



December 9, 2016

OSAA Classification and Districting Committee
C/O Peter Weber
25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Re: 5A Classification Equity Focused Proposal

We, the Superintendents of the Hillsboro and Forest Grove School Districts, respectfully submit the following equity based classification proposal for consideration. This proposal's primary aim is to spread the statewide goal of educational equity onto the athletic fields and courts of Oregon.

At the heart of this proposal is the goal of competitive league balance. It is NOT about playoff berths or league championships, but the opportunity to give student-athletes and their coaches the hope of being competitive in their respective league. It's clearer now more than ever that the demographics of a school - not just its' total enrollment - is the main predictor of their ability to compete.

We agree with the OSAA's assertion that Athletics and Activities are incredibly important and have a significant positive impact on the academic achievement of those students who participate. Furthermore, when competition is truly competitive and balanced, it provides student-athletes with an optimal zone for character development. Competitively balanced environments also promote participation and optimizes safety. Unfortunately, our experience has been that the current alignment does not maximize the OSAA's assertion, and doesn't align with the value of equity in education in our state. In recent years, we have witnessed a decrease in participation across athletics with a precipitous drop in football. Our current alignment does not maximize equity, and therefore will continue to undermine the very values that most of us would like to see our athletic environments provide.

It is for that reason we believe our proposal will be beneficial to not only our schools, but other schools around the state. Our proposal makes slight changes to a few leagues using an equity perspective. It also creates a new league that keeps all four Hillsboro schools together, and adds the schools of Forest Grove, McMinnville, Newberg and Canby, which are more aligned in size and demographics.

Our proposal includes optimal league sizes of eight schools. We believe that making leagues with 10 or more schools is a disservice to equity for student-athletes, and undermines the cohesion of adult leaders in the league. We feel there is value in non-league games, and experiencing inter-league play with teams from different regions around the state.

We acknowledge that the limitations of our collective experiences do not allow us to have as sharp of an equity lens over the smaller classification levels, and thus their league alignments. It is for this reason that we left these current classifications unchanged.

It is our hope that the Classification Committee not only accepts this proposal, but also considers the concept of creating new football divisions based on game results and program numbers, rather than proximity or historical leagues. The football numbers at our respective schools have plummeted over the past three years, and safety should be our number one consideration in the creation of more equitable football levels.

Proposal Key Points:

- 5A Classification System For All Sports Except Football
- League Alignments Increase Equity and Competitive Balance
- New West Metro League Added at 5A Level
- Differentiated Football Levels Plan To Improve Competitive Balance/Safety

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Scott	Yvonne Curtis
Hillsboro Superintendent	Forest Grove School District

5A Classification - 1174+

<p>PIL (9) Benson Cleveland Franklin Grant Jefferson Lincoln Madison Roosevelt Wilson</p>	<p>Metro (8) Aloha Beaverton Jesuit New Beaverton Southridge Sunset Westview Sherwood</p>	<p>Mt. Hood (8) Barlow Centennial Central Catholic David Douglas Gresham Hermiston Reynolds Sandy</p>
<p>Three Rivers (8) Clackamas Lake Oswego Lakeridge St. Mary's Oregon City Tigard Tualatin West Linn</p>	<p>Valley Mountain (10) Bend McKay McNary Mountain View North Salem South Salem Sprague Summit West Albany West Salem</p>	<p>Southwest (8) North Medford South Medford South Eugene Roseburg Sheldon Grants Pass Thurston Willamette</p>
<p>New Conference (8) Canby* Century Forest Grove Glencoe Hillsboro Liberty McMinnville Newberg * or other like school.</p>		

New Conference Rationale:

- Joins schools that are more alike in enrollment and poverty numbers.
- Allows Hillsboro Schools to be in the same league together.
- Provides Hillsboro Schools with opportunity to be competitive in league play.
- Helps keep 5A leagues at an optimal 8 member size.
- Prevents “mega leagues” of +10 members.
- Provides Forest Grove with less travel and less missed class time.
- Good proximity for Newberg and McMinnville.
- Provides Canby with more competitive balance than Three Rivers.

4A Classification - 590 - 1173

<p>Northwest Oregon (8) Gladstone La Salle Prep Milwaukee Parkrose Putnam Scappoose St. Helens Wilsonville</p>	<p>Mid-Willamette (8) Cascade Central Dallas Molalla Silverton Stayton Sweet Home Woodburn</p>
<p>Southern Oregon (8) Ashland Crater Eagle Point Klamath Union Marshfield North Bend Phoenix Cottage Grove</p>	<p>Midwestern (8) Churchill Corvallis Marist Crescent Valley Lebanon North Eugene South Albany Springfield</p>
<p>Intermountain (7) Crook County Hood River Valley Madras Pendleton Redmond Ridgeview The Dalles</p>	

3A, 2A and 1A - Unchanged from OSAA 5 Class Proposal on 11/18/16

3A (48)	
589-245	
3A-1 - Cowapa League (7)	
Astoria Fishermen	511
Banks Braves	358
Rainier Columbians	285
Seaside Seagulls	375
Tillamook Cheesemakers	533
Valley Catholic Valiants	384
Yamhill-Carlton Tigers	311
3A-2 - Lewis & Clark League (7)	
Catlin Gabel Eagles	308
Corbett Cardinals	379
De La Salle North Catholic Knights	308
Estacada Rangers	474
North Marion Huskies	530
Oregon Episcopal Aardvarks	313
Portland Adventist Cougars	284
3A-3 - West Valley League (8)	
Amity Warriors	260
Dayton Pirates	279
Gervais Cougars	281
Jefferson Lions	259
Newport Cubs	550
Philomath Warriors	444
Scio Loggers	257
Taft Tigers	359
3A-4 - Mid-Valley Conference (6)	
Elmira Falcons	345
Harrisburg Eagles	272
Junction City Tigers	492
La Pine Hawks	324
Marist Catholic Spartans	563
Sisters Outlaws	404
3A-5 - Mountain Valley Conference (7)	
Brookings-Harbor Bruins	449
Creswell Bulldogs	342
Douglas Trojans	352
Pleasant Hill Billies	294
Stuslaw Vikings	347
South Umpqua Lancers	336
Sutherlin Bulldogs	357
3A-6 - Eastern Oregon League (6)	
Baker Bulldogs	434
La Grande Tigers	539
McLoughlin Pioneers	400
Nyssa Bulldogs	277
Ontario Tigers	541
Umatilla Vikings	318
3A-7 - Southern Cascade League (7)	
Cascade Christian Challengers	249
Henley Hornets	581
Hidden Valley Mustangs	535
Illinois Valley Cougars	261
Mazama Vikings	572
North Valley Knights	462
St. Mary's Crusaders	320

2A	(57)	1A	(84)	1A (cont.)	
244-96		95-		95-	
2A-1 - Greater Metro League	(7)	1A-1 - The Valley 10 League	(10)	1A-5 - Mountain Valley League	(11)
City Christian Lions	148	Country Christian Cougars	52	Butte Falls Loggers	47
Columbia Christian Knights	115	Damascus Christian Eagles	60	Central Christian Tigers	58
Faith Bible Falcons	113	Horizon Christian Hawks (HR)	68	Chiloquin Panthers	76
Horizon Christian Hawks (TUAL)	151	Life Christian Lions	113	Gilchrist Grizzlies	56
Portland Christian Royals	175	North Clackamas Christian Saints	64	Hosanna Christian Lions	68
Riverdale Mavericks	241	Open Door Christian Huskies	48	North Lake Cowboys	65
Westside Christian Eagles	220	Portland Waldorf Wolfpack	67	Paisley Broncos	36
		Southwest Christian Wildcats	67	Prospect Cougars	61
2A-2 - Northwest League	(7)	St. Stephens Academy	41	Rogue Valley Adventist Red Tail Hawks	33
Clatskanie Tigers	216	Valor Christian Knights	24	Triad Timber Wolves	50
Gaston Greyhounds	177			Trinity Lutheran Saints	54
Knappa Loggers	121	1A-2 - Casco League	(12)		
Neah-Kah-Nie Pirates	201	C.S. Lewis Watchmen	49	1A-6 - Big Sky League	(9)
Nestucca Bobcats	130	Crosshill Christian Eagles	75	Arlington Honkers	44
Vernonia Loggers	156	Falls City Mountaineers	52	Condon Blue Devils	35
Warrenton Warriors	228	Jewell Bluejays	39	Dufur Rangers	80
		Kings Valley Charter Eagles	44	Ione Cardinals	68
2A-3 - Tri-River Conference	(9)	Livingstone Adventist Academy Lions	63	Mitchell Loggers	27
Blanchet Catholic Cavaliers	225	Perrydale Pirates	87	Sherman Huskies	67
Chemawa Braves	236	Oregon School for Deaf Panthers	49	South Wasco County Redsides	67
Colton Vikings	201	Siletz Valley Warriors	61	Spray Eagles	17
Culver Bulldogs	181	St. Paul Buckaroos	90	Wheeler Falcons	24
Kennedy Trojans	152	Veritas School Vanguard	52		
Regis Rams	142	Willamette Valley Christian Warriors	52	1A-7 - Old Oregon League	(9)
Salem Academy Crusaders	235			Cove Leopards	73
Santiam Wolverines	137	1A-3 - Mountain West League	(12)	Echo Cougars	82
Western Mennonite Pioneers	150	Alsea Wolverines	46	Elgin Huskies	87
		Crow Cougars	93	Griswold Grizzlies	58
2A-4 - Central Valley Conference	(9)	Eddyville Charter Eagles	48	Joseph Eagles	59
Central Linn Cobras	169	Elkton Elks	79	Nixyaawii Eagles	41
Delphian School Dragons	162	Lowell Devils	87	Pine Eagle Spartans	46
East Linn Christian Eagles	142	Mapleton Sailors	42	Powder Valley Badgers	69
Monroe Dragons	125	McKenzie Eagles	51	Wallowa Cougars	58
Santiam Christian Eagles	230	Mohawk Indians	58		
Sheridan Spartans	211	North Douglas Warriors	78	1A-8 - High Desert League	(11)
Toledo Boomers	148	Oak Hill School Falcons	44	Adrian Antelopes	67
Waldport Irish	146	Triangle Lake Lakers	65	Burnt River Bulls	25
Willamina Bulldogs	232	Yoncalla Eagles	73	Crane Mustangs	49
				Dayville Tigers	20
2A-5 - Mountain View Conference	(7)	1A-4 - Skyline League	(10)	Harper Hornets	34
Bandon Tigers	199	Camas Valley Hornets	63	Huntington Locomotives	18
Coquille Red Devils	216	Days Creek Wolves	72	Jordan Valley Mustangs	22
Gold Beach Panthers	143	Glendale Pirates	69	Long Creek Mountaineers	14
Myrtle Point Bobcats	164	Melrose Christian	12	Monument Tigers	19
Oakland Oakers	173	Milo Adventist Mustangs	94	Prairie City Panthers	36
Oakridge Warriors	120	New Hope Christian Warriors	78	Ukiah Cougars	28
Reedsport Braves	165	Pacific Pirates	58		
		Powers Cruisers	34		
2A-6 - Sunset Conference	(6)	Riddle Irish	95		
Bonanza Antlers	122	Umpqua Valley Christian Monarchs	45		
Canyonville Christian Pilots	134				
Glide Wildcats	181				
Lakeview Honkers	224				
Lost River Raiders	126				
Rogue River Chieftains	208				
2A-7 - Wapiti League	(6)				
Burns Hillanders	222				
Enterprise Outlaws	115				
Grant Union Prospectors	148				
Imbler Panthers	97				
Union Bobcats	107				
Vale Vikings	226				

Statewide Football Plan

In order to achieve optimal football equity within this 5 class proposal, there would be multi-leveled football leagues formed. This would allow football programs within the same classification to play at different levels depending on the recent success and health of their programs. We encourage the development of an annual review to place football teams into these leagues. This could happen at the league level with predetermined criteria that allows leagues to decide which schools play in which football levels. We are hoping for further conversation and input on the development of a football plan that further levels teams based on equity first and then proximity and overall enrollment.