

GHSA Reclassification Proposal

Issues:

1. Fairness among all classifications and all schools.
2. Schools which allow students to enroll from outside their district.
3. Private vs. City vs. Public
4. Geography (scheduling, travel, etc.)

Solutions:

1. Continue with the current structure.
2. Complete separation.
3. Various multiplier proposals.

Reclassification is a process that draws a considerable amount of interest among coaches, administrators, and the general public. For years, people have voiced their opinions about reclassification as it relates to private schools, city schools, and public schools. The conversations have stretched from population densities to the perceived ability to “recruit” potential student-athletes. Other issues have arisen from schools who allow open enrollment vs. schools that do not. And finally, the issue between private and public schools.

To me, there will always be debate as to which proposal is better. Too many times, in a competitive environment winning takes precedent. Therefore, coaches, players, and parents are always looking for something that will give them the advantage and the better chance at “winning”. This will always be the case. Some proposals are better for others. Some proposals are worse for others. In the end nothing will be perfect.

If that is in fact the case, then the question that needs answered is what is fair. I believe that my proposal is fair to all parties involved. Is it better for some, and worse for others? Maybe, but it is fair.

Proposal

Schools will be divided into 6 classifications based on a percent of students enrolled from out of district. The GHSA would establish a percent (somewhere between 5 – 10%). My recommendation would be 7%. This percent would be used to classify schools based on each school’s FTE count. If a school has more than the allotted percent of students from out of district, then they would move up 1 classification.

Example:

School X 1000 (FTE count)

$$1000 \times .07 = 70 \text{ students}$$

*if School X has more than 70 students out of district, they would move up 1 classification

Variables:

1. Responsibility on schools to verify students attending from out of district
2. Potential increase in paperwork and monitoring students who attend from out of district
3. Schools could only move up 1 classification

Permissive transfers

- Would count as student out of district

Charter schools/Magnet schools/Home school

- New bill that would allow these students to play for neighboring high schools
- Would count as a student out of district

Possible solution to population

- A school, who does not have distinct lines, would count the closest geographical high school's district lines as their own.