



To: NCHSAA Board of Directors  
From: Jerry Simmons, President  
Date: April 2021

Greetings, Board of Directors!

I want to welcome you to the Spring Board meeting of our NCHSAA. I am writing this letter as we close out the month of April and it appears that spring has finally arrived. This is the season when we look forward to new beginnings. Fresh flowers will bloom, animals awaken; it is as if nature is resuscitated.

In keeping with the spirit of spring, I encourage us all to stay future-focused. Guard against being consumed with the here and now. Although, I could argue that our past and present are nothing short of astounding.

Since last spring, our Association staff and Board have taken on tasks that including reshaping our sports calendar based on careful optimism infused with strategic research; establishing a subsidy program to assist our member schools with recovering from 2019-2020 and stabilizing their 2020-2021 efforts; and pressing forward with a realignment model that has equitable access at its core. This work has led to successful seasons in cross country, volleyball, swimming and diving, basketball, lacrosse and men's soccer; all culminating with us recognizing state champions. And we are well on our way to crowning the top participants in our remaining slate of sports. So we should certainly pause to appreciate what we have accomplished this year.

This year has also presented its share of obstacles. We have been criticized at almost every turn. You're proceeding way too fast. You need to speed up; it's working in states all around us. The Association should be fully funding our sports programs; clearing its accounts. Why won't you let more spectators in the games? What do you mean my kid has to wear a mask while playing? And of course, Why move forward with realignment in a time like this?

Now back to that focus on the future. I challenge us to go into this year's Spring Board meeting fully understanding our charge. I want us to appreciate the work that works. Yes, we have been fortunate with many of this year's undertakings. However, there is always something to glean from feedback; especially when the opinion differs from your own. Therefore, we must not dismiss the noise that interferes with the applause. Let's take the time to reflect on how we can improve; those improvements may include our processes or merely communicating better. Regardless, I want us to listen to our membership and let them help us propel our entire Association forward. I truly believe we are on the verge of discovering even higher heights with interscholastic sports in North Carolina. Let's call it our blossoming. After all, it's SPRING!



To: NCHSAA Board of Directors  
From: Pepper Hines, Board Coordinator  
Date: April 2021

We are gearing up for our Spring Board of Directors' meeting and look forward to having you with us at the Double Tree By Hilton Hotel (4810 Page Road, Durham, NC 27703).

Please review all of the information you received prior to attending the meeting. If necessary, download and print if you need a copy for the meeting (feel free to bring your laptop and plug-in to follow along.) Since we are meeting off site, please bring either a sweater or jacket.

Now that I have included you in the count, it is very important that you contact me if you have a conflict regarding attending and housing/dinner. To avoid being charged, we must submit changes to room and dinner totals one week in advance.

As always, during your free time, we invite you to enjoy some of the surrounding attractions:

- The Streets at Southpoint (I-40 off at Fayetteville Road, Durham, exit 276)
- Cary Towne Center (1105 Walnut St, Cary 27511, off I-40)
- Crabtree Valley Mall (4325 Glenwood Ave, Raleigh 27612, off I-440)

If there is anything we can do to make your time with us beneficial as well as enjoyable, please let us know.

Thank you for all you do for the student-athletes of North Carolina!