

Oregon School Activities Association

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April 30, 2020

TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Peter Weber, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Update from the Transfer Task Force – April 29, 2020

The Transfer Task Force had their fourth meeting on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 to continue its review of current OSAA transfer policies.

The Task Force was appointed by the OSAA Executive Board following a request from the Oregon Athletic Coaches Association (OACA) and a survey of statewide athletic directors at the Oregon Athletic Directors Association (OADA) State Conference last April.

The Task Force was welcomed by OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber along with other OSAA Executive Staff members. The charge of the Committee was presented before they began their discussion.

Transfer Task Force Questions Feedback

The Task Force presented two questions to both the OSAA Delegate Assembly at their April meeting and the Oregon Athletic Directors Association (OADA) at their annual conference. The questions centered on allowing transfer students to participate only at the sub-varsity level until eligibility is established and prohibiting a student from participating in the same sports/activity in the same season at two different schools.

The feedback from those two groups was not supportive of the current proposals set forth by the Task Force. The group discussed their belief that there may be a disconnect between each level of athletics (coaches to athletic administrators to school administration) in regard to how much emphasis should be placed on the issue of transfers. The Task Force believes that their focuses are important and, if implemented, could significantly improve the transfer landscape in the state. The group also believes that further explanation/education on the intent of the proposals is needed. The Task Force continues to support these concepts.

Moving forward, the group requested that the staff, in conjunction with the OACA, survey coaches regarding these questions and about the impact of transfers in their sport/activity. The goal is to collect data in order to get the perspective of coaches dealing with this issue every season.

McKinney-Vento Student Eligibility

The Task Force received an update from Peter Weber regarding legislation that was adopted at the most recent Delegate Assembly meeting related to McKinney-Vento students and their eligibility.

Transfer Data Collection

The Task Force is recommending that the OSAA begin exploring the collection of all transfer paperwork through the OSAA website. Currently, the OSAA only collects data on ineligible students going through the District Athletic Committee process. This group, along with other committees/task forces of the OSAA, may have interest in the type of transfers, who's transferring, the demographics of transfers, etc. that are happening across the state. This information could prove useful to future policy discussions.

The Task Force will meet in June to review survey results and correspondence prior to giving an update to the OSAA Executive Board at their July Summer Workshop. The group welcomes feedback from member schools on areas the Task Force should address during its work.

Written suggestions and proposals on any transfer related subjects should be emailed to the OSAA (kyles@osaa.org). Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all task force members for review and discussion.