November 8, 2017

TO:     Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Football Coaches

FROM:  Brad Garrett, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT:  OSAA Ad Hoc Football Advisory Committee

The Ad Hoc Football Advisory Committee conducted a work session on November 5, 2017 at the OSAA Office in Wilsonville. Committee recommendations will be forwarded to the OSAA Executive Board for review and potential adoption.

The Committee reviewed correspondence received to this point and supporting information presented at the previous organizational meeting. The group then began the process of discussing how to address the observations/issues list outlined in the October 22 update.

The Committee requests that member schools refrain from scheduling games for the 2018 season at this point. The group’s goal is to provide an update on their progress at the Executive Board’s next meeting on December 4, 2017.

At this point the group has reached consensus on the following items:

• Creating a “play down” option in Football only
• A criterion based system would help identify schools eligible to “play down” and needs further exploration as to which and how many variables would be used.
• The potential to split a classification into divisions each with its own Championship bracket.
• Variations in game formats (i.e. 1, 2, or 3 quarter games) at the sub-varsity level can provide needed flexibility for some programs to create sub-varsity participation opportunities.
• Modification of NFHS Football playing rules at the sub-varsity level (i.e. no kicking game, no blitzing, etc.) should be considered and codified so that all schools are aware of options moving forward.
• Scheduling at the sub-varsity level should be separated from varsity scheduling to allow more opportunity to match teams equally and emphasize local geographic play.

The Committee has instructed staff to:

• Create several different simulations using defined criteria that would be applied over a 2-year period to determine which schools may be moved down. Once schools are identified the Committee will create Special Districts at some or all classification levels for review by the membership.
• Survey the membership on a variety of Football topics including number of teams, attrition levels from start to the end of the season and reasons, independent status plans, interest in adding 6-man game for smaller schools.
Two meeting dates were determined and are as follows. Future dates will be announced.

Monday, November 27       9am – 1pm   OSAA Office   Public Input
Monday, December 18       9am – 1pm   OSAA Office   Public Input

The OSAA staff will provide a Committee update, like this one, to all superintendents, principals, athletic directors, and football coaches following each meeting. The Committee roster, charge, and any additional committee information is available at http://www.osaa.org/governance/committees.

Written suggestions and proposals should be emailed to the OSAA at bradg@osaa.org. Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all committee members for review and discussion.

The next public meeting of the Ad Hoc Football Advisory Committee will be at 9am on Monday, November 27, 2017, at the OSAA office in Wilsonville. The general format for the meeting will be for the Committee to receive public testimony followed by a closed work session.

The Committee appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Brad Garrett (bradg@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions.