during the winter and passed unanimously.
  - a. Reporting Deadline: January 25, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.
  - b. Regionals: January 31-February 1
  - c. State Championships: February 6-February 8

**POLICY:** Scarlett Steinert made the presentation on behalf of the committee:

1. Recommendation to amend the Handbook Section on Gender of a Player to become more inclusive relative to students who do not identify based on the certificate of birth. Motion by Steinert, second by Poletti, approved 18-0. Commissioner Tucker noted that there would be an FAQ put together over the coming weeks.
2. Recommendation to amend the Handbook Section on Eligibility, inserting a section on participation of home school students to become more inclusive relative to students who are regularly enrolled in home schools. Motion by Steinert, second by Worrell, approved 18-0.
3. Recommendation to approve that foreign exchange students are eligible for the two-semester rule following their first year. Motion by Steinert, second by Evers, approved 18-0.
4. Reviewed and discussed NCHSAA Handbook Rule 1.2.5 on scholastic requirements, tabled requesting that staff consult with State Board of Education and DPI on potential updates to standards. Tabled this item
5. Recommendation to approve updated language in the transfer policy relative to students following a coach within the LEA and specific to the sport where athletic purposes were indicated as the reason for transfer. Motion by Steinert, second by Foster, approved 18-0.
6. Recommendation to amend NCHSAA Handbook Rule 2.4.2.a.5 to include leaving the bench and coming on to the playing area during a fight (whether they participate in the fight or not). Motion by Steinert, second by Moody, approved 18-0.
7. Recommendation to have NCHSAA Staff post unpaid fines to the NCHSAA Website with member school access only. Motion by Steinert, second by Wilkins, approved 18-0.
8. Recommendation to move the deadline for Eligibility Summary Reports to September 1 for fall, December 1 for Winter and March 15 for Spring. Motion by Steinert, second by Beverly, approved 18-0.
9. Recommended allowing the staff to make the 2019-2020 Non-Athletic Calendar a living document and update as needed. Motion by Steinert, second by Wilkins, approved 18-0.
10. Recommendation to approve The NCHSAA Pre-Game EAP Review Report be used as a record of the Pre-game EAP Review prior to athletic events as a recommendation for best practices in 2019-2020. Motion by Steinert, second by Wilkins, approved 18-0.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Thanked the Board for their work this week to flesh out all of these details. Provided an update on the number of transfers this year, especially the decline in the number of transfer appeals. Brought in the staff to recognize their longevity of service to the Association and its members. Recognized the Board Members rolling off at the completion of their terms, thanking them for their service and their support. Special thanks to Sandy George for her leadership during this year

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:** Noted that the experience as President has been tremendous and how outstanding the Board is. Encouraged members to be present at NCHSAA events so member schools can see them at work. Challenged the Board members to always be willing to spend the time together in thinking outside of the box. Recognized the 500 career wins for Patty Evers. She closed the meeting at 11:26 a.m. with lunch served for the Board while the President and Commissioner met with members of the media.

**NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPRING MEETING  
Thursday, May 2, 2019**

In accordance with Bylaw IV of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Annual Meeting of the Association was held at the Dean E. Smith Center in Chapel Hill. Registration began at 8:30 a.m. and the business portion of the agenda began at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was brought to order by President Sandy George who gave a brief word of welcome at 10:01 a.m. President George gave a short introduction to the full gathered membership of the Association concerning an appeal by Tuscola High School concerning the Board of Directors decision to deny Tuscola's Alignment Adjustment Appeal during the Winter 2018 Board Meeting.

Pursuant to Bylaw VI of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, during the second year of an alignment, member schools with special hardship conditions with regard to classification are provided an opportunity to appeal their classification to the full Board of Directors at the Winter Meeting. Upon hearing Tuscola's initial appeal, the Board of Directors denied the appeal. Tuscola notified the Association of their desire to appeal to the full membership at the Annual Meeting, as provided in Bylaw VI of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. This appeal required a two-thirds vote of those member schools present at the Annual Meeting to overturn the Board of Directors' decision.

Tuscola High School Principal, Todd Trantham, made the appeal on behalf of the school. He requested the membership vote with Tuscola to move the school from the 3A classification to the 2A classification. He noted that the Board of Directors provided relief to several other schools during the alignment appeal process, including relief for a school currently larger than Tuscola from 3A to 2A. After his presentation, both Trantham, President George and Commissioner Tucker took questions from the membership. President George called the question and the voting delegate from each member school in attendance made their choice by placing their ballot in the vote collection box in front of the stage.

Trantham transported the box to the vote tabulation area, where Tuscola Athletic Director Ann Gardner assisted Association staff members, Gary Cavanaugh and Jonathan Leonard, with the vote tabulation. There were 110 ballots distributed prior to the beginning of Tuscola's appeal. There were 65 member schools that voted to uphold the Board's decision to leave Tuscola in the 3A Classification while some 44 member schools voted to overturn with one abstention. The appeal failed to meet the required two-thirds majority to overturn the original Board decision.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** President George gave her report, thanking each member present for their attention to the business of the Association and for the opportunity to serve as their President for the past year. She challenged the membership to look for ways to do what is in the best interest of all students.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Jimmy Tillman, System Athletic Director for Wilson County Schools, made the report to present the candidates for the 2019-2020 Board of Directors. Tillman noted that based on ByLaw IV of the NCHSAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, the Nominating Committee shall submit to the membership at the Annual Meeting the following recommendations for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Elect Brad Craddock, Principal at Glenn High School in Region 5 as President
- Elect Jerry Simmons, Principal at New Bern High School in Region 2 as Vice President
- Elect Sandy George, current President and Principal at Mount Airy High School in Region 7 as Past President
- Elect Fred Lynch, Athletic Director at Laney High School in Region 2 at the 4A level for a four-year term
- Elect Kathy Moore, Superintendent at Wake County Public Schools in Region 3 at the 4A level for a four-year term
- Elect Troy Lindsay, Athletic Director at Gray's Creek High School in Region 4 at the 3A level for a four-year term
- Elect Stephen Gainey, Superintendent at Randolph County Schools in Region 5 at the 3A level for a four-year term
- Elect Joy Warner, Principal at Community School of Davidson in Region 6 at the 1A level for a four-year term
- Elect Mark Bird, Superintendent at Wilkes County Schools in Region 7 at the 2A level for a four-year term
- Accept Vernon Aldridge to replace Jeff Morris as the representative for the NC Athletic Directors Association

Tillman made the report from the Nominating Committee in the form of a motion. The motion was seconded by Angela Miller, System Athletic Director for Nash-Rocky Mount Schools. Tillman yielded the floor to Commissioner Tucker to conduct the vote. The motion was approved by voice vote, without opposition.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Commissioner Tucker gave her report, noting that the Board dealt with many weighty topics during their Spring Meeting. She reported on the Board's decisions relative to inclusion of homeschool students and students who identify as a different gender than appears on their birth certificate. She also gave a report on the Board's instruction to delay the Realignment process by one year, eliminating the "lame duck year" of the alignment period. She noted this decision was to give various committees the opportunity to review the realignment process and the Association's current classification structure while providing the necessary time for the Board and membership to make any necessary changes to implement their recommendations.

Once Commissioner Tucker concluded her remarks, there was a short break before the Association recognized various award winners and scholarship recipients. At the conclusion of the awards presentations, lunch was served for all in attendance and the meeting was adjourned.