

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES July 25, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 12:00 p.m., on July 25, 2022, at the GHSA office in Thomaston by Jim Finch, President. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Curt Miller. The invocation was given by Associate Director Carror Wright. Roll call by Media Director Steve Figueroa showed the following: Present - 12; Absent - 2

Nathan Turner	Jeff Battles	Michael Thompson	Michelle Masters	Jim Finch
Steven Craft	Jasper Jewell	Steve Simpson	Regina Montgomery - A	Curt Miller - A
Kelli Smith	Brian Montgomery	Jose Fernandez	Kevin Petroski	

Motion by Turner, second by Thompson, to adopt the agenda.

Motion Passed (unanimously)

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Simpson, and unanimously approved to go into executive session to hear student appeals (Note: the appeals were heard in executive session, but all votes were taken after coming out of executive session).

APPOINTMENTS:

Islands High School - Adelyn Bankston, AD, presented an appeal for student Nikolos DeBerry seeking a waiver of the eight-semester rule.

Motion by Battles, second by Masters, to **approve** the appeal.

MOTION to Approve Failed 2-12 (Battles & Masters voting yes)

Heritage-Catoosa High School - Eric Schexnaildre, Assistant Principal, presented an appeal for student Kayla Lopez seeking a waiver of the migratory rule.

Motion by Jewell, second by Masters, to **deny** the appeal.

MOTION to Deny Passed (unanimously)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Proposal** to reword By-Law 2.56 on page 28 of the GHSA Constitution as follows (old text is struck out, new text in italic): ~~A person who is an active official or an assignor of officials at the high school level may not be a head coach or an assistant coach at a GHSA school in the same sport.~~ *A head coach, or an assistant coach, at a GHSA member school may register and officiate a sport in which they coach with the following provisions:*

(a) *May officiate a sub-varsity level contest at any GHSA member school.*

(b) *May officiate varsity level, and post-season level, games that do NOT involve schools in the same classification as the school at which they coach (GHSA Office) Effective Immediately.*

Motion by Craft, second by Turner, to **Approve** the proposal.

MOTION to Approve Passed (unanimously)

2. The Board of Trustees discussed the pros and cons of moving the Golf season from the Spring to the Fall. Several board members spoke in favor of the idea. Turner said that courses are in better shape in the fall and that course superintendents seemed more willing to make their course available to the GHSA in the fall. Fernandez pointed out that moving the sport to the fall would help with transportation issues during the spring. Craft said he was in favor of the idea, mentioning that the only argument against such a move is that a number of football coaches also coach golf. Dr. Hines told the BOT that the office would move forward with a proposal to present to the full State Executive Committee at the Fall meeting.

3. The board then was told of several proposals that had come to the GHSA office concerning new Fine Arts events, but there was little support for them from the office or the BOT.

(more)

4. Craft then led a discussion about the difficulty faced by all schools at this time of getting coaches. Craft said he was not in favor of allowing Community Coaches to act as head coaches, but was in favor of allowing full-time school employees to fill those positions. He suggested possibly creating a course the GHSA office would administer to any full-time employees who wanted to become head coaches. The idea received support from several other board members and Dr. Hines said the GHSA office could easily design such a program. Like the Golf issue, this would be a proposal that would be presented to the full executive committee at some point in the future.
5. Dr. Hines then gave the board a report on the Emerging Sports that have come to the attention of the GHSA office. The list of suggested additional sports was extensive, ranging from Rock Climbing to Competitive Barbeque, but the feeling of the board was that the GHSA calendar was extremely full at this point and adding any sports at this time would not be feasible.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Dr. Hines informed the board that the GHSA was in good shape financially despite the recent volatility of the stock market. He said he still anticipated mailing out checks to member schools in the amount of one year's dues and catastrophic insurance premiums.

The BOT then went into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

Motion by Craft, second by Thompson to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION Passed (unanimously)