



## **ERIE COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE**

355 Harlem Road • Building C, • West Seneca, NY 14224

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### **Athletic Council Minutes 05/10/2021**

#### **Athletic Council in Person (Meetings in B2a/B2b) & via Microsoft Teams 12:00 PM**

**Roll Call:** All present

#### **President's Report:**

**Kiel Illg**

- Health Sciences League Membership Presentation: speaking with Mr. Baxter from Health Sciences. School would like to become a part of the ECIC league. School offers the following sports by season

Fall- football and soccer boys and girls (Varsity)

Winter- basketball boys (all 3 levels), girls (Varsity and JV), wrestling, indoor track

Spring-track boys and girls

**Question:** Is Health Sciences anticipating adding any more sports in the coming years?

**Answer:** Always try to add at least one (1) sport. Start out with a club and that club team will emerge to the next level JV, Varsity? Emerging sports are bowling, girls' softball, boys' baseball.

**Question:** What is the beds size for Health Sciences?

**Answer:** We are a B school. Believe (361)

**Question:** Pat Cauley (Hamburg) Has Health Science looked into the Buffalo Public Schools league as well?

**Answer:** Of course, I am from Buffalo and I used to teach in Buffalo. I did look at Buffalo the league also there, but if you are not aware of what is going on in Buffalo, they don't have a particular like of charter schools and even recently.

**Question:** Brian Hickson (Cheektowaga) Transfers and numbers at the start of a school year, how many athletes do you have over the summer by the time you start in September, roughly?

**Answer:** Currently in the enrollment process. We had a total of 199 from last look. Enrollment is a big thing with charter schools. There were 199 applications. We only have 120 slots in our freshman class available. When individuals apply they also apply to multiple schools. There are about 30 off that list already. We have 103 since last check who have been offered to come to Health Science. From this time up until the end of September, families will try to enroll at the last minute. By the end of the school year, first month in the summer, all slots for freshman class will be gone. During the school year if there are any transients, moves, etc., we will open up

enrollment until we reach capacity. We can never exceed our starter enrollment level that was approved by the state.

**Question:** What is the capacity number right now? Curious about growth

**Answer:** Unless we apply for an extension, we will never go past 480. That is what the charger is approved for.

**Question:** How many schools would you consider merging with? Some of the sports such as football there is a combining. Did you combine in wrestling, as well, or was that solo?

**Answer:** We combined with wrestling as the emerging sport with Tapestry and Maritime.

**Question:** Jeff Wheaton (Amherst) Not originally from this area. Came from charter school previously. Has there been any talk of creating a charter school league to provide opportunities for the athletes? Aware of struggles when trying to build a schedule when seen as an independent and traveling quite a distance to create competitive games.

**Answer:** There is a de facto charter league. What has happened over the years is that each school is emerging at the own pace and level just being in a school. You have some schools that have emerging teams and they just want games. Health Science AAA in basketball. All other charter school leagues unable to play them in good conscience because of power point system. School cannot get power points. Other charters do not have as many sports as Health Science does. Even though in a league, there is no schools to play. Had to eliminate girls JV team for the past 2 years because the other teams do not even have JV teams.

**Question:** Is it more of the struggle to build a schedule or is it more you want the allegiance into a league for your athletes?

**Answer:** For me it is several reasons. I want to guarantee my athletes an experience. How do you build rivalry and different things without having a home? Want them to have the full experience. Buffalo has less programs.

**Question:** Brian Hickson (Cheektowaga) Are you able to host home contests in all of the sports currently offered by Health Science?

**Answer:** Need to rent different facilities for home contests. Do have some home contests. During pandemic it has not been possible. Usually rent facilities to host home contests. Working on expansive project to acquire own facility to host games.

**Question:** Daryl Besant (Lake Shore) Do students have to have a Buffalo address in order to apply or can they be West Seneca, etc.?

**Answer:** Students can apply from all school districts. Preference is given to siblings that attend charter schools and second to City of Buffalo residents and third to outside members of the district. Charter schools can have a wider geographical area. All members of the sports teams have been members of the City of Buffalo.

League membership will review the responses and a decision will be made and presented to move forward with Health Science as part of the ECIC membership. Vote to take place at the end of the meeting regarding Health Science as part of ECIC league.

- Proposed 2021-22 Meeting Dates: Any concerns, thoughts. This is a voting item today as well. Question from Brian Hickson. Have we spoke about start dates for fall? We are not sure what is going to happen for next year in terms of start dates. August 23,

2021 is fall start date. Start of spring sports March 14, 2021. Section VI meeting dates, that was approved by the section. Must complete four (4) athletic council meetings with one (1) year. Preferably one (1) week prior to the section meetings. Tuesdays are tough because of administrative meetings, tried to move meetings back to Monday. Did not want meeting prior to a vacation starting on a Monday after return. January 4, 2021, on a Tuesday after vacation. Schedule still contains secretary luncheon for next year, just as a possibility. Not sure if this will still be hosted by ECIC. Still based upon pandemic and everyone's return.

- Sport Chair & AD Liaison Review: Updated list from prior meeting and provided to the membership. Please advise of any mistakes. Still looking for a golf chair coach, an AD liaison for golf; looking for a girls' swimming AD liaison; boys volleyball AD liaison; modified boys/girls soccer chair as well as an AD liaison for modified cross-country; modified swimming looking for chair. Please reach out to coaches. Need positions filled before the start of next school year. Need ADs to fill the liaison role.
- ECIC AD Interviews May 11, 2021: Scheduled for May 11, 2021. Four (4) applications. Contacted six (6) applicants and only have four (4). Two others, one accepted a job as an AD at a school and other did not return call. Committee meeting tomorrow. Hope to have candidate to bring forward and having a formal introduction at our next meeting on June 8, 2021.

## Office Report

**Jim Graczyk**

- **Action Item:** Treasurer's Report March/April 2021: Provided to membership for March and April 2021 prior to meeting. Review treasurer' report. Balances reflected in report as of February 28, 2021. Disbursements for supplies, salaries, etc. still ongoing.

### **Motion to approve March/April 2021 treasurer's report**

1<sup>st</sup> Vinny Dell'Oso (Starpoint)

2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Iwanko (Eden)

Motion passed

- Mod. Track schedule change: Matt Adams working on completion due to changes. Scheduled completed today. Any teams with very small rosters that should be considered. Depew, Cheektowaga, Holland, Eden very small roster and JFK and Lackawanna folded their mod track schedule. Under 20 athletes constitutes small roster. Orchard Park looking for a modified track coach.
- Spectator Passes: 8,000 to be picked up in Cheektowaga. Should be in office by 5:00 p.m. today. Ordered almost 16,000. Additional 8,000 should be received in two (2) days. By the end of week all passes should be available in ECIC office.

- Lake Shore Tennis: Lake Shore has two (2) 9<sup>th</sup> grade tennis players. New to the game. Not expert tennis players. 2 players would like to practice with Eden team and complete on Eden's tennis schedule. Attempt to do an emergency combining of schools and approve at Wednesday meeting or just let them play with Eden and count as a scrimmage. Lake Shore not enough to field a tennis team. Intention is not to merge or compete. Two (2) twin boys were the only athletes to sign up. If scrimmage or exhibition, only need to play. Eden will have two (2) additional athletes on team to scrimmage.
- Mod. Wrestling intention: Need intentions from league if modified receives approval, lawsuit pending. If wrestling is approved, what is intention of offering modified wrestling. Please provide intention to offer modified wrestling to Jim Graczyk by the end of the week in order to complete a schedule.

Question: So that would be to start now?

Answer: Yes, as soon as receive the okay to schedule wrestling. There is currently a lawsuit that is out there. If the section gets the okay and the recommendation from Erie County, we look forward to being able to offer wrestling. A majority of the schools will offer the Varsity level. The question comes in for the modified. Lackawanna will not offer modified after issues with track and field.

## **Activity Board**

**Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty**

- Any input on Fall/Winter game dates: Activity board will begin working on dates for the fall/winter games to try to complete schedules prior to June meeting.
- Spring 2021-2022 Alignments: Alignment to be presented on June 8, 2021 meeting spring alignments will be reviewed for 2021-2022 and voted on to move forward.

## **Section VI/NYSPHSAA**

**Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty**

**Vinny Dell'Oso/Dave Hack**

- Classification update: Looking at possibility of expanding state championships. Nothing official as of yet. Nothing in writing. Anything being discussed would not take place until 2022-2023. No changes as of yet. Ad hoc committee discussions. Discussion about needing more classifications. Looked at Indiana, Arkansas, and Pennsylvania on their process for state championships. Suggestions from those divisions to keep it simple.
- May 5<sup>th</sup> State update: Everything passed during last classification meeting with exception of the transfer rule that did not affect Section VI but affected everyone

else. That did not pass. The private schools, the public school proposal did not pass.

## Old Business

## New Business

### Action Items:

#### 1. Combining of Schools

##### Action Item: Fall 2021 Season:

1. West Seneca East & West Seneca West B/G Cross Country (Mod)  
*Motion to approve WSE & WSW b/g cross country (mod only) combining*  
1<sup>st</sup> Matt Adams (Holland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Przybysz (Cleveland Hill)  
Motion passed
2. West Seneca East & West Seneca West Field Hockey (Varsity, Junior Varsity, Mod)  
*Motion to approve WSE & WSW Field Hockey (Varsity, JV, Mod) combining*  
1<sup>st</sup> Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Koselny (East Aurora)  
Motion passed
3. West Seneca East & West Seneca West Golf (Varsity)  
*Motion to approve WSE & WSW Golf combining*  
1<sup>st</sup> Carrie Vetter (Iroquois)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Przybysz (Cleveland Hill)  
Motion passed
4. Springville & West Valley Girls Swimming (Varsity)  
*Motion to approve Springville & West Valley Girls Swimming (Varsity) combining*  
1<sup>st</sup> Matt Adams (Holland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Carrie Vetter (Iroquois)  
Motion passed
5. Springville & West Valley Girls Volleyball (Varsity, Junior Varsity, Mod)  
*Motion to approve Springville & West Valley Girls Volleyball (Varsity, JV, Mod) combining*  
1<sup>st</sup> Chris Koselny (East Aurora)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Przybysz (Cleveland Hill)  
Motion passed

**Action Item: Winter 2021-2022 Season:**

6. Alden/Depew Wrestling (Varsity, JV, Mod)  
***Motion to approve Alden/Depew Wrestling (Varsity, JV, Mod) combining***  
1<sup>st</sup> Brian Hickson (Cheektowaga)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vinny Dell'Oso (Starpoint)  
Motion passed
7. West Seneca East & West Seneca West Wrestling (Varsity, Mod)  
***Motion to approve WSE & WSW wrestling (Varsity, Mod) combining***  
1<sup>st</sup> Matt Adams (Holland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Koselny (East Aurora)  
Motion passed
8. West Seneca East & West Seneca West Girls Bowling (Varsity)  
***WSE & WSW girls bowling (Varsity) combining***  
1<sup>st</sup> Sandy Gauthier (Alden)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vinny Dell'Oso (Starpoint)  
Motion passed
9. West Seneca East & West Seneca West Boys Swimming (Varsity)  
***WSE & WSW Boys swimming (Varsity) combining***  
1<sup>st</sup> Pat Cauley (Hamburg)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jeff Wheaton (Amherst)  
Motion passed
10. Williamsville North & Williamsville East Wrestling (Varsity)  
***Williamsville North & Williamsville East Wrestling (Varsity) combining***  
1<sup>st</sup> Chris Koselny (East Aurora)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)  
Motion passed
11. Eden and Gowanda Boys Swimming (Varsity)  
***Eden and Gowanda Boys Swimming (Varsity) combining***  
1<sup>st</sup> Matt Adams (Holland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)  
Motion passed

**2. Activity Board Nominations:**

**Action Item: Boys Activity Board:**

1. Vinny Dell'Oso (Term 2021-2023)
2. Jason Przybysz (Term 2021-2023)
3. Jason Iwankow (Term 2021-2023)

\*Thank You Brian Hickson once again for your service on the Activity Board.\*

***Motion to approve activity board members for the 2021-2023 term (Vinny Dell'Oso, Jason Przybysz, Jason Iwanko***

1<sup>st</sup> Matt Adams (Holland)

2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Wild (Lancaster)

Motion passed

**Action Item: Girls Activity Board:**

1. Pat Cauley (Term 2021-2023)
2. Daryl Besant (Term 2021-2023)
3. Dave Hack (Term 2021-2023)

***Motion to approve activity board members for the 2021-2023 term (Pat Cauley, Daryl Besant, Dave Hack)***

1<sup>st</sup> Jason Przybysz (Cleveland Hill)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sandy Gauthier (Alden)

Motion passed

**3. Executive Board Nominations:**

**Action Item:**

1. Boys Activity Board Chair Nomination (Currently Vinny Dell'Oso)

***Motion to approve Executive Board Chair Nomination (Currently Vinny Dell'Oso)***

1<sup>st</sup> Chris Koselny (East Aurora)

2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)

Motion passed

2. Girls Activity Board Chair Nomination (Currently Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty)  
***Motion to approve Girls' Activity Board Chair Nomination (Currently Marisa Fallacaro-Dougherty)***

1<sup>st</sup> Brian Wild (Lancaster)

2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Hickson (Cheektowaga)

Motion passed

3. Boys Section 6 Rep Nomination: (Currently Dave Hack)

***Motion to approve Boys' Section 6 Rep Nomination: (Currently Dave Hack)***

1<sup>st</sup> Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)

2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Przybysz (Cleveland Hill)

Motion passed

4. Girls Section 6 Rep Nominations (Vinny Dell'Oso)

***Motion to approve Girls Section 6 Rep Nominations (Vinny Dell'Oso)***

1<sup>st</sup> Matt Adams (Holland)

2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Wild (Depew)

Motion passed

\*Any other nominations\*?

4. Eden Girls Volleyball Independent for 2021-2022 Season

***Motion to approve Eden Girls Volleyball Independent for 2021-2022 Season***

1<sup>st</sup> Jason Iwanko (Eden)

2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Hickson (Cheektowaga)

Opposition: Orchard Park

Hamburg

Frontier

Lake Shore

Sweet Home

Motion passed

**Question:** Is Eden planning to play at least one member of their current division as previous practice in past?

**Answer:** Yes

5. Health Sciences ECIC Membership Vote for 2022-2023 school year. Per constitution they cannot become a member until the following year from year seeking membership in ECIC. ***Motion to approve Health Sciences into ECIC membership for 2022-2023 school year. (Roll call)***

1<sup>st</sup> Pat Cauley (Hamburg)

2<sup>nd</sup> Tim Klimtzak (Maryvale)

Motion not carried (26 against) (1 favor) (2 absent)

**Question:** Is this a one plan that would get revisited after the one year.

**Answer:** Once they are a member they are a full member of ECIC. Health Sciences can withdraw from the league, but once they are a full time member they are part of ECIC membership.

**Question:** If they go from league to league and don't get membership, the section can place them correct? Does this have the potential to go down the way the football vote did last year?

**Answer:** Not sure if news will gather information or not. Important for the league to note that football in the fall is federated so it does not really apply for that sport for ECIC as a league. Important that indoor track is also federated. Health Sciences asking to join ECIC membership for soccer, basketball, wrestling, potentially bowling in the future, outdoor track, softball, and baseball in the future.

**Question:** Currently they are an AA school. If they were voted in to the ECIC membership they would be in the B category from a power point perspective?

**Question:** Are they going to be completely for league as well as playoffs in their bed's numbers division?

**Answer:** For league, but if the section has them as a AA, when it comes to sectional time, they would be playing in the AA. No matter where they come in for all of the other sports. AA still carries over in sectionals.

**Question:** Do they allow 10, 11, or 12 grade transfers in to apply?

**Answer:** No information with regard to transfers provided.

**Question:** How many contests can Health Science host in terms of their facilities?

**Answer:** Renting facilities can host no contests (0). No facilities to hold any games. They are traveling every where or they are trying to rent facilities at other private locations. As a scheduling perspective, it would be a TBA if it is their home contest and hopefully they would be able to find a location. As an office perspective there would not be a location, it would be a TBA.

6. ECIC Athletic Council & Athletic Director Meeting Dates

***Motion to approve the ECIC Athletic Council & Athletic Director Meeting dates***

1<sup>st</sup> Daryl Besant (Lake Shore)

2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Hack (Orchard Park)

Motion passed



## **Good of the Order:**

- Fall 2020-2021: Already approved, one error appears on alignment. Rotation should have given Division III (7) teams. In 2019-2020 it was 7/6/6. In 2020-2021 it was 6/7/6. In 2021-2022 it should be 6/6/7 it is currently already approved for 6/7/6. Membership to leave alone or to address and change since already approved. Should be addressed and changed to reflect the 6/6/7. East Aurora and Holland would move up to Division II instead of the current Division III. Change for 2021-2022 rotation will be brought to June meeting for change and approval.
- ECIC championship sites: Championship site rotations schedules for upcoming years are scheduled. What will be the 2021-2022 rotation and upcoming championships?
- State meeting notes: Section V and VI will be sponsored by the Buffalo Bills for girls' flag football commencing in the spring of 2022. Jets and Giants will commence this program. Nike to provide free uniforms. Follow representation rules and such guidelines. Jets and Giants will commence this program. Nike to provide free uniforms. Follow representation rules and such guidelines.
- Erie County Covid Guidelines: Frustration with immediate pause, ten (10) day pause, the contact tracing, games cancelled last minute, dealing with it. Could there be a collective voice to talk to Erie County about what they actually did and how it affected all of the programs with no-contact tracing. Wrestling not happening in Erie County. Executive Committee has tried multiple times to schedule meetings with the Erie County Health Department with overlap, shutting down, etc. Denied requests to meet. Did Executive Committee try reaching out to news outlet?

### ***Motion to adjourn meeting***

1<sup>st</sup> Jason Lehmbeck (Clarence)

2<sup>nd</sup> Jason Przybysz (Cleveland Hill)

Motion passed

**Next Athletic Director Meeting: June 8, 2021**