



Oregon School Activities Association

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February 27, 2023

To: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

From: K.T. Emerson, Assistant Executive Director Peter Weber, Executive Director

Subject: OSAA Equity and Diversity – February 9, 2023 Meeting Update

The OSAA staff welcomed the committee and began the zoom meeting at 1pm. The staff reviewed the agenda as well.

The OSAA staff reviewed submitted complaint data and trends to guide future training efforts. The OSAA staff was clear regarding the data being of submitted complaints and not all incidents that occur during OSAA events. From the submitted complaints the following trends could be gleaned. Submitted complaints involving volleyball events were mostly regarding student section behaviors. More complaints regarding player interactions during competitions filed for football and soccer events during 2022. Officials and event management are becoming increasingly more responsive and effective in the moment when incidents occur during an event. Post-event communication and follow through by schools is also much present than it was before 2019. Schools have asked for help with how to educate their students, especially student sections, on how to cheer for their team and not against other teams. Communication between schools before events is much improved. Many league agreements being discussed regarding incident response. Education and communication regarding how to report an issue at an event is more apparent than in previous years.

The OSAA staff also shared an update regarding a recent Student Advisory Council meeting. The SAC is working on a spirit campaign focusing on school's "best cheers" to share and encourage other schools to join in and work towards cheering for their team and not against the other team. The OSAA staff also reviewed the work for the Student Leadership Summit. The students would like to work towards hosting it in August or September for a half day to allow schools to travel more easily. The students were clear that it is important to bring students together in person for this leadership summit experience and not virtually. The students expressed that meeting each other face to face and sharing their thoughts and experiences would be better received in an in person setting.

There was a discussion regarding the continued communication with schools regarding OSAA event management expectations. The Equity and Diversity committee shared that they appreciated the consistent and continued communication. It is helpful to be able to reiterate the expectations throughout the season. It was suggested that the OSAA provide links or information that schools/districts could make available regarding OSAA expectations directly on their school/district websites.

The OSAA staff shared that the Executive Board has approved the proposal to add the charge of the inclusion committee to our Equity and Diversity Committee's work as well. The next step for final approval is to present the proposal to the Delegate Assembly for a vote.

The next Equity and Diversity meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2023 1pm-2pm Via Zoom.