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2019
WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING

Annual meeting reported by Monica M.
Hunkins, RPR, a Notary Public in and for the State of
Wisconsin, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, 1001
Amber Avenue, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, on the 17th
day of April, 2019, commencing at 9:00 a.m. and
ending at 10:52 a.m.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. COLEMAN: Good morning, everyone.

At this time, everyone can silence their cell phones; put them on vibrate.

I am Eric Coleman, Board of Control president for the 2018-19 school year, and I call this meeting to order.

Everyone should have received meeting materials, which includes the program, conference realignment task force information, a name tag, a pen, and voting ballots which should be one per school.

Registration counts, there are 415 schools and 476 representatives from the various schools across this great state.

At this time, I would like to introduce the people at -- at the pod- -- at the tables in front of you.

To my left, president-elect for next year of the Board of Control, Dennis Birr.

Treasurer, Eric Russell.

Executive director of the WIAA, Mr. Dave Anderson.

MR. ANDERSON: Good morning.

MR. COLEMAN: To my right, Dr. Wade

1 Labecki, deputy director.

2 DR. LABECKI: Good morning.

3 MR. COLEMAN: WIAA legal counsel,
4 Mr. Brent Jacobson.

5 Administration coordinator, Ms. Julie
6 Kage.

7 MS. KAGE: Good morning.

8 MR. COLEMAN: Our parliamentarian for
9 this morning, Dr. Edward Miller from UW-Stevens
10 Point.

11 And last but not least, Ms. Monica
12 Hunkins of Willette Court Reporting, who will record
13 the meeting minutes.

14 Minutes of the 2018 annual meeting were
15 approved by the Board of Control at their meeting in
16 May of 2018 and are found on the WIAA website and in
17 the yearbook.

18 At this time, I'd like to bring up
19 Mr. Eric Russell, who will present the treasurer's
20 report.

21 MR. RUSSELL: Thank you.

22 And good morning. I'm Eric Russell,
23 treasurer for the WIAA Board of Control.

24 The treasurer's report is found on
25 pages 19 through 21. I'm not going to read through

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1 all the numbers, but the WIAA's financial condition
2 is healthy and well run. The audit reports that I
3 have been a part of have consistently reflected that.

4 You will see on page 20 the pie charts
5 demonstrate where the revenue comes from and where
6 they go. 88 percent of the WIAA's revenue comes from
7 running state tournaments. And all of that -- almost
8 all of that -- is returned to running those
9 tournaments.

10 You will also see, on page 19, over \$8
11 million has been returned to member schools in the
12 past three years.

13 If you have any questions, I'd be happy
14 to answer them.

15 Thank you. Have a great day.

16 MR. COLEMAN: At this time, I would ask
17 for a motion to approve the treasurer's report.

18 Anyone making the motion, please state
19 your name and your school.

20 MR. ENDREAS: Mike Endreas, Spencer.

21 MR. COLEMAN: Motion by Mike Endreas.

22 Is there a second?

23 MR. THOMAS: Seconded by Jeff Thomas,
24 Laconia.

25 MR. COLEMAN: Second by Mr. Thomas from

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1 Laconia.

2 All in favor of accepting and approving
3 the treasurer's report --
4 signify by saying "aye."

5 ALL: Aye.

6 MR. COLEMAN: Those opposed?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. COLEMAN: Motion carries.

9 At this time, Ms. Joan Gralla will
10 present the election results.

11 MS. GRALLA: Good morning, everyone.

12 I have for you the results of the
13 recent elections for the Board of Control and
14 Advisory Council.

15 In District 1, Eric Russell,
16 superintendent of Baldwin-Woodville, was reelected to
17 a three-year term.

18 District 6. Bernie Nikolay,
19 superintendent of Cambridge, was reelected to a
20 three-year term.

21 District 7. Phil Ertl, superintendent
22 of Wauwatosa, elected to a three-year term.

23 Nonpublic school at-large. Paul
24 Pedersen, principal of Regis in Eau Claire, elected
25 to a three-year term.

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1 Also, the Wisconsin Association of
2 School Boards -- appointed Mike Humke from
3 Dodgeville as their representative on the Board of
4 Control for the next three years.

5 In the Advisory Council, large schools,
6 Dan Retzki, associate principal and athletic director
7 of Green Bay Preble, reelected to a three-year term.

8 Chris VanderHeyden, superintendent of
9 Menasha, was elected to a three-year term.

10 Medium schools. Greg Doverspike,
11 district administrator of Durand-Arkansaw, elected to
12 a three-year term.

13 Scott Fritz, principal of Howards
14 Grove, was elected to a three-year term.

15 Jeff Sauer, principal of Dodgeville,
16 was reelected to a one-year term.

17 Small schools. Mike Endreas, district
18 administrator of Spencer, was reelected to a
19 three-year term.

20 And Chris Nelson, principal of
21 Iola-Scandinavia, was elected to a three-year term.

22 I want you to be aware that there will
23 be a special election in the fall for two positions
24 on the Advisory Council. One is a two-year term for
25 the gender at-large representative, and the other is

1 for the one-year term in the medium schools.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. COLEMAN: Congratulations to all
4 that were elected to the Board of Control and
5 Advisory Council.

6 Thank you, Ms. Gralla.

7 At this time, I'd like to make some
8 introductions and acknowledge some people.

9 I'd like to first begin with our
10 2018-'19 Board of Control members who are seated down
11 in front.

12 When you hear your name, please stand.

13 William Chambers, Black Hawk.

14 Steve Knecht, Kenosha Tremper.

15 Ted Knutson, Aquinas.

16 Bernie Nikolay, Cambridge.

17 Dave Steavpack, Manitowoc.

18 And Scott Winch, Stratford.

19 We've got two Board of Control members
20 that are not present, Ms. Jennifer Vogler from
21 Sturgeon Bay, and Mr. Bill Yingst, Senior, from
22 Durand-Arkansaw.

23 At this time, WIAA staff:

24 Mr. Tom Shafranski, assistant director,
25 is in the back there.

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1 Stephanie Hauser, assistant director.
2 Kate Peterson Abiad, assistant
3 director.
4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stand up, Kate.
5 MR. COLEMAN: She did.
6 Todd Clark, communications director.
7 MR. CLARK: Good morning.
8 MR. COLEMAN: Eric Dziak, technology
9 coordinator.
10 Joan Gralla, office manager.
11 Kassie McGettigan, director of
12 business operations and ticketing.
13 Megan Pollack, social media and graphic
14 specialist.
15 Candace Ostertag, administrative
16 assistant to Kate Peterson Abiad.
17 Deb Lepak, administrative assistant to
18 Tom Shafranski.
19 And the newest member of the team,
20 Mr. Bobby Blom, IT assistant to Eric Dziak.
21 WIAA liaisons, if you are present,
22 please stand to be acknowledged.
23 John Ashley, WASB.
24 Mike Thompson, DPI.
25 Todd Sobrilsky, WADA.

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1 Also, if there are any Advisory
2 Council and Sports Advisory
3 Council members that are present, could you please
4 stand to be acknowledged.

5 Thank you all for your presence and
6 your service.

7 Also, we'd like to acknowledge Mr. Doug
8 Chickering, director emeritus. Doug is in the back.

9 Mr. Andy Engel of Hamilton Consulting.

10 And we have a number of media that are
11 joining us today.

12 Thank you all for your presence.

13 Before moving into our business portion
14 of the meeting, we will have our open forum.

15 There are microphones down front.
16 There's four, two on each side. We ask that, if you
17 come to speak, that you -- again, you please state
18 your name and your school. And if you have any
19 written correspondence, please make sure a copy goes
20 to one of the WIAA staff members for recordkeeping.
21 Open forum at this time. I'd invite people to come
22 and speak.

23 MR. GUDEN: Good morning, executive
24 staff. My name is Andy Guden, representing Medford
25 High School.

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1 I am in the G&C conference. Although,
2 I don't speak for everybody in the G&C.

3 I'm here to talk about girls' hockey.
4 I would like to see something changed from 2015-'16
5 season. We had 33 teams. Currently, we have 30 --
6 or 27 and possibly, this next season, 26.

7 Co-ops merging with co-ops, I believe,
8 do not grow the sport. These mega co-ops need to be
9 broken up. The larger the co-op becomes, the less
10 sense of community there is within the team.

11 It's easy -- it's an easy way for
12 coaches and administration to say, when we need a
13 co-op -- or we need a co-op in order to have a team
14 and give the girls an opportunity, but I don't see
15 how that's growing the sport when you've lost almost
16 seven teams in four years.

17 My proposal is to adopt something
18 similar to what gymnastics is doing where you limit
19 the schools or the enrollment or -- or not allow it
20 to be in the WIAA series.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. LEMIEUX: Good morning. I'm Kyle
23 LeMieux, associate principal/athletic director, at
24 Waukesha West.

25 I have a little bit different

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1 perspective on co-ops this morning. I would like to
2 offer some feedback regarding the recent change to
3 the gymnastics tournament procedures
4 co-op agreements to consist of only two schools.
5 While we are able to have more than two schools of
6 combined enrollment that's less than the largest
7 stand-alone school, that math quickly does not add up
8 for Waukesha. Our co-op consists of Waukesha North,
9 Waukesha South, Waukesha West, and Waukesha Catholic
10 Memorial. A typical year of our team results in 15
11 to 20 gymnasts, usually half of which come from
12 Waukesha West. Hence, our taking the lead.

13 The status of co-ops around Wisconsin
14 has consistently been discussed over the years. I
15 want to start by saying that healthy discussion
16 around this topic is a must and that additional
17 learning about the impact of co-ops should take place
18 from both perspectives.

19 My concern stems from the origin of
20 this change where the proposal was brought forth
21 through the gymnastics coaches' advisory committee.
22 I'm not here today to judge those coaches, but it's
23 important to note that none of those six coaches
24 represented co-op programs.

25 Likewise, when athletic directors at

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1 schools who sponsored gymnastics were originally
2 surveyed about the potential change, those from
3 Division 2 schools were in favor of the new rule 19
4 to 6. However, within Division 1, athletic directors
5 were split 13 for and 14 against. It is worth noting
6 that, to my understanding, no Division 2 co-ops are
7 impacted by this new rule. However, many Division 1
8 co-ops are.

9 When I see this, my response
10 is that the feedback of administrators coordinating
11 gymnastics programs was seen as less meaningful than
12 the feedback of the coaches' advisory committee.

13 As I analyze the full scope of this
14 change, my perspective is that this is not simply a
15 change in gymnastics tournament procedures, but
16 rather, this enters into a much broader perspective
17 of competitive equity. A precedent has now been
18 established that individual sports are not only able
19 to alter sports-specific rules but now have the power
20 to determine who is eligible for a state
21 championship. This power appears to be misplaced and
22 should be voted upon by the full membership similar
23 to other competitive equity proposals of recent
24 years. I believe this change attempts to solve a
25 very complex question with a simple answer.

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1 The struggle, however, is that not all
2 co-ops are created equal. I'm well aware of the
3 talent level present within some co-ops and why we
4 are where we are in this matter today. However, the
5 reality in Waukesha is that our coach works
6 tirelessly to coordinate the efforts between four
7 athletic directors, four booster clubs, four
8 administrative assistants, and so on just to pull off
9 a quality program for our young ladies.

10 It's been brought up for this approval
11 process that if only co-op programs worked harder,
12 this change would, in fact, help grow a sport that
13 has seen participation decline. My observation
14 within our district is that many female sports are in
15 decline, and we need to strive to create
16 opportunities instead of limiting our students.

17 At the beginning of the month, I
18 submitted a co-op renewal to stay together as a
19 grouping of four schools and, in doing so, sacrificed
20 our team's ability to compete for a state
21 championship. If we chose to submit a co-op
22 agreement to be eligible for a team championship, the
23 result would be that Catholic Memorial and one other
24 Waukesha school would no longer offer gymnastics.
25 The lack of quality coaching, lack of practice space,

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1 and expensive equipment will not allow gymnastics
2 programs to start up, as some would hope.

3 To complicate this further, we would
4 then face a grouping of students that may wish to
5 transfer within our district for the sake of
6 gymnastics. But due to current transfer rules, they
7 would be out of luck. This would be heartbreaking
8 for our coaches and program who go the extra mile to
9 help our athletes from different schools gel as one
10 team.

11 I appreciate the efforts of our team.
12 Yet, I am not here today offering this perspective
13 because I feel as if a state championship is being
14 taken away. This runs much deeper in that we strive
15 in education-based athletics to promote team over
16 self, sacrifice for the whole group, and unity. The
17 recent rule change, at best, creates a situation
18 where athletes and coaches are choosing between self
19 and team.

20 For the sake of gymnastics as a sport,
21 I hope the number of participants and teams grows in
22 year to -- in years to come. However, I believe this
23 new rule will unfortunately have the opposite effect.

24 I respectfully ask that this rule,
25 along with all matters involving co-ops, be addressed

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1 from a competitive equity lens so that the entire
2 membership can contribute and have an appropriate
3 influence in the discussion moving forward.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. COLEMAN: Thank you.

6 Also, thank you to the gentleman that
7 spoke before.

8 And as a reminder, if you have written
9 comments, notes, or statements, to please bring them
10 to the front table or give them to the staff.

11 MR. DORSCHNER: Jeff Dorschner,
12 athletic director at -- for the Crivitz School
13 District.

14 I want to bring to light the topic of
15 officials. I think, as the membership can all
16 concur, that the shortage of officials is very real.
17 And I think we need to maybe take an approach of
18 looking outside the box in the recruitment and
19 retention of new officials. We already offer a free
20 registration -- or we waive the registration fee for
21 high school officials. I think, to recruit and
22 retain newer officials, younger officials, I think we
23 should expand that to traditionally-aged college
24 students and also first-year officials.

25 As officials get into the avocation of

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1 officiating, it's a -- it's an investment with --
2 with gear. It's a -- it's a real learning curve for
3 a lot of new officials. And I think we would do a
4 service to those new officials, first-year officials,
5 college-age officials, to invest in them for at least
6 year one and then see if -- if that's something that
7 they would like to do. And moving forward, then they
8 can obviously pay the registration and re-up their
9 certification through the WIAA.

10 But I think the WIAA can do a little
11 bit more. I think this is a topic that kind of gets
12 kicked around from the -- the office to the
13 officials' associations, the schools, athletic
14 directors, to the coaches. And it just seems like
15 there's been a lot of lip service in the past with --
16 you know, we need new officials. I think it would do
17 a service to those first-year officials to take some
18 action on it.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. COLEMAN: Thank you.

21 MR. ADAMS: Jake Adams from Crandon.

22 I would ask that the WIAA explore the
23 possibility of moving our spring baseball and
24 softball seasons back at least a week, if not two
25 weeks. I know my school has yet to be able to play a

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1 softball game, and our post season is less than a
2 month away. I feel like our kids are at a
3 disadvantage of either having to play a lot of games
4 in a short amount of time or just not getting the
5 opportunity to play in the same number of events as
6 southern schools.

7 MR. COLEMAN: Thank you.

8 MR. VOLK: Hi. I'm Charlie Volk from
9 the Three Lakes School.

10 And I don't know if I'm speaking to the
11 wrong group here, but this year, the ACT fell during
12 the first round of the regional basketball games for
13 the girls' basketball. And it wasn't a great
14 experience for some of those kids that needed to
15 travel two to three hours in our rural districts
16 where they had to travel a long ways and -- with a
17 7:00 start time with an ACT the next morning in
18 school.

19 So I don't know if you guys could speak
20 with the WI- -- or the DPI and arrange for another
21 time or either move that up a week or, you know, week
22 back later or two weeks after.

23 A few of the teams were limited, and a
24 lot of the schools weren't necessarily (inaudible).
25 But it was something that my principal wanted me to

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1 bring to your attention.

2 So thank you.

3 MR. COLEMAN: Thank you.

4 MR. ANDERSON: Charlie, I will offer
5 some response to you specifically to that question.

6 We have had conversations. Mike
7 Thompson, deputy director of DPI, serves as the
8 Board's liaison to DPI. And we have had
9 conversations about -- calling -- Mike, come on, you
10 know, of all the dates. And the response that we get
11 back is that ACT determines the dates or the window
12 of -- of opportunities when the tests can be offered
13 and so on. And as recently as just this past year,
14 because of the circumstances you've described, we
15 have, again, revisited that conversation. And -- and
16 my message this time has been, look, you-all, our
17 calendar is published, you know, three years in
18 advance, four years, actually, you know, beyond what
19 we put in the book. If -- but we don't schedule the
20 ACT tests. That -- that is a DPI thing.

21 And I invite and encourage and ask you
22 to -- we have started that drum beats. By all means,
23 help us get that message made more clearly, if we
24 can.

25 But it is a -- it is a topic that we

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1 are aware of, and we have attempted to draw attention
2 to and work with DPI.

3 MR. KOSEY: Ray Kosey from Superior.

4 Somewhat related. Travel issues.

5 Sectional seeding for Superior is just a disaster for
6 us. Our girls' basketball team had to travel five
7 and a half hours on the opening round to Appleton to
8 play a game. Just would look some clear definition
9 of what excessive travel is for tournament games and
10 look at what seeding a whole section really does for
11 travel. A lot of concerns on seeding the whole
12 section, especially in Section 1.

13 MR. COLEMAN: Thank you.

14 Thank you all for your comments. Notes
15 have been taken. Topics will be revisited at next
16 fall's area meetings.

17 At this time, we will move into the
18 business portion of our meeting and the vote on the
19 amendments. Dr. Labecki will outline the procedures
20 used for changing the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules
21 of Eligibility. Provisions will be read, rationale
22 offered, and positions taken.

23 DR. LABECKI: Good morning.

24 If you'll turn to page 5, we have the
25 procedural rules that we will be using at the

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1 business meeting. Robert's Rules of Order shall
2 govern if not inconsistent with the WIAA
3 Constitution.

4 We do have Dr. Miller here as our
5 parliamentarian.

6 Each member school in grades 9 through
7 12 will be entitled to one vote at this area -- or at
8 this annual meeting. And the president of the Board
9 of Control will chair it.

10 For your convenience, when you look at
11 the wording of the proposed changes, any proposed new
12 words are highlighted in shaded sections. And then
13 the potential removed words are stricken with a line
14 through them.

15 All motions are to be in the
16 affirmative. The motion is seconded. The membership
17 may debate or move directly to a vote.

18 Please understand that you may speak by
19 going to the microphone, being recognized by the
20 Chair, and give your full name and the name of the
21 member school that you are representing.

22 The Chair has the authority to
23 establish the time limits.

24 And all of these resolutions are
25 brought by one of the four methods. They -- at the

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1 annual meeting here, if you were to bring one, you
2 would need a majority vote, and it would be brought
3 back next year for a vote; two, the Board of Control;
4 three, the Advisory Council; or four, by petition in
5 writing by the administrator or high school principal
6 of at least 10 percent of the member schools.

7 All member schools received this
8 information earlier in the bulletin, and it's also
9 posted online on the WIAA website.

10 If the majority of schools vote in
11 favor of the proposed amendments, it will become
12 effective no later than the next issue of the
13 of the bulletin, which is published on May
14 24th of this year.

15 So all votes will be in written ballot.
16 They are color-coded for your convenience.

17 And then we will have the tellers, who
18 will be under Tom
19 Shafranski's help, in order to go ahead and conduct
20 the vote.

21 So as stated, we have, I believe, 415.

22 Was that the number, Julie?

23 MS. KAGE: Right.

24 DR. LABECKI: We have 415 voting
25 members. Yes, we do have 415.

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1 So we're going to start with the first
2 amendment that's on page 6. This deals with the
3 Constitution, and it's a membership proposal. This
4 change would reflect the fact that the tournament
5 entry is only available to WIAA member schools who
6 are in good standing.

7 So under Article III in Membership on
8 page 14, the shaded paragraph B would be added,
9 "Membership is not available to schools belonging to
10 another Wisconsin statewide interscholastic athletic
11 association." And "Note: WIAA assigned conferences
12 are accepted."

13 In the Bylaws, under Article I, Sports
14 Programs, on page 25, the shaded area would be added
15 to paragraph A, "WIAA tournament participation is
16 only available to WIAA member schools who only belong
17 to the WIAA."

18 And under Article 2 on page 26,
19 paragraph C, would be added, "Contests with nonmember
20 schools. No contest shall be held or scheduled with
21 a school that is eligible for membership in this
22 association but is not a member of the WIAA in good
23 standing."

24 The paragraphs -- the following
25 paragraphs would be relettered D and E.

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1 The Sports Advisory voted to advance
2 this to the annual meeting and to support it 13 to
3 nothing. The Advisory Council voted to advance and
4 to support 15 to nothing. The Board of Control voted
5 11 to nothing to advance, 11 to nothing to support.
6 So there is support for the adoption.

7 And this -- the rationale for this
8 proposal is that a school that is not a member is not
9 eligible for WIAA member tournaments.

10 MR. COLEMAN: In your packet of
11 materials, voting members received several
12 color-coded ballots. The ballot for Constitution
13 Item No. 1 states "Constitution No. 1" and is in gold
14 color.

15 At this time, I will take a motion to
16 support Constitution Item No. 1.

17 Again, remember to state your name and
18 your school.

19 MR. SCHULTZ: Cody Schultz, Fall River.

20 MR. COLEMAN: Motion by Mr. Schultz.

21 Is there a second?

22 MR. MCCLOWRY: Jim McClowry --

23 (Two people speaking at once.)

24 MR. MCCLOWRY: -- Appleton West.

25 MR. MILLER: -- Wausau West.

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sorry.

2 MR. COLEMAN: Brian Miller, Wausau
3 West, second.

4 Is there any discussion on the topic?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. COLEMAN: Seeing that there are
7 none, if you could, please cast your vote on the gold
8 ballot. Pass them down to the center aisles to be
9 collected.

10 DR. LABECKI: Okay. While they are
11 collecting the ballots, if you will, look at page No.
12 7. Amendment No. 2 deals with tournament hosting.
13 And this change would clarify that the Board of
14 Control may remove opportunities to host WIAA
15 tournament contests from member schools, if deemed
16 necessary.

17 So under Article 7, Powers and Duties
18 of the Board of Control, No. 7 would be added: "Loss
19 of opportunity to host association tournament events
20 for not more than one year."

21 And then paragraph 7 would be
22 renumbered to 8.

23 The Sports Advisory voted 13 to nothing
24 to advance and support. The Advisory Council, 15 to
25 nothing to advance and support. And the Board of

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1 Control, 11, nothing, to advance and support. So
2 there is support for the adoption.

3 The rationale for this the loss of
4 hosting is an intermediate step between probation and
5 removal from the state tournaments. So the purpose
6 of this is to not be as severe going from probation
7 to just straight removal from the tournaments.

8 MR. COLEMAN: Constitution Item No. 2.
9 Voting ballot is the light blue ballot.

10 At this time, I will entertain a motion
11 to support.

12 MR. MCCLOWRY: Jim McCLOWRY, Appleton
13 West.

14 MR. COLEMAN: Jim McCLOWRY, Appleton
15 West.

16 Is there a second?

17 MR. ENDREAS: And Mike --

18 (Two people speaking at one time.)

19 MR. COLEMAN: Mike Endreas, Spencer.

20 Is there any discussion on the topic?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. COLEMAN: Seeing that there is
23 none, if you could, please cast your ballot and pass
24 the ballots down to the center aisle.

25 DR. LABECKI: Okay. Moving on to Item

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1 No. 3 on page 8, the next two proposals are being --
2 are coming forward due to the football-only
3 conference realignment being passed yesterday.

4 No. 3 deals with the cooperative team
5 deadlines. And this change would clarify that co-ops
6 for football shall meet a December 1st deadline for
7 football-only conference realignment.

8 Underneath paragraph 5, underneath
9 Powers and Duties of the Board, on page 20, we would
10 add a note that football co-op deadline is December
11 1st.

12 And as you can see the votes below,
13 Sports Advisory was 13 to nothing to advance and
14 support. Advisory Council, 15 to nothing to advance
15 and support. And the Board of Control, 11 to nothing
16 to advance and support.

17 So we need the knowledge of who is
18 going to co-op early enough to get through the
19 football realignment requests, if there are any, for
20 co-op teams. So that's why this is going to December
21 1st.

22 MR. COLEMAN: The vote for Constitution
23 Item No. 3 will take place on your light green
24 ballot.

25 At this time, I'd entertain a motion to

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1 support.

2 MR. FRIZZELL: John Frizzell, Wisconsin
3 Rapids, Lincoln.

4 MR. COLEMAN: John Frizzell, Wisconsin
5 Rapids, Lincoln.

6 Is there a second?

7 MR. SLACK: Terry Slack, Wisconsin
8 Dells, (inaudible).

9 MR. COLEMAN: Terry Slack, Wisconsin
10 Dells, second.

11 Any discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. COLEMAN: Seeing that there are --
14 is not any discussion, please cast your votes and
15 pass your ballots down to the center aisles.

16 As the ballots for Constitution Item
17 No. 3 are being collected, I would like to read --
18 read the results of our first -- first vote,
19 Constitution Item No. 1. Motion to support, 379 - or
20 excuse me. Those who support the motion, 379. Those
21 that deny the motion, 8.

22 DR. LABECKI: Motion No. -- or motion.

23 Proposal No. 4 is for tournament entry.
24 Again, this is a football-only conference realignment
25 proposal. This change would clarify that football --

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1 both 8 -- 11-player and 8-player declarations shall
2 be made by December 1st for football-only conference
3 realignment purposes.

4 So underneath Article 1, Sports
5 Programs, on page 25 in your Bylaws, the note would
6 be added, "Football (both 11- and 8-player) deadline
7 is December 1st."

8 You can see the support by Sports
9 Advisory was 13 to nothing to advance and support.
10 Advisory Council, 15 to nothing to advance and
11 support. And Board of Control, 11 to nothing to
12 advance and support.

13 MR. COLEMAN: The vote for this item
14 will be on the buff-colored ballot, if there is such
15 a color. The one with no color.

16 At this time, I'll take a motion for
17 support.

18 MR. WENDT: Joe Wendt, Racine Horlick.

19 MR. COLEMAN: Joe Wendt, Racine
20 Horlick.

21 Thank you.

22 Is there a second?

23 MR. STOBBER: Jill Stobber, Waterford.

24 MR. COLEMAN: Jill Stobber.

25 Any discussion?

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(No response.)

MR. COLEMAN: Seeing that there is no discussion, will you please cast your vote and pass your ballots down to the center aisle.

As those ballots are being collected, I'd like to read the results of Constitution Item No. 2. Those in support of the motion, 385. Those that deny the motion, 3.

DR. LABECKI: Okay. The next three changes deal with the Rules of Eligibility. So Proposal No. 5 deals with the residence eligibility rules and the transfer rules. And this change would provide unrestricted eligibility for transfer students who did not participate in athletics from grades 9 through 12.

So underneath Article 2, Residence and Transfer, Section 3, on page 33, we would add a paragraph - at this time, it's No. 1 - that would state, "A student who transfers into a member school without ever participating in a tryout, practice, scrimmage, or contest on a team sponsored by a school or a club in a WIAA-recognized sport while attending classes at any school in grades 9 through 12 is unrestricted."

You can see the support down below.

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1 Sports Advisory, 13 to nothing, advance and support.
2 Advisory Council, 15 to nothing for advance and
3 support. Board of Control, 11 to 0 to advance and
4 support.

5 So the purpose or the rationale for
6 this one is that we would provide eligibility to a
7 student who has not participated in a school or club
8 sport that is a WIAA-recognized sport during their
9 high school years, grades 9 through 12.

10 MR. COLEMAN: The voting for Item No. 5
11 will take place on the bright green ballot. At this
12 time, I'll entertain a motion to --

13 MR. LOWER: (Inaudible) Trent Lower,
14 Greenfield.

15 MR. TALLMAN: Second. Wayland Academy,
16 Phil Tallman.

17 MR. COLEMAN: We have a motion and a
18 second.

19 Any discussion?

20 MR. Hundt: Is this for any sport? If
21 I played -- if I never did --

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Stand up.

23 MR. Hundt: -- basketball --

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: School name.

25 DR. LABECKI: School name?

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1 MR. Hundt: Caleb Hundt, Menomonie.

2 DR. LABECKI: Caleb, Menomonie. Okay.

3 MR. Hundt: Just curious if this is for
4 any sport. If a kid never does any sports, they can
5 then join the sport? Or if I played football and I
6 never played baseball, now I can go play baseball?

7 DR. LABECKI: Right. Any sport. So if
8 you have not played a sport during 9 through 12, a
9 WIAA sport -- baseball, you
10 would be unrestricted in all sports.

11 But if you have participated in
12 baseball, then the transfer rule applies to all, just
13 as it normally would.

14 MR. PAULSON: Brian Paulson,
15 Rhinelander.

16 (Inaudible) EVTS form. I'm just
17 wondering, because of the tryouts, you know -- us ADs
18 do the best job we can to verify everything is
19 correct. Maybe adding a parent's signature saying
20 that this is correct, this form, just so it's just a
21 double-check for us.

22 DR. LABECKI: Right, Brian. And we're
23 working on that form. And, in fact, we have
24 completed a form for the next proposal, and that's
25 one that you could use as well for that. So we are

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1 coming up with another form that will be separate
2 from the EVTS because the EVTS goes to the schools.
3 But we are -- we do have a form ready to go for the
4 next one. So that will be available online.

5 MS. BATES: Wade --

6 DR. LABECKI: Yep.

7 MS. BATES: -- would this include
8 international students who are considered transfers?

9 DR. LABECKI: It would apply to all
10 schools -- all students the same. So -- but
11 remember, it is club or team. So, yes, Kathy.

12 MR. MARGELOFSKY: Wade, Brian,
13 Northland Pines.

14 Is that form going to be an electronic
15 form?

16 DR. LABECKI: Right now it's in a pdf
17 format. Our IT guy has been busy, in case you
18 haven't noticed, with the website and with the
19 officials section and with all of that stuff. So it
20 will be -- it will depend on how fast he can get to
21 that. Trying to get the EVTS form electronic as
22 well. So he's working on it.

23 Good question, Brian.

24 MS. STOBBER: Wade, Jill Stobber.

25 Both sports --

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1 DR. LABECKI: Jill --

2 MS. STOBBER: Both sports are relating
3 to club sports in your school or club sports outside
4 of the school?

5 DR. LABECKI: Jill, that relates to any
6 club sport. And the reason it does -- with the
7 reason club sports is included is because you could
8 have hockey, which is in August and which is also in
9 March, and the Tier 1 hockey -- and they won't be
10 involved in -- in high school sports during the, you
11 know, 14 and under or 16 and under. And then once
12 they're done with their hockey, then they want to
13 transfer to a hockey school. So that's why club
14 sports is included in there. And that's just one
15 example.

16 MR. GUDEN: Wade, Andy Guden. Medford.

17 Just to kind of clear -- or make --
18 make sure I understand Caleb's question, if you have
19 a football player and he's never played baseball, but
20 he's played other sports, and he transfers to a
21 school to play baseball, a sport he hadn't played at
22 the previous school, is he eligible?

23 DR. LABECKI: No.

24 MR. GUDEN: Okay. So it's -- if you
25 played any sports, doesn't matter what it is, you go

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1 to the next sport? I just want to clear that up.

2 DR. LABECKI: Correct. Any WIAA sport.

3 Yep.

4 MS. OLSON: Wade, Linda Olson, Freedom.

5 Question regarding the tryout. If the
6 kid gets cut, they never get an opportunity to
7 participate in a sport. So what was the rationale
8 for including a tryout in that?

9 DR. LABECKI: Some people would
10 transfer after they've been cut.

11 MS. OLSON: Well, why would that be a
12 problem if they never participated in the sport then?

13 DR. LABECKI: Well, we're making --
14 we're trying to make an exception here to the
15 transfer rule to -- to help kids who haven't
16 participated in athletics. That's what this -- the
17 purpose of this is. So that's why, you know -- that
18 person is still caught up in the transfer rule
19 currently. If they've tried out for a sport,
20 they're -- the transfer rule would continue to apply
21 to them. They would not meet this exception.

22 Peggy?

23 MS. SEEGER BRAUN: So if -- if
24 somebody never played at their high school, but
25 they've played, say, club soccer --

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1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you repeat
2 that?

3 MS. SEEGERS BRAUN: -- then they would
4 be ineligible?

5 DR. LABECKI: I'm sorry. We're not
6 using the microphones, so some people are having
7 trouble understanding or hearing the questions.

8 So, Peggy --

9 MS. SEEGERS BRAUN: My question is, so
10 if they never played a high school sport at their
11 high school and they're transferring into, say, my
12 school, but they've played club volleyball --

13 DR. LABECKI: Uh-huh.

14 MS. SEEGERS BRAUN: -- but they never
15 played at their other high school, then they're
16 ineligible?

17 DR. LABECKI: They would -- the
18 transfer rule would still apply. They would not get
19 this exception.

20 Think of this as an exception to the
21 transfer rule. The transfer rule applies to
22 everybody right now. If they have not played a
23 school or a club sport, they get an exception, and
24 they are unrestricted immediately. So we are trying
25 to get people who have not played a sport, whether a

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1 team sport -- school sport or a club sport. We're
2 trying to get them eligible. This is an exception to
3 the transfer rule. Okay?

4 This is a benefit for those kids who
5 have not competed, tried out, or practiced on a
6 school or club sport. Okay? So this is an exception
7 to the transfer rule.

8 MR. COLEMAN: Okay. We have a motion
9 and a second.

10 At this time, if you could, cast your
11 ballot. Pass it down to the center aisle.

12 As those ballots are being collected,
13 I'd like to read the results -- I'd like to read --
14 read the results of the vote for Constitution Item
15 No. 3. 380 to support. 6 to deny for Constitution
16 Item No. 3.

17 For Constitution Item No. 4, 385 to
18 support. 3 to deny.

19 DR. LABECKI: Okay. We're going to
20 move on to No. 6 on page 11. This change would
21 restrict students who transfer with a preexisting
22 athletic relationship with anyone in the school that
23 the student is transferring into. The preexisting
24 relationship will include athletes on the same
25 nonschool team, school coaches working with the

1 nonschool team, school coaches from a previous
2 school, summer contact, whether school or nonschool,
3 personal training, et cetera.

4 So Article 2, Residence and Transfer,
5 Section 3, Transfers, on page 33, a paragraph would
6 be added that states, "A student who transfers into a
7 member school whether by a total and complete change
8 of residence by the student and/or parents or by any
9 other means but has a preexisting athletic
10 relationship in a WIAA-recognized sport to anyone
11 associated with the new school shall be ineligible
12 for competition at any level for one calendar year
13 but may practice. A preexisting athletic
14 relationship includes, but is not limited to, A, the
15 student was involved in a nonschool or school
16 activity that was coached or directed by a coach,
17 administrator, or parent at the new school; B, the
18 student received private skills instruction by a
19 coach, administrator, or parent at the new school; C,
20 attended a summer contact session at the new school;
21 and/or, D, is involved in summer athletic activities
22 with a coach, administrative, parent, and/or athlete
23 of the new school before attending that school."

24 And the following paragraphs would be
25 renumbered.

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1 The Sports Advisory Committee voted 13
2 to nothing to advance and support. The Advisory
3 Council, 15 nothing to advance to the membership.
4 Their support was 8 to 7. The Board of Control, 11
5 to nothing on both advancing and supporting.

6 So a rationale for this is the
7 preexisting relationship has become more common,
8 creating super teams, without regard to the existing
9 student athletes and/or school community. The intent
10 of this proposal is to go ahead and discourage
11 athletes from forming super teams at schools.

12 MR. COLEMAN: The vote for this item
13 will take place on your gray ballot.

14 At this time, I will entertain a motion
15 to support.

16 MR. ADAMS: Jake Adams, Crandon.

17 MR. COLEMAN: Jake Adams. Thank you.

18 Is there a second?

19 MR. KING: Adam King --

20 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible)
21 Bonduel.

22 MR. COLEMAN: I heard the name over
23 there. Could you just please repeat it?

24 MR. KING: Adam King, Racine Case.

25 MR. COLEMAN: Adam King, Racine Case.

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1 Second.

2 Any discussion?

3 MR. MATZ: Brian Matz, Bay Port.

4 I have a question, Wade. Does this
5 apply to --

6 (Several people talking at one time.)

7 MR. MATZ: I'll use the example --

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mike?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mike?

10 MR. MATZ: I've never been accused of
11 having a quiet --

12 DR. LABECKI: It is Brian Matz.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It is.

14 MR. MATZ: Brian Matz, Bay Port.

15 Does it -- does this apply -- or are we
16 concerned about the 13-year-old youth baseball club
17 team or anything like that for a preexisting
18 relationship?

19 DR. LABECKI: No, Brian. This is from,
20 once again, grades 9 through 12. So once they enter
21 in grade 9, then this rule applies.

22 MR. MATZ: All right. So 8th grade
23 year, that's fine. It's all up to when they enter
24 high school?

25 DR. LABECKI: It's when they enter high

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1 school --

2 MR. MATZ: Thank you.

3 DR. LABECKI: -- yes.

4 MR. DOW: Mel Dow, Stoughton.

5 I believe we need a better
6 understanding of the definition of preexisting
7 relationship, who's monitoring, administering the
8 process in the identifiable examples of what this
9 could look like.

10 We are opposed to the recruitment of
11 kids who join and participate in our programs, but we
12 have concerns about how this proposal could be
13 applied in today's world. We now live in a day and
14 age that families have the ability to change
15 professions, homes, and this includes educational
16 institutions. To that fact, our educational system
17 allows for open enrollment, and many districts are
18 dependent upon these numbers.

19 I feel we need reassurance that this
20 does become a "gotcha" rule because of what one
21 perceives is a preexisting relationship.

22 Our number of coaches that are --
23 are -- they're teachers continue to decline. As we
24 find coaches with the skill set to lead our programs,
25 many of them have occupations that lead to having

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1 some sort of an established relationship to kids and
2 families from across the state. I'm afraid to have
3 to indicate to a family that is looking to move to
4 the Madison area that they need to look at other
5 schools because of relationships that are outside of
6 our control and most likely did not impact the
7 family's decision to relocate. This is not a
8 conversation our Board of Education would support me
9 having and is -- that is discouraging families from
10 enrolling in our district, but I feel we would be
11 obligated to the student and the family for them not
12 to lose out on an opportunity to fully participate.

13 I do not think our association can
14 create a rule that prevents families from having the
15 right to relocate their family and, at the same time,
16 eliminates a school from allowing a family to enroll
17 strictly based on relationships. As written, this
18 would -- rule would not only prevent unwanted
19 recruitment of athletes but also have the innocent
20 casualties of families who are looking to relocate
21 for all the appropriate reasons.

22 In closing, I'm not sure what
23 additional protection this proposal gives our
24 membership than the current rule based on transfer
25 versus full and complete family move. If a family

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1 has a reason to give up their current job, residency,
2 and way of life, doesn't this satisfy the current
3 criteria of a full and complete family move?

4 DR. LABECKI: Thank you, Mel.

5 It's not intended to be a "gotcha"
6 rule.

7 It's intended to discourage people from
8 trying to get their AAU teams together at the school
9 and displace your current students who are there and
10 to create that habit.

11 It's also to go ahead and make sure
12 that we are an education-based athletics and that we
13 aren't turning into club teams where we have students
14 who are just moving around for athletic purposes.

15 Education-based athletics is here in
16 our schools to be a supplement to their current
17 education. It's not there to win AAU championship in
18 March in the WIAA and then go into July and win one
19 at the national level.

20 So that's the purpose of the rule.

21 We currently have a recruiting rule,
22 but right now we don't have people who are willing to
23 come forward and utilize it. So this is another form
24 that is used to discourage people who are not using
25 education-based athletics for the purpose that we

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1 have them, as you see -- as you see in our
2 Constitution in the first -- the three rules of why
3 this WIAA association exists.

4 So it's not a "gotcha" rule. We have
5 plenty of people who use our rules for "gotchas," and
6 then some of you have experienced that. This is not
7 the intention of this. This is to go ahead and
8 protect the kids and their current opportunities from
9 others who were to (inaudible) -- or try to take them
10 from them when they're not members of that community.

11 MR. GROSHEK: Shawn Groshek,
12 Adams-Friendship.

13 Speaking on behalf of District 3, on
14 our area caucus meeting last week, we discussed the
15 possibility of taking this and possibly removing some
16 paperwork off of your desk. Wondering if the
17 membership would be interested in possibly having
18 a -- with the student athlete going from - let's just
19 pick two schools - Shiocton to Mauston, the outgoing
20 conferences signing off -- conference - sorry -
21 signing off on that student athlete leaving and then
22 the incoming or receiving conference having to
23 approve it as well? Just to possibly -- I don't want
24 to say "bypass this," but to take some paperwork off
25 of your desk.

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1 Thank you.

2 DR. LABECKI: Thanks, Shawn.

3 We do have a form that would be
4 available. And I think we'll put that form out there
5 anyway for you to use whether this passes or not.
6 But we do have a form to address this in a -- a
7 supplement that parents would sign where they would
8 put down whether or not there's some existing
9 relationship. And we're going to ask them right out
10 on that form whether or not they've had any undue
11 influence in order to attend the school.

12 So we're trying to go ahead and -- and
13 create some tools for you to use in addition to the
14 transfer forms.

15 MR. COLEMAN: All right. At this time,
16 would you please cast your votes. Pass your ballots
17 down to the center aisle.

18 As these ballots are being collected,
19 I'd like to read the election results. For
20 eligibility, Item No. 5. 370 voted in support. 29
21 to deny.

22 DR. LABECKI: Our final proposal is a
23 Rules of Eligibility proposal as well. It's No. 7
24 underneath Code of Conduct. This change would
25 prevent a student who has been charged and/or

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1 convicted of a felony from competing until the
2 student has satisfied all of the requirements of the
3 court.

4 So underneath Health and
5 Behavior/Compliance, in Section 3, Code of Conduct on
6 page 39, paragraph 4 would be added: "Any student
7 charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the
8 filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all
9 further participation until the student has paid his
10 or her debt to society and the Courts consider the
11 sentence served. This includes probation, community
12 service, et cetera."

13 And then in front of the note below
14 there, we would add in, "Except for conduct
15 violations under paragraph 4 felony charges, the
16 school must provide an opportunity to be heard," et
17 cetera.

18 The Sports Advisory was 13 to nothing
19 to advance and support. The Advisory Council, that
20 was 15 to nothing to advance, 9 to 6 to support. The
21 Board of Control, 11, nothing to advance; 10 to 1 to
22 support.

23 So this amendment provides a common
24 rule statewide, protects the membership's
25 tournaments, and allows for adjustments should

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1 charges be dropped or amended to a misdemeanor.

2 So after all of our discussion at the
3 area meetings, this is the result that came forward
4 through those seven area meetings and -- and from the
5 original language that we have. If you'll remember,
6 it was tournaments only. And the -- the general
7 feeling we got from the membership was that it should
8 be for the entire career until the Court is
9 satisfied.

10 MR. COLEMAN: Voting on this topic will
11 take place on your yellow ballot.

12 At this time, I will entertain a motion
13 to support.

14 MR. BERGMAN: Rick Bergman, Prentice.

15 MR. COLEMAN: Motion by Rick Bergman.

16 Is there a second?

17 MR. ZISCHKA: Luka Zischka, Bonduel.

18 MR. COLEMAN: We have a second.

19 Any discussion?

20 MS. KAGE: What name?

21 DR. LABECKI: Luka Zischka from
22 Bonduel.

23 MS. KAGE: Okay.

24 MR. COLEMAN: Seeing that there is no
25 discussion -- oh.

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1 MR. SEKEL: James Sekel, D.C. Everest.
2 What happens if that gets pled to a
3 misdemeanor during that whole --

4 DR. LABECKI: Once they've satisfied
5 the Court's requirements, they would be eligible. So
6 if they -- if they get -- if it goes from a felony
7 down to a misdemeanor, once they've done whether it's
8 jail time or a fine, once that's paid and -- and
9 served, then they would become immediately eligible.

10 MR. COLEMAN: At this time, if you
11 could, cast your votes and pass your ballots down to
12 the center aisle.

13 DR. LABECKI: Okay. On page 13, we're
14 going to begin with some editorial changes. It's
15 important to note that editorial changes are attempts
16 to clarify existing rules without making any change
17 in the interpretation of the rule. In some
18 instances, the change may be merely a word or words
19 or the addition or deletion of a sentence while, in
20 other cases, the changes may reflect the Board of
21 Control interpretation of membership wishes.

22 So the first change would go ahead and
23 clarify the intent of conference realignment and then
24 places a flow chart into the information in Appendix
25 B. So as you're aware probably - and Dave will talk

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1 about it - there's a new realignment task force that
2 is -- that the Board approved in January. So we're
3 going to remove and change some language.

4 So in Article VI, under Powers and
5 Duties of the Board in the Constitution on page 20,
6 in the note, the shaded words will be added and the
7 stricken words will be removed. So it would be
8 "while it is not generally the intent to make
9 wholesale changes in existing conference lines,"
10 semicolon, "it should be understood that there could
11 be shake-ups in areas where conference affiliation
12 problems are particularly acute," period. "And it
13 should also be understood that it may not be
14 realistic to find a solution for every member
15 school."

16 And then in the appendix, underneath --
17 on pages 42 and 43, we would strike the moratorium
18 language in the note, add in the words to reflect the
19 paragraph up above in the Constitution with the note,
20 strike all of the language for the position on
21 alignment of the Board of Control, and we would add
22 in the colorful flow chart that's on page 15.

23 Then on page 16, additional editorial
24 changes in the Constitution, these changes would
25 remove summer baseball from references in the

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1 Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules of Eligibility. So
2 as you see, Powers and Duties of the Board, we would
3 strike "summer baseball." In the Bylaws, we would
4 strike "summer baseball" in several locations. And
5 in the Rules of Eligibility, we would strike the
6 references to summer baseball in the academic portion
7 and in the nonschool participation form underneath
8 "All-Star Games."

9 On page 17, we have a change in the
10 Rules of Eligibility.

11 Just to give a comment, if you've
12 called, I probably told you that students entering
13 9th or 10th grade are unrestricted, students entering
14 11th grade as nonvarsity, and students in 12th grade.
15 So we've eliminated the words "open enrolled and/or
16 tuition paying" just to be consistent with what we've
17 been telling you for the last 10 -- 10 years or 20
18 years.

19 The next change, this change clarifies
20 that a student competing in a nonschool competition
21 without school approval will result in the student
22 becoming ineligible. So we put in that language that
23 came out of the Board interpretation right after that
24 rule was changed. So now we would add in the shaded
25 language that a student becomes ineligible in a sport

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1 for the remainder of the season for not receiving
2 school approval beforehand and/or competing in two or
3 more nonschool games, meets, or contests, et cetera.

4 The final change came about this year,
5 and this change clarifies that a student ejected from
6 a contest must serve the suspension at the same level
7 of competition as to qualification. So this is a
8 Board interpretation that we are putting in writing.
9 There's plenty of examples on the website, but we
10 figured that we should add this in underneath Health
11 & Behavior, Flagrant and Unsportsmanlike Conduct
12 and/or Assault on the Official. On page 39, we would
13 add in the shaded areas. So now it would read, "A
14 student disqualified from a contest for flagrant or
15 unsportsmanlike conduct is suspended from
16 interscholastic competition for no less than the next
17 competitive event (but not less than one complete
18 game or meet) at the same level of competition as a
19 disqualification."

20 So this was voted on by the Board of
21 Control for their interpretations and for the
22 clarifications editorially 11 to nothing to advance
23 and 11 to nothing to support.

24 MR. COLEMAN: The vote on the editorial
25 changes will take place on your pink ballot.

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1 At this time, I will entertain a motion
2 to support.

3 MS. BATES: Kathy Bates, Xavier.

4 MR. COLEMAN: Kathy Bates, Xavier.

5 Thank you.

6 Is there a second?

7 MS. SPENCER GRANT: Brittany Spencer
8 Grant, New Glarus.

9 MR. COLEMAN: Brittany Spencer, New
10 Glarus.

11 Any discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. COLEMAN: I see that there isn't.

14 MR. KARSTEN: Ryan -- Ryan Karsten,
15 Siren.

16 Just on the flagrant and
17 unsportsmanlike, I want a clarification. So my JV
18 kid gets kicked out for flagrant on Monday night for
19 the JV game. He can play in the varsity game Friday
20 night, but he can't play in the next JV game?

21 DR. LABECKI: Correct. This rule reads
22 that you are disqualified from the next contest at
23 the same level. That's been the Board
24 interpretation, Ryan. And -- and if they are --
25 we've already said that you should sit them out at

1 the level that is appropriate. But if you chose to
2 play them in the varsity game, this -- this
3 interpretation, yes, does allow them to play in the
4 varsity game.

5 MR. COLEMAN: At this time, would you
6 please cast your vote and pass your ballot down to
7 the center aisle.

8 At this time, I would like to read the
9 election results of the voting results of Item No. 6.
10 Item No. 6, 150 to support. 239 to deny. So the
11 motion fails.

12 Item No. 7. 335 to support. 52 to
13 deny.

14 At this time, I'd like to ask
15 Ms. Stephanie Hauser to come forward for the Award of
16 Excellence

17 MS. HAUSER: Thank you, Eric.

18 I get to move on to something a little
19 lighter right now. It's my honor to recognize the
20 WIAA Award of Excellence winners at this time.

21 21 schools' athletic departments along
22 with their administrators, coaching staffs, and
23 student athletes have met the outlined criteria for
24 this award, all which exemplify a high level of
25 sportsmanship, integrity, leadership, and ethics.

1 They were presented with their Award of
2 Excellence at the fall area meetings. They were also
3 recognized on social media in our state tournament
4 program.

5 So at this time, we'd like to give the
6 statewide recognition that they deserve, and I'd ask
7 the athletic directors or other school
8 representatives who are here today to stand as your
9 name is read: Beaver Dam, Brookwood, Cambridge,
10 Clinton, Fort Atkinson - please remain standing so we
11 can give you a big round of applause at the end -
12 Fort Atkinson, Hudson, Kenosha Tremper, Kimberly,
13 Manitowoc Lutheran, Merrill, Mondovi, Northwestern,
14 Oak Creek, Platteville, Racine Horlick, Racine
15 Lutheran, Stoughton, The Prairie School, Watertown,
16 Waunakee, and Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln.

17 At this time, let's give them a big
18 congratulations.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. HAUSER: Thank you.

21 If anybody has questions on how to
22 apply for this award, please just shoot me an email,
23 and we'll walk you through that. Thank you.

24 MR. COLEMAN: As to not hold up the
25 meeting at this time -- we're still waiting on the

1 results of the editorial vote. At this time, I'd
2 like to bring Dave Anderson forward, who will give
3 his director's report.

4 I know everyone is anxious to hear from
5 Dave, but I'll give the results of the editorial
6 vote. 384 to support. 3 to deny.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. ANDERSON: Let me begin by, again,
9 welcoming all of you. Good morning. It's -- it's
10 wonderful to see you and to see the -- the terrific
11 turnout, the consistent turnout that reflects the
12 interest of this membership in participating in the
13 governance and running and the future of the
14 opportunities that are provided by this membership of
15 the WIAA.

16 I'm here to report to you that it's
17 been an extraordinarily busy, productive, and
18 consequential year in the WIAA. The ideas and the
19 input, the conversations and the outcomes of our
20 collective efforts have been impactful upon this
21 membership in no small way, and they will contribute
22 to shaping this membership for many years to come.

23 Let's be- -- let's begin by closing the
24 loop on a few items of old business, if we can. It
25 was just a little over a year ago, Valentine's Day of

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1 2018, when 17 students and faculty were gunned down
2 at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.
3 In the aftermath of that, all of us, I think, clearly
4 recognized the vulnerability of our students and fans
5 at after-school events as well as the need for a new
6 level of consciousness, of awareness, communication,
7 planning, and preparation as we talked of our
8 emergency response plans.

9 Since that time, Dr. Labecki and I have
10 taken part in four meetings as members of the
11 Department of Justice's Office of School Safety
12 Committee and the state's Emergency Response
13 Committee. In addition to keeping a very specific
14 awareness of the many events taking place in schools
15 after the traditional school day, when the locks are
16 unlocked and the doors are unattended, we tried to
17 keep that point in front of our colleagues on the
18 committee. And we are proud to have contributed in
19 the development of the 77-page publication, "*Making*
20 *Wisconsin Schools Safer*".

21 It would be extremely shortsighted to
22 consider our work in this area to be complete,
23 however. I believe our focus, awareness, and
24 preparations can never be routine or casual ever
25 again, and we will continue to look for ideas from

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1 both our in-state partners, our resources that we've
2 met on these committees, as well as from friends and
3 colleagues across the nation. And we will continue
4 to share ideas with you, doing everything that we can
5 to make certain to prevent tragedy from visiting any
6 Wisconsin school or WIAA event.

7 I can share with you that, last year at
8 this meeting, you voted to enhance membership
9 requirements informed by the awareness and
10 expectation that a new member of this association
11 ought to be willing to attend a meeting and engage
12 and to embrace what it means to be a member of the
13 WIAA, to be a contributing member, sponsoring their
14 own stand-alone teams that can provide games to your
15 teams for both boys and girls in each sport season
16 and not seeking membership just for insurance
17 benefits or for enhancing our marketability and our
18 school's profile or to gain access to extraordinary
19 state championships by forming co-op teams. I can
20 share with you that since you put these expectations
21 in place, I've reviewed fewer than a half dozen
22 applications into membership or inquiries into
23 membership, and there have been no new memberships
24 approved this past year.

25 Having just mentioned insurance, last

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1 year at this time, I shared with you that there were
2 348 student athletes and their families who had
3 received help in the first year of the WIAA's
4 Headstrong concussion insurance program. Now, since
5 that time, an additional 158 have been helped by the
6 Headstrong coverage. We're not done with this year,
7 but as of April 1, an additional 158 received some
8 help. And I'm pleased to be able to share with you
9 that Dissinger Reed, our HeadStrong provider, has
10 recently confirmed that there will be no rate
11 increase in the coming year on this coverage. And at
12 a time when the NCAA is facing over 300, more than
13 300, active concussion-related lawsuits, I continue
14 to strongly believe this is helpful for kids and
15 families, and I believe it to be good insurance for
16 the WIAA.

17 Yesterday, the Board of Control gave
18 final approval to the statewide football realignment
19 plan. As all of you are aware, much time has been
20 invested over the course of this past year by the
21 Wisconsin Football Coaches Association's executive
22 committee, who we owe a debt of gratitude and thanks
23 by the Board of Control and the WIAA staff and, in
24 particular, Wade Labecki. And I have to consider it
25 to have been one of those extraordinary undertakings

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1 that I opened up my remarks with. And while I
2 recognize that, in the view of some members, the
3 result of this work was found to be lacking from
4 their school's perspective, I do believe it has
5 addressed both the immediate scheduling-related needs
6 that have been repeatedly pointed to by members since
7 2009 when the district football plan was shelved.
8 And it has dovetailed perfectly into the work of the
9 conference realignment task force.

10 We will talk more about the realignment
11 task force in just a moment, but before that, I think
12 it's really important and appropriate to take a
13 moment and retrace the steps that have brought us to
14 where we are with WIAA football today. Some of you
15 might remember 2009, 10 years ago, when the staff
16 introduced the idea of reconfiguring how we organize
17 football in our state. It became known as the
18 district plan. And without going into all of the
19 details about that plan and why it was eventually
20 withdrawn, it is accurate to say that it wasn't long
21 after it was withdrawn that we began hearing a
22 growing and persisting request from members to bring
23 back the district plan.

24 What we can see now, in hindsight, is
25 clearly that football was changing. There were fewer

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1 kids in school. There were more choices for them to
2 pursue. There was a scare about concussion and CTE.
3 And as numbers decreased, members asked for
4 reduced-player football or to form a co-op team. And
5 all of these elements coalesced into what might be
6 described as a near perfect storm for football and
7 our traditional football conferences. Suddenly,
8 those traditional 18 conferences were down to only
9 five, six, or seven schools playing football. And in
10 a sport where conference games factored into access
11 to play-off qualifying, the Board heard a very
12 powerful plea for scheduling relief, and the Board
13 responded.

14 I will acknowledge again that just
15 before coming up to start our meeting, I spoke with
16 one of our members. There has not been 100 percent
17 embrace of this plan. It's acknowledged. We have
18 heard from members who are not pleased or who wish
19 the effort would have provided more than just
20 scheduling relief. And it would be easy to say
21 and -- and to diminish, well, no great idea that's
22 ever come forth in all of the years that I've been
23 around or observed WIAA has ever gotten overwhelming
24 and conclusive and a hundred percent support, but I'm
25 not here to diminish or to dismiss the concerns that

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1 have been heard. I am hopeful and do believe in the
2 fact that there have been some things dovetailed
3 together this year that -- and for a variety of
4 reasons that I hope will serve football well in a
5 period of change and great change for WIAA and high
6 school football.

7 I will state clearly that I fully
8 support the concept of this plan and especially for
9 how it fits into a much larger picture for football
10 at a time of change both in and around the game but
11 also for how it fits in to the work of the
12 realignment task force. As I said, we're going to
13 talk about that very quickly -- very shortly.

14 Most of you will recall it was at this
15 meeting last year I was able to announce that the
16 Board of Control had granted a one-year moratorium on
17 conference realignment. This came about at my
18 request and in the wake of a very, very bitter
19 realignment and lawsuit in -- in the southeast part
20 of our membership. And as we went through that
21 realignment process and court case, the Board was
22 determined to see if there could be a better way, a
23 better process or formula, for conference realignment
24 going forward.

25 So with the support of the Board and

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1 the leadership of Stephanie Hauser and assistance of
2 Wade Labecki, we formed a 16-member task force and
3 asked them to help us build a better tool for this
4 membership, a better process for realigning
5 conferences and football-only conferences as we go
6 forward.

7 So at this time and as we transition,
8 since the task force and realignment kind of have a
9 foot in last year's moratorium efforts and will be
10 new as we go forward into the coming year - it's our
11 transition topic between old and new business - and
12 I've asked Stephanie to offer some insights into the
13 work of the realignment task force.

14 MS. HAUSER: Thank you.

15 I'd ask Jeremy Schlitz to please come
16 up here at this time as well. He's going to assist
17 with this presentation.

18 Let me just run through the brief
19 history, first of all. Some of this will be a little
20 repetitious to what Dave just said, so we will --

21 Todd, do you want to go ahead and put
22 all the bullets up?

23 I was new to WIAA when we had some very
24 contentious realignments and so kind of had the fresh
25 set of eyes and fresh set of ears. And I sat and I

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1 listened as people were coming forward and -- and
2 sharing their concerns. And one of the things that I
3 had shared with Dave was that the word that I kept
4 hearing over and over was the concern for the
5 process. Of course, you're always going to have
6 people that aren't happy with the decisions. We know
7 that. We're all in leadership positions.
8 Ultimately decisions won't make
9 everyone happy. But that wasn't what I was hearing
10 as a newcomer. I was hearing, process, process; we
11 don't like the process.

12 And so, you know, through some staff
13 changes - we had a retirement in our office, and we
14 did some changing of our duties within our office -
15 it was a good opportunity for us to talk about the
16 process and might this be the perfect time to revisit
17 the process?

18 So as Dave mentioned, one year ago, the
19 Board approved a moratorium, and we got to work.

20 Todd, let's go on to the next page, if
21 we could.

22 We reached out to many people
23 throughout the state, people who had had a mixture of
24 experiences with conference realignment, some very
25 positive and some very negative and contentious. And

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1 Dave invited many of them to join this task force.
2 And so we had a mixture of 16 people of our initial
3 group, who met three times beginning last August, and
4 they represented a variety of perspectives, variety
5 of types of school districts, and they worked really,
6 really hard to come up with a product.

7 The cochairs are Mike Beighley from
8 Whitehall a former Board of Control member
9 as well, who has got a lot of experience with
10 conference realignment, and Jeremy Schlitz, who is
11 here today to represent the conference task force.

12 So at this time, I'd like to turn the
13 microphone over to Jeremy to kind of walk you through
14 their work.

15 MR. SCHLITZ: Thanks, Stephanie.
16 And -- and thanks, Dave. I think you called me a
17 better tool, which is usually better than just the
18 tool that I get sometimes.

19 So I think what
20 Stephanie kind of touched on and -- and what I was
21 really impressed with at the group that we put
22 together was the value that we had the different
23 perspectives, people that were angry at the previous
24 process and decision coming together with those that
25 maybe either hadn't had experience but being able to

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1 share that passion for student athletes and -- and
2 find a way to come together and find a process that
3 really focuses on intentional decision-making,
4 two-way communication processes. We were very
5 reflective, you know, as the group kind of met and
6 decided what we needed to do. The -- the stressors
7 around not being very transparent or the idea of
8 group conference realignment into a black
9 box, and then out came the decision. We -- we really
10 focused on that and how to make the policy to be more
11 effective through that process and addressed it to
12 satisfaction. I think all of us,
13 whenever we make a decision, we've now come to
14 realize it's really important to have those two-way
15 communication loops to make sure that people
16 understand the rationale behind the decision-making,
17 and we really need to make sure all are informed
18 throughout the entire process.

19 So as these meetings kind of came
20 together and the outcomes went, how are we going to
21 do this? I think we were really innovative in -- in
22 the way we approached it but also conserved what the
23 mission of the WIAA is, is to provide participation
24 in competition efforts for it.

25 We are going to be -- continually

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1 revisit if this is the right process because it's
2 new. There's not something else out there that is
3 really like what we're going to do in terms of the
4 way that we approach conference realignment as a
5 state. We need to evaluate it. It needs to involve
6 the principals that we've got.

7 I'm -- from hearing the feedback around
8 the football-only plan, I know we're getting an
9 opportunity to use the process. So I -- I think
10 that's great.

11 And, you know, what -- what came from
12 this was, how do we do it, and how do we make sure
13 that we're not only affecting those that are directly
14 affected but those that have secondary or tertiary
15 effects as it kind of envelopes out from that initial
16 decision-making, whether we're adding a school,
17 losing a co-op, things along those lines?

18 This all goes live July 1st on the
19 website, but I think right now you get an opportunity
20 to kind of see what the fine lines are there for it.
21 There will be a much more intense explanation at the
22 area meetings about what this process looks like.
23 But I think what we were able to do is not duplicate
24 work but to create a situation where the stuff that
25 you're doing is going to inform our membership. So

1 the participation reports, all the things that we
2 already currently do that really help us make an
3 informed decision, are part of that process now.
4 They will be shared out with everybody through the
5 website. And I think the new website is going to be
6 a great tool for us to be an excellent
7 communication tool, you know, as we're kind of
8 working through that.

9 How is it different? It really focuses
10 on making the person that wants relief to come up
11 with a plan to identify who's affected by that plan,
12 to get feedback from them, from the original or new
13 conferences, to understand the rationale behind the
14 school that wants relief but also to understand the
15 rationale behind the schools that are affected by it.
16 You've got to present a potential solution. And then
17 what the committee is going to do is, it's going to
18 evaluate that solution. And -- and Mike and I, as
19 cochairs, are going to take more than one group so we
20 can hear different perspectives through that and make
21 sure it's not people directly affected. I think what
22 we heard was, we need to have people that are looking
23 at it objectively as opposed to involved with kind of
24 the emotion around it. And after those decisions are
25 made, publish and show kind of why this happened. So

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1 we made a decision to approve this realignment; here
2 is why we did it. We made a decision to send it back
3 to the members and say, we need to address these
4 concerns, and here's why we did it. So future
5 conference realignment decisions can be informed by
6 the previous ones and how that decision-making
7 process happened.

8 The multiple perspectives part is,
9 we're going to have two, you know -- that group of 16
10 will break up and -- and hear different realignment
11 proposals and then come back and share out with the
12 group so we don't kind of get pigeonholed in one
13 decision-making process.

14 I think that -- that process is going
15 to be really helpful, you know, as we all have a
16 different perspective. But putting those
17 perspectives together, hearing from the affected
18 schools, and making sure those schools that may be
19 affected don't have to come in at -- at the 11th hour
20 to make a decision or make a statement when they're
21 really emotionally involved in it.

22 Ultimately, the decision is still going
23 to the Board of Control, but we're
24 hopeful that us, as the realignment task force and
25 committee, but all of our members, are able to be

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1 part of that process. I think that's what's going to
2 really make this a really unique opportunity for us
3 as a state to do something like this in terms of
4 conference realignment and really provide wonderful
5 opportunities for our kids to participate and
6 compete. And that's obviously the goal.

7 So thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 MS. HAUSER: And if I could just take
10 this last slide and just talk about what's next --

11 First of all, I want to thank Jeremy
12 and -- and the entire committee. As I mentioned, it
13 was a group of really intelligent, outside-the-box,
14 invested people in the room. And they really -- they
15 really did a great job and came up with a great
16 product that I think you're really going to see a
17 huge difference in this.

18 So just to alert you to what's coming
19 at the area meetings, you'll see a more detailed
20 presentation of the process. This was just an
21 overview so you know something has been done. We'll
22 break it down for you exactly how you apply. We'll
23 walk you through the application process. We'll give
24 an opportunity for a group -- may be even -- might be
25 a breakout session. We'll see. But we'll have an

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1 opportunity, at minimum, for a question-and-answer
2 session.

3 But in the meantime, if you have
4 questions, reach out to our office, to myself, to
5 Wade, to Dave, if you have questions about what
6 that's going to look like.

7 The website is open and available, as
8 you saw Todd reference up there. That's open to the
9 public. The only thing that won't go live until July
10 1st is the actual application for conference
11 realignment.

12 So again, if you have any questions,
13 let us know.

14 Thanks, again, to the committee for all
15 of their hard work.

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. ANDERSON: Stephanie and Jeremy,
18 thank you, and all the committee members of the task
19 force for your efforts to not only develop a new
20 process but to also agree to volunteer to serve on
21 the task force through its launch. That's
22 incredible.

23 This is another one of those
24 extraordinary efforts and, I think, a transformative
25 change within the WIAA that does not occur every

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1 year.

2 Are there any -- any members of our
3 task force committee present? And if you would,
4 please stand up. Please.

5 We don't have all 16, but we have a
6 handful here. Thank you very much.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. ANDERSON: Just a couple quick side
9 remarks about the task force. As we have talked as a
10 staff, as we've shared with the Board and the
11 committees that have had opportunity to visit on
12 this, be patient with -- with the idea, the concept,
13 the group. This is new. We have built in -- they
14 have built in opportunities for review and renewal
15 and change in it, the same as every other advisory
16 committee that serves the Board and the membership.
17 And so this is our starting point, much like football
18 statewide realignment. It's our launch point. I
19 have high hopes for it to provide a better way
20 forward for us as we have to look and continue to
21 address the needs of the members with respect to
22 conference realignment.

23 Moving on, as most of you are aware,
24 the WIAA website has been recently updated. And the
25 update has provided several key enhancements. We

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1 focused on a new design process and standards to
2 create a site that is modern, yet familiar, and
3 accessible to all browsers and devices. A
4 significant amount of social media integration has
5 been incorporated to allow visitors who come to our
6 site to see and interact with the many updated
7 features that we've been putting into those areas.
8 Our news pages have additional capabilities to
9 provide graphics and other imagery. They also have
10 social media integration built into them to share and
11 "like" which will help to promote our messaging and
12 our events. We designed tournament pages so
13 information and results could be found more easily
14 for the millions of visits that we receive each year
15 looking for those results. These changes and
16 enhancements were built with an eye toward being
17 user-friendly, yet, keeping content and material
18 located in familiar and consistent places for our
19 members and sport officials. It's been a long
20 process. And I can tell you that, to some degree,
21 everyone in our office contributed in the development
22 and had input onto this new site. But clearly, the
23 project leader was our Technology Director, Eric
24 Dziak, and we are fortunate and grateful to have his
25 hands on the wheel throughout this website overhaul.

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1 One of the other new dimensions of WIAA
2 IT has been the hiring of Bobby Blom as a Technology
3 Assistant. He was mentioned earlier. In addition to
4 helping Eric, the Board, and the staff, Bobby will be
5 staffing the WIAA's help desk and assisting all of
6 you as well as sport officials with your everyday IT
7 and web questions.

8 Bobby, if you're here, stand up,
9 please.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. ANDERSON: Bobby has been our --
12 our newest add and hire and -- and recently engaged.

13 So moving on, two years ago, at the
14 2017 annual meeting, we presented the membership with
15 a Constitutional amendment which would have provided
16 eligibility to full-time students enrolled in virtual
17 schools, eligibility at their school of residence.
18 And we advised at the time that this measure would
19 allow for you, for our membership, to frame the
20 parameters for eligibility before the matter was
21 legislated, which, at the time, the tea leaves were
22 pointing to. Two years ago, the membership rejected
23 that amendment by a vote of 52, yes, 52 in favor, and
24 344 opposed. The topic is back in front of you today
25 now as new business because we've recently been

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1 advised that a representative in the southeast part
2 of the state is exploring a bill to make students
3 enrolled in virtual schools eligible. The specifics
4 of that bill have not been finalized. It's in its
5 early stages. It looks a lot like the early stages
6 of the home school legislation; no school shall be a
7 member of a state association and on and on. And
8 there has been some early outreach by the legislators
9 for WIAA input.

10 Now, the reason for mentioning this
11 here and now is two-fold. First, to create awareness
12 and to provide some background. Second is that the
13 executive staff, as we mentioned to the Board
14 yesterday, now needs direction on how to proceed and
15 respond to this prospective legislation. If we
16 were -- if we were to proceed informed only by the
17 vote of two years ago, then clearly we would be
18 working vigorously to oppose this legislation if it
19 materializes. However, it -- it may be most
20 appropriate to try and gauge whether attitudes or
21 opinions toward eligibility for virtual school
22 students has softened in two years or if the
23 membership's opposition remains resolute.

24 So on behalf of the Board of Control,
25 I will be reaching out to school district

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1 administrators in coming days to share this message
2 and to solicit some fresh feedback. Do members want
3 to see us attempt to work in a collaborative manner
4 and try to see this be the best version of a bill as
5 possible, or are we to exhaust all measures, all
6 efforts to defeat the legislation if it materializes?
7 I'm asking you to please share this notice with your
8 administrator, let them know we'll be in touch on
9 this and looking for guidance for the Board to give
10 staff our marching orders.

11 Before leaving the topic of
12 legislation, I want to just also quickly mention
13 that, earlier in the fall, end of last year, we've
14 been made aware of potential legislation seeking to
15 expand eligibility of homeschooled children to
16 include eligibility at a community private school.
17 The original legislation provided eligibility for
18 homeschooled children at the school of residence, the
19 public school. And we haven't heard anything real
20 recent on this, but we'll advise you as soon as there
21 may be any actionable information.

22 And part of being informed and -- and
23 what our government relations team and friends have
24 advised is that, when the WIAA membership is
25 energized at the grassroots level, it is effective.

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1 It has impact. And so we want to always do our best
2 to keep you informed and aware and, if and when a
3 time comes to ask for your help and support, that you
4 will have some background and a basis upon which to
5 respond.

6 As we look ahead and consider some of
7 the conversations we need to have as a membership in
8 the coming year, certainly those remarks that were
9 shared in this morning's open forum, the
10 conversations around co-op teams, and all of the
11 others, will be talked about as we go forward.
12 Whether they -- they will make a final agenda for our
13 fall area meetings or not, the conversations that
14 occur between now and then will determine that. But
15 there are a couple that I think are important as we
16 look at where we are as a membership in the 21st
17 century. One of those conversations is going to have
18 to do with counting enrollment and the divisional
19 placement for a single gender school transitioning to
20 a whole educational school, and at what point will
21 enrollments no longer need to be doubled?

22 And another question, I think, for our
23 membership is, as education and schools continue to
24 change and we begin to approach the mid 21st century
25 and whatever education in schools will look like in

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1 some decades, what will be our expectations and
2 requirements as a member seeks to transition from a
3 traditional high school into a school that also
4 offers a residency option? We're going to become a
5 boarding school and act in loco parentis, which will
6 impact upon student eligibility for students
7 enrolling as residential students.

8 And these are not -- either of these
9 are not singularly a private school matter. We have
10 had public schools talk about and muse about opening
11 dormitories. And so these are some topics that --
12 they are both real, and they are both current, and
13 there is no real guidance in our Constitution,
14 Bylaws, or Rules of Eligibility at this time. And so
15 we'll look forward to hearing your thoughts on these
16 two in the fall.

17 I believe also that, as a staff, and we
18 begin preparing our area meetings next fall, one of
19 our breakout topics needs to be a discussion on extra
20 playing time and be that extra playing time is
21 innings in baseball or softball or extra periods in
22 hockey or halves in basketball or games in
23 volleyball, I think we need to revisit and reaffirm
24 considering some of the questions about those
25 opportunities and ask, are the opportunities for

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1 extra playing time meeting the intended needs and
2 purposes? Have we lost the point and the purpose of
3 these extended playing opportunities? Are we putting
4 some athletes at risk of overexposure? They're
5 honest questions. We have, I think, perhaps casually
6 embraced and -- and acquiesced to granting and
7 extending opportunities without perhaps a deep
8 thought and consideration about it. Let's just
9 revisit and make sure that we're doing what we intend
10 to do and are accomplishing what we need to by those
11 extra periods of exposure.

12 The very last item that I've identified
13 under new business is to reannounce that, at
14 yesterday's meeting, the Board gave approval to a
15 ticket price increase for both sectional and state
16 tournament events. That will be effective next
17 school year. The sectional tournament admission will
18 increase from \$5 to \$6. State tournament admissions
19 will increase. For those tournaments that are
20 presently at \$6, they will go to \$8. And those
21 tournaments presently at \$8 will increase to \$10.
22 Basketball will remain unchanged at \$10.

23 I will quickly follow up by adding that
24 the Board and staff are always very mindful of the
25 cost of our tournament events, and that's why most of

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1 our sectional admission prices have not increased
2 since 2013. Track sectionals haven't increased since
3 2009. And cross-country has been unchanged since
4 2003. The most recent state tournament ticket
5 increase was in 2013. That was in soccer. It went
6 to five divisions. Basketball and baseball haven't
7 increased in almost 10 years. And individual
8 wrestling has been the same since moving to the Kohl
9 Center in 1997.

10 And as I've shared with the Board in
11 presenting this information to them, while many of
12 our admission prices have not increased in 7, 10, or,
13 in one case, over 20 years, the same cannot be said
14 about our operational expenses, which increase in
15 some way each and every year. And it should be noted
16 that an increase at the sectional tournament results
17 in more revenue going back to members through our
18 shared revenue formula. And the Board has also
19 directed that the majority of the new member -- the
20 new revenue will be used to increase the stipend paid
21 to tournament contest managers as well as a game fee
22 increase for regional, sectional, and state
23 tournament officials. There will also be an
24 increased mileage reimbursement for schools when
25 they're traveling to the state tournaments, 25 cents

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1 a mile, and a 5-cent-per-mile bump from 45 to 50
2 cents per mile for officials' travel, for Board and
3 committee travel. If you're serving on an Advisory
4 Council or a coaches' advisory, we will bump from 45-
5 to 50-cents-per-mile reimbursement. State average is
6 still that 58 cents per mile. So there is a
7 charitable write-off available for you.

8 This increase will allow the WIAA to
9 continue operations and provide benefits and
10 services, like complementary yearbooks, concussion
11 and catastrophic insurance, as has come to be
12 expected by this membership. I want to make that
13 aware and make it part of our -- today's
14 record.

15 So before returning this meeting back
16 over to our president, Mr. Coleman, we have one final
17 item of new business, and that is introduce to you
18 the WIAA's 2018 and 19 Spirit of Sport Winner. And
19 Stephanie has been -- giving us a lot of extra duty
20 here today, and she will tell you more about this
21 year's recipient.

22 MS. HAUSER: Thanks, Dave.

23 The NFHS Spirit of Sport Award seeks to
24 call attention to these three areas: those who have
25 demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship, those who

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1 exceeded normal expectations in assisting others
2 within their school or community, those who have
3 overcome adversity or a challenging circumstance.

4 I'd like to first
5 thank many of you in the room that submitted stories
6 to our office for this award. There are many
7 amazing, heartwarming, and gut-wrenching stories.
8 And thank you for taking the time to submit those to
9 us.

10 Over the past several weeks, we've
11 recognized our five finalists for this award. A
12 special congratulations goes out to those: Kalena
13 Clauer from Arrowhead, Michael Del Conte, Wausau
14 West, Ava Schaefer from Hartford, David Skogman,
15 Wausau -- or Waukesha West, and the Athens varsity
16 baseball team. Let's give those five stories a round
17 of applause.

18 (Applause.)

19 MS. HAUSER: At this time, please join
20 me in welcoming to the podium our 2018 Wisconsin
21 Spirit of Sport winner, Ashley Stich from Kenosha
22 Tremper High School.

23 (Applause.)

24 MS. HAUSER: Ashley was nominated for
25 the Spirit of Sport award by her -- her athletic

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1 director, John Matera.

2 John, if you wouldn't mind standing at
3 this time, we'd appreciate that. Thank you for
4 taking the time to share her story with us.

5 After suffering a series of
6 strokes, Ashley was diagnosed with a rare and
7 progressive vascular disorder that reduces the flow
8 of blood -- blood to her brain. These strokes
9 impaired her ability to do things that we take for
10 granted, such as walking, talking, reading, doing the
11 simple things that seem so easy to most of us.

12 In January of 2018, she underwent brain
13 surgery to increase the blood flow to her brain.
14 Eight weeks later, after a vigorous rehab process,
15 she returned to school with a modified schedule and
16 even participated in track and field last spring.

17 Her family states that sports have been
18 the best thing for Ashley. They are amazed that,
19 with all the health challenges she's faced, she's
20 continued as a student athlete and that her average
21 in the game of golf has only increased by one stroke.

22 Ashley, I think you could teach us all
23 a few things about that game.

24 She's maintained her academic success
25 as a member of the NHS and was named to the Wisconsin

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1 Golf Coach's Association Academic All-State Team for
2 the past three years. She was recognized and honored
3 for her ability to overcome and thrive and persevere
4 despite health obstacles by the Kenosha mayor who
5 declared July 1st, 2018, Ashley Stich Day.

6 Her golf coach, Coach Nancy Phipps, who
7 is here today as well, told Ashley she left the 18th
8 green for the final time this fall, that coaching her
9 has been the highlight of her 34-year coaching
10 career, and that Ashley's fortitude and drive is --
11 is an example for all of us.

12 Let's take a few moments to experience
13 a small part of Ashley's journey through the photo --
14 photos that her family has shared with us.

15 (Video was played.)

16 (Applause.)

17 MS. HAUSER: At this time, our Board
18 president will present Ashley with her certificate in
19 honor of this award.

20 Thank you so much to all of the people
21 who came to support her today. Obviously you meant
22 everything to her.

23 As David just told her, his sore knee
24 doesn't hurt so much right now. I think a lot of us
25 feel like that right now.

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1 You are pretty amazing. So
2 congratulations, Ashley.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. COLEMAN: Before presenting Ashley
5 with her award, I'd just like to read what it says,
6 "For the National Federation of State High School's
7 Associations. Certificate of Recognition for
8 Outstanding Achievement. 2019 National High School
9 Spirit of Sport Award Presented to Ashley Stich,
10 Kenosha Tremper High School."

11 (Applause.)

12 MR. ANDERSON: Ashley, we really
13 appreciate you traveling.

14 Mr. Knecht, thank you for sharing this
15 story.

16 And everyone, there's not really much
17 more needing to be said following that story, but I
18 hope, I hope that it is obvious that the impact of
19 your work, the value of the opportunities that you
20 create is so beyond and so much more than just fun
21 and games or the sometimes busy little items that we
22 need to argue about. And even though they -- they
23 are often taken for granted, often unacknowledged,
24 and -- and perhaps not fully appreciated and liked,
25 in the lives of student and schools and communities,

1 your efforts have a profound impact. So, I thank you
2 for those efforts and the opportunities that your
3 efforts create. We thank you for your leadership in
4 your school and community, and thank you for being
5 here today.

6 Mr. President, that concludes this
7 year's director's report.

8 (Applause.)

9 MR. COLEMAN: Thank you.

10 As we close out this year's annual
11 meeting, again, I would just like to applaud all of
12 you for taking the time out to be here today. For a
13 lot of school districts, this is their spring break,
14 although, it may not look and feel much like spring.
15 And so also, thank you and applaud you for the work,
16 the time, commitment, that you've put in and invest
17 in our student athletes.

18 Safe travels to all of you.

19 At this time, I would entertain a
20 motion to adjourn this year's annual meeting.

21 MR. ARENDT: Mike Arendt, Racine St.
22 Catherine.

23 MR. COLEMAN: Motion by Mike Arendt.

24 Second? Nobody wants --

25 MR. KING: Adam --

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MR. COLEMAN: -- to leave?

MR. KING: Adam King, Racine Case.

MR. COLEMAN: Thank you. Second.

All in favor, signify by saying "aye."

ALL: Aye.

MR. COLEMAN: Safe travels.

(Proceedings concluded at 10:52 a.m.)