



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: Kyle Stanfield, Chief Operating Officer
Gibby Reynolds, IT Systems Administrator

SUBJECT: Update on the Proceedings of the Petition to Play Down Task Force

The Petition to Play Down Task Force held its third meeting in a hybrid format on December 5. The Task Force will be utilizing a hybrid format for all meetings which allows both Task Force members, and those seeking to provide input, the option of participating via webinar or in person. This Task Force was re-established by the OSAA Executive Board following the conclusion of the Classification and Districting process.

After introductions, the group received a review of the charges from the OSAA Executive Board and a review of the timeline. The reviews were conducted by OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber and Chief Operating Officer Kyle Stanfield.

The Task Force began by reviewing the prepared materials provided by the OSAA staff. The staff provided three examples of schools in different situations as it relates to the Petition to Play Down (petition granted, petition denied, and a school reassigned to their original classification after playing down). Staff provided data from the last year of the previous time block (2021-22) and the first year of this time block (2022-23) to compare winning percentages, records, and individual sport participation information between the two different classifications in which a school participated.

The Task Force felt that the information was valuable as it reflects how a school did against those whom they are compared against and requesting to move away from due to lack of competitiveness. Overall, the Task Force is considering a substantial overhaul of the current system which would not consider placement of a school in frozen rankings. The Task Force is focused on winning percentages and how they compare against those schools within the same classification.

For their next meeting, the Task Force has requested the following from staff:

- List of schools by classification and their winning percentages within those classifications.
- Participation data for team and individual sports per school.

This information will help the group construct a new policy and variables related to a school's ability to play down. The group understands that a policy needs to be objective and focused on those that need change the most. In addition, the Task Force believes that from the data provided, they can also construct a separate policy and conditions for those schools playing down and requesting to continue to play down for an additional time block.

The OSAA staff will provide additional documentation and school feedback to the Task Force at their next meeting.

The Task Force is looking for feedback from the membership on these issues. The Task Force will keep the Executive Board regularly updated on their progress. The group will next meet on Tuesday, January 16 at the OSAA Office in Wilsonville.

The Task Force appreciates your support and encourages your participation in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact Kyle Stanfield (kyles@osaa.org) at the OSAA if you have any questions or to provide feedback.

The Task Force Roster, charge to the Task Force, and updated information are available at the OSAA website: <https://www.osaa.org/governance/task-forces/play-down-petition>