



## Oregon School Activities Association

25200 SW Parkway Avenue, Suite 1  
Wilsonville, OR 97070  
503.682.6722 <http://www.osaa.org>



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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors  
FROM: Kelly Foster, Assistant Executive Director  
Monica Maxwell, Assistant Executive Director  
SUBJECT: Update on the Proceedings of the Student Advisory Council

The OSAA Student Advisory Council had the initial meeting of the 2022-23 school year via zoom. This group will primarily use a virtual format for meetings allowing greater accessibility to the council members. Council members in attendance include Anthony Giesch, Logan Gant, Nyla Bennett, Lydia Plahn, Reid Gray, Makynna Nolan, Ali Aldred, Maddy Tuning, and Miles Palacios.

The meeting opened with a review of the council's Charge. The focus of the group is to enhance and empower the student voice in the work that is done within the Association. In addition to advocating on behalf of their peers, the students will also focus on ensuring an equity lens is applied to the continual work being done throughout the Association.

Sportsmanship was a primary focus; council member gave account of their personal experiences of what they have seen and heard from spectators during events. Some members shared that they are still hearing derogatory comments from fans and sometimes their own teammates, toward players on the field or court. Council members shared that although these occurrences are still taking place, they felt encouraged that there are fewer instances than in years past. Students believe that strides have been made in the leadership development of their peers in relation to the growth of appropriateness and respect of each other. Students expressed how their schools have been proactive in explicitly teaching best practices in regards sportsmanship. Discussion was also had around clarifying expectations for students, perhaps an assembly that all schools and students could engage in and learn from was mentioned as an option.

The council member felt that a video or printed material that highlighted the positivity of students at events as opposed to negative undertones would be more impactful to their peers. These materials can be shared with athletic directors and event managers, to be distributed and displayed at events.

Videos such as these can be used as training material for volunteers and event management, to ensure that sportsmanship is good at all levels. Student leaders should spearhead this initiative and help to ensure that events remain positive, supportive, and inclusive of all groups during contest. The group decided to break into smaller groups to discuss specific parts of the campaign and assign task for the Student Leadership Summit. Overall, the conversation was interactive and encouraging, students agreed that-

The final topic discussed was a Student Leadership Summit. They said that an in-person event would be more engaging, however they would be supportive of an online option for students who would be unable to attend physically. A straw poll was conducted to determine the best time of year to have the Leadership Summit, recommendations were Fall or Spring- to avoid winter travel, possibly late April or Early September.

The group was supportive of more frequent meetings and appointing a Chair and Vice Chair- two students who would serve as the leaders of the group and would be trained to lead meetings and be prepared to share the work of the SAC to the Executive Board and/or other committees.