



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 – November 15, 2019

The Computation of ADM Task Force met at the Downtown Marriot during the OSBA Conference on Friday, November 15, 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 reviewed feedback from the October Delegate Assembly meeting. The feedback received during the caucus item discussions expressed the need for continued use of a socioeconomic factor when determining a school's base ADM as well as a continued assessment of the number of Associate Member School students and how to include them in the evaluation of a full member school's base ADM.

Kyle and K.T. also met with Beaverton School District's Synergy team to assess the data that can be collected regarding students who are not attending the Full Member Beaverton High Schools. During the meeting, the Synergy team confirmed their ability to assess those who are Beaverton School District students attending Beaverton School District Associate member schools. However, they explained the challenges in assessing students who do not live in the Beaverton School District and attend their associate member schools as well as those students who have decided to leave Beaverton School District to attend an Associate Member School outside of their boundaries.

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 would like the OSAA Staff to explore using a higher socioeconomic percentage adjustment to see how many schools it would impact. The Task Force would also like the OSAA Staff to assess the impact that the current socioeconomic adjustment is having on the schools that have been placed into a lower classification.

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 house all students 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.

OSAA Staff shared information with the group regarding concerns with transparency and accuracy of information that school districts have regarding students from their district attending schools outside of their district. Preliminary research in this area has produced mixed results, at best, and is a significant concern.

Discussion by members of the task force focused on the original issue that the current system allowed school districts to count their students differently if the district operated separate alternative/charter schools. With that in mind, the group focused on an approach that would count all high school students in a district that attend a school in that district. This approach would be more equitable than the current process.

For example, Baker School District operates Baker High School, Baker Web Academy, Baker Early College and Eagle Cap. All students that live in the Baker School District boundaries that attend one of these schools would be counted toward the enrollment at Baker High School. Students from other school districts that attend Baker Web Academy, Baker Early College and Eagle Cap would only be counted at their resident public school if they choose to go back and participate (as is currently done for home school students, etc.).

The Task Force would like the OSAA staff to gather information from school districts based on that approach for the group to review. The group is also interested in potentially looking at charter and non-charter schools differently and will explore that when reviewing the data.

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 determined in coming weeks.

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.