

Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association
(MPSSAA)
Baltimore, MD

Minutes of the MPSSAA Executive Council Meeting
April 1, 2020

Refer Questions: R. Andrew Warner, Executive Director, 410-767-0376

Districts Represented: Kevin Kendro (District 1), Jeff Sullivan (District 2), Earl Hawkins (District 3), Steve Lee (District 4), John Davis (District 5), Michael Sye (District 6), Debbie Basler (District 7), Bryan Ashby (District 8), Tiffany Byrd (District 9)

Also Present: Dana Johnson, President, MPSSAA
Michael Duffy, President Elect, MPSSAA
Kevin Hook, Past President, MPSSAA
Patrick Saunderson, Principal's Representative
R. Andrew Warner, Executive Director, MPSSAA
Jason Bursick, Assistant Director, MPSSAA
Jill Masterman, Program Specialist, MPSSAA
Ken Kazmarek, Coordinator of Officials, MPSSAA
Lynette Mitzel, Supervisor, Baltimore County (secretary)

1. The meeting was called to order on April 1, 2020 at 10:05 am by President Dana Johnson.
2. Mr. Warner provided the council with MPSSAA updates as it relates to schools and offices being closed due to COVID 19. Currently the staff of the MPSSAA is operating within the telework procedures established by MSDE to conduct the day-to-day operations of the organization.
3. Ms. Masterman informed the group Nightmare Graphics will not be invoking their right of first refusal, therefore their contract will expire on June 30. The MPSSAA will be making an announcement regarding the new provider of state championship merchandise and apparel in June.
4. Ms. Masterman informed the group about ball contracts that were to be voted on at the April Board of Control meeting later in the month. The April 15th deadline will be pushed back due to shipping constraints that are occurring all over the country. Ball adoptions will be moved to the September Executive Council meeting.
5. Mr. Warner recommended the spring Board of Control meeting to be postponed until further notice. Mr. Sye made a motion to postpone until a later time. Mr. Duffy second the motion. All were in favor.
6. Mr. Warner told the council the fall and winter sport committee meetings scheduled for the end of March and beginning of April have been cancelled. Discussion ensued regarding fall and winter sports utilizing the same policies as were in place during the current school year. Some members of the council felt the sport committees could meet virtually if they so choose. Others felt they all needed to do the same thing and since there is a lot of pressure on teachers right now regarding distance learning, they feel cancelling meetings is best. Mr. Davis motioned to postpone fall and winter sport committee

meetings until further notice, use the same policies for the 2020-2021 academic year, and take them to the Board of Control at the next meeting. Dr. Sullivan second the motion. The motion passed 13-0.

7. Mr. Warner informed the council he will be calling a Finance Committee meeting on April 15th. He believes the committee needs to meet to review where the organization stands without state semifinals and finals for basketball and potentially without spring championships. Mr. Bursick has been gathering information to share with the Finance Committee.
8. The winter and spring state championships have been suspended until further notice. With April 27th as the potential date for schools to reopen, the MPSSAA will revisit after the next Governor's message. The council feels there needs to be a discussion about the "what ifs" regarding public schools reopening. Mr. Warner reminded the group all decisions are made by the state Superintendent; therefore, nothing needs to be planned until she gives a directive.
9. Ms. Masterman provided an update on the Minds in Motion scholarship. The deadline was extended to April 10th in order to provide more opportunity for athletic directors to complete applications now that students are not in the building. The luncheon is tentative at this point, but the scholarships will be awarded with or without an actual ceremony.
10. Mr. Bursick notified the council of the decision to cancel this year's Student Leadership Conference. After discussion with Mr. Duffy, they felt it would be extremely difficult to organize since no in person meetings can take place. They entertained postponing until August but decided it would still be challenging to make that work given the current circumstances. Mr. Warner also added the President's Party is currently on hold.
11. Mr. Warner informed everyone about the DragonFly webinars that have taken place and the ones still scheduled for the next few weeks. There was discussion about which counties may be moving to using them for 2020-2021 academic year, which counties were still under contract with another vendor, how the system seems to be working for those who have started to input data, and the overall feeling of the MPSSAA public view regarding state tournaments. At this time several jurisdictions are concerned DragonFly doesn't have a public view site. Mr. Warner will inquire with the MPSSAA's web vendor to see if they can build a front-end schedule page for the association. He reminded everyone they were free to use Arbiter Pay for the regular season, but once the state tournaments begin, all officials will be paid through DragonFly's system. He also reminded the group all officials will be required to register via DragonFly. Mr. Sye inquired about the status of officials obtaining a statewide background check. Mr. Warner said there has not been any movement on that at this time.
12. Mr. Warner spoke concerning the 75th anniversary plans in progress. Right now the council feels it wouldn't be fiscally prudent to hold a gala when athletics for the spring are still in question. The operations of the MPSSAA needs to be the main focus. The subcommittee working on the celebration of the 75th anniversary will continue to plan things that are cost effective. The logo contest is still taking place, and Mr. Kendro would like to do officials appreciation weeks in the fall, winter, and spring.
13. Dr. Sullivan inquired about a waiver for the in-person certification of the care and prevention of athletic injuries course. Without knowing what the summer holds, he feels online certification should be accepted this summer. Mr. Sye asked about the CPR piece, which he feels should be required to be done in person. Dr. Sullivan requested a check in with the council in May to see where everyone stands.
14. Mr. Warner opened dialogue for any other issues that need to be discussed at this time. Ms. Byrd asked how other jurisdictions are handling the payment of spring coaches. Some are being prorated, others are asking for full payment but haven't been given directive yet. Only one county, Carroll, has been

given permission to pay the coaches their full stipend. Mr. Warner told the group he should know more about the NFHS Summer Meeting in the next week. At this time most counties are not permitted to travel out of the state, so he's not sure if anybody from Maryland would be attending even if the NFHS did hold it this year.

15. Mr. Duffy requested the council to move into the Executive Session. The council unanimously approved to move into the Executive session at 12:12 pm. The council discussed personnel matters during the Executive Session. .
16. The meeting was adjourned at 12:28 pm.