



Oregon School Activities Association

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TO: Superintendents, Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Kyle Stanfield, Assistant Executive Director
K.T. Emerson, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: Update from the Computation of ADM Task Force – September 23, 2019

The Computation of ADM Task Force met at the OSAA Offices in Wilsonville on Monday, September 23, 2019 to continue to review how the OSAA counts students for classification purposes. The Task Force was put together by the OSAA Executive Board after the most recent Classification and Districting Committee concluded. The OSAA Executive Board felt that a discussion and review of how students are counted and how those numbers play into classification and districting warranted creation of a task force. The Board believes that now, early in this classification time block, is the best time to convene the task force so there is adequate time to implement potential changes for the 2022-26 Classification and Districting Committee.

The Task Force's main objective is to review the policy and philosophy pertaining to school populations and how those are used for Classification and Districting purposes. Their focus is not based in numbers like the Classification and Districting Committee would review.

The Task Force was welcomed by OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber along with OSAA staff members K.T. Emerson and Kyle Stanfield.

The OSAA staff began the meeting with a review of the charge and progress to date. The Task Force review feedback from the Executive Board's summer workshop as well as the Administrator Workshops that took place August 13-16. The feedback received supported the proposed changes modifying the timeline for the Classification and Districting Committee, using grades 9th-11th ADM data and using a 3-year longitudinal average to assess base populations of full member schools.

Two topics that were discussed as well include the following.

Use of a Socioeconomic Factor

The Task Force believes that the use of a socioeconomic factor that adjusts a school's base number is necessary to accurately reflect a school and community population. The Task Force feels strongly that no matter what variable is used, it must come from a central reporting source and be available for the public to view for transparency. The Task Force is reviewing Free Lunch information and assessed the use of CEP information from the Oregon Department of Education. The Task Force did determine that the most transparent number to use when assessing a high school's population continues to be Free Lunch percentages. OSAA staff will bring information to the next meeting on the impact of increasing the current 25% adjustment for Free Lunch percentage. In addition, the Task Force would like the OSAA staff to assess the Free Lunch average (and median) for our member schools and develop models using this data for adjusting base population numbers of member schools.

Associate Member School Students

Over the past decade the number of alternative education options for kids has exploded, hence one of the reasons for the creation of this task force. OSAA rules have tried to keep up with this changing landscape but with the number of students accessing these alternative education options in certain areas, it caused a rise in concern of inequities in the counting of students from district to district. Some districts may have a separate school for their alternative programming while some keep it under the same ODE school institution identification number. The Task Force discussed this information at length, primarily how the OSAA would retrieve and then repurpose the data when it comes to Classification and Districting purposes.

The Task Force would like the OSAA staff to retrieve student population data from all Associate Member Schools to assess the impact of counting all Associate Member School students back at their resident public high schools.

This would be a fundamental change to where we are today. Current practice is that only those that come back and participate are added to the school's ADM. The Task Force feels that this would help alleviate some of the concerns of different reporting avenues as well as provide a greater path for communication between full member schools and associate member schools.

In that assessment process, the Task Force would also like to review systems within districts and from ODE in providing transparent numbers of Associate Member School students to the OSAA.

The Task Force understands that no matter what system is put in place there will always need to be an appeal process if a school's enrollment is dropping rapidly or a process to elevate schools if their enrollment is rapidly growing. The Task Force feels strongly that the development of a solid and fair appeals process needs to be in place. Currently, these enrollments are reviewed by the Executive Board each December.

The Task Force reiterated the importance that any information used for Classification and Districting purposes be available for public consumption. During these processes, it's vitally important to remain transparent and have a single place of reporting for consistency.

The Task Force invites feedback from member schools on the Computation of ADM process and areas the task force should address during its work.

Next meeting will be November 15, 2019 at the OSBA conference.

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