

**Minutes of  
The University Interscholastic League  
Legislative Council Meeting  
October 16-17, 2016**

**Business Meeting (A - E)**

The 76<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Legislative Council of the University Interscholastic League convened at 8:01 a.m. on Sunday, October 16, 2016, at the Austin Marriott North Hotel, Round Rock, Texas. The following were present:

Council Members: Johnny Pineda, Raymondville ISD, Chair; Jeff Adams, Farmersville ISD; Bobby Azam, Andrews ISD; Jo Ann Bludau, Hallettsville ISD; James Brewer, Longview ISD; Kevin Brown, Alamo Heights ISD; Greg Enis, Slidell ISD; Shane Fields, Albany ISD; LaTonya Goffney, Lufkin ISD; Mark Henry, Cypress Fairbanks ISD; Aaron Hood, Robert Lee ISD; Shannon Holmes, Hardin-Jefferson ISD; Mary Huckabay, Hull-Daisetta ISD; Walter Jackson, Brenham ISD; Richard Kilgore, Bruceville-Eddy ISD; Trey Lawrence, Shiner ISD; Russell Marshall, Mabank ISD; Juan Martinez, Clint ISD; Cody Moree, Apple Springs ISD; Todd Morrison, Honey Grove ISD; Greg Poole, Barbers Hill ISD; Curtis Rhodes, Needville ISD; Thomas Randle, Lamar Consolidated ISD; Berhl Robertson, Lubbock ISD; Robin Ryan, Grapevine-Colleyville ISD; Marc Smith, Duncanville ISD; Dan Troxell, Leander ISD; Karl Vaughn, White Deer ISD; Jim Waller, Idalou ISD and Kevin Worthy, Royse City ISD.

UIL Staff: Charles Breithaupt, Executive Director; Leo Barnes; Darryl Beasley; Mark Cousins; Susan Doherty; Susan Elza; Arlo Flores; Jamey Harrison; Kate Hector; Kevin Jones; Brad Kent; Becca Kinz; Jessica Lane; Luis Muñoz; Traci Neely; Brian Polk; Jana Riggins; Chris Schmidt; Elisabeth Sikes; David Stevens; Ed Stidham; David Trussell; Caroline Walls & Eddie Wolski.

Chair Pineda called the business meeting of the Legislative Council to order at 8:01 a.m. on Sunday, October 16, 2016. He expressed his appreciation to everyone in attendance at these meetings and stated decisions made always inspire and impact students in academics, music and athletics. Mark Henry gave the invocation.

(A) Chair Pineda announced that a quorum of the Legislative Council was present.

(B) He announced that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the UIL *2016-2017 Constitution and Contest Rules*. He appointed Jana Riggins as parliamentarian.

(C) The printed agenda was adopted by consensus. (The lettering and numbering of the paragraphs of the minutes follow the order of the agenda.)

(D) The minutes of the June 14, 2016 meeting were approved by consensus.

At 8:05 a.m. the business meeting was recessed and the Legislative Council proceeded to its public hearing.

**Public Hearing (AA - BB)**

Chair Pineda welcomed everyone in attendance on behalf of the Legislative Council representatives, the UIL staff and the participant schools and member school districts. He introduced and welcomed the new council members and then asked the council members and staff to introduce themselves.

## AA. Scheduled Speakers

Chair Pineda asked speakers to limit their remarks to five minutes. He said the meeting was open, questions could be asked, and members of the Council or staff would be recognized to speak. He recognized the following people who made proposals (summarized from oral and written comments) to the Council.

**D.W. Rutledge, Texas High School Coaches Association**, on behalf of their 21,000 members he thanked the Legislative Council for all they do in representing schools, schools and students across Texas. He introduced Joe Martin, Assistant Executive Director, of THSCA. THSCA helps coaches improve and advance themselves as well as dealing with social and safety issues. They endorse several "Coaching Beyond the Game" Initiatives. THSCA supports the proposal to alter the language for the 6A football pilot and to return the tournaments and meets that were taken away several years ago.

**Sam Tipton, Texas Girls' Coaches Association**, thanked the Legislative Council for the opportunity to stand before them and expressed appreciation for what this council does. He then recognized his board members: Liana Gombert, Past President; Jason Roemer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Kriss Ethridge, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Loyd Morgan, President and Lee Grisham, Assistant to the Executive Director. TGCA supports restoring the tournaments.

**Rusty Dowling, Texas High School Athletic Directors Association**, THSADA announced his board: John Crawford, Debbie Decker, Shawn Pratt and Chris Ferris. THSADA has over 800 members. He stated THSADA considers the playoff structure conducive with the size of the state. THSADA had no new proposals.

**Rick Sherley, Texas Association of Basketball Coaches**, thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak. TABC has no new proposals but would appreciate the reinstatement of the tournaments. TABC is extending complementary membership to superintendents, principals and AD's.

**John Carter, Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association**, thanked the council for all they do and for the impact they have on children's lives. He thanked the UIL Medical Advisory Committee and NFHS for the implemented pitch count and stated THSBCA supports their findings. THSBCA is in total support of returning the tournament. It will help in injury prevention as pitchers now have a shorter time to prepare for pitching. He also thanked the UIL for continuing to look at the former proposal for 1A-2A split softball and baseball conference.

**Stuart Kantor, Texas Track & Field Coaches Association**, thanked the council for the opportunity to speak. TTFCA's Hall of Fame inductees for 2017 will be Charles Austin, Barbara Crousen, Beverly Humphrey, Stan Huntsman, David Noble, Bob Richards and Francie Larrieu Smith. TTFCA supports reinstating the meet that was taken away.

**Greg McLain, President, Texas Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association/ Chris Mullen**, TISCA represents swimming, diving and water polo. TISCA thanks the council for advancing 24 athletes to the State Meet. TISCA has no new proposals but will eventually ask for 3 classifications in swimming and diving. Chris Mullen asked the council to sanction water polo. There are 192 schools who support adding water polo.

**Bobby Kleinecke, Texas Tennis Coaches Association**, thanked council for the opportunity to speak. He introduced Joey Cantu, incoming president of TTCA. TTCA is in full support of the playoff for team tennis and also supports the return of the tournament.

**Jim Bob Jackson, Magnolia HS, Texas Golf Coaches Association**, proposed three teams and the top three individuals, not on an advancing team of the 8 districts advance to post season play.

**Randall Ballew and Terry Crawford, Texas Six-man Coaches Association**, proposed allowing Class A to use composite footballs during regulation play in addition to leather footballs. Dr. Harrison stated this proposal will be referred to the Football Rules Committee for discussion.

**Ray Baca, Cross Country Coaches Association**, expressed excitement over the new Cross Country State Meet course. CCCA is in support of the reinstatement of the lost tournament/meet as many organizations use this as a fund raiser.

**Eddie Hopkins, Texas High School Basketball Officials Association**, THSBOA supports the proposal for 1204 and the association supports helping select basketball officials. He stated he is honored to serve on the Sports Officials Committee. In our large state there is a problem with travel reimbursement for officials, working together this can be rectified.

**Michael Fitch, Texas Association of Sports Officials**, stated it was an honor to represent the 14,500 members of TASO. He thanked UIL for the great job they have done implementing the Sports Official Committee. TASO supports the amendment to 1204 and the return of the lost tournament. He thanked Dr. Breithaupt for allowing Texas to host NASO and Officiate Texas, it is the best thing we have done for officials.

**Karen Searles, Texas Dance Educators Association**; has implemented the Dance Educators Assessment of Learning (DEAL). Currently 17 districts have committed to DEAL, TDEA is encouraged by the support of this program as well as the 33% increase in participation from 2015.

**Jason Ceyanes, Parent**; presented to council as a parent representing his 12 and 13-year-old sons. He would like his sons to be able to attend any OAP presentation without hearing obscene language as a simple disclosure is not adequate. He filed a complaint with UIL pertaining to Houston ISD's production of Holy Day. He is waiting on his Level 3 hearing concerning HISD. He stated in his opinion Holy Day was reward a State Championship by pushing the envelope with profanity. He asked for a temporary injunction or suspension of UIL OAP until this is fixed.

**Crissy Spalek**, wasn't able to attend to present her proposal concerning home school community students being allowed to participate in band activities.

**Alexis Neuman**, proposed allowing charter schools to be added to district alignments in the same manner district's schools enter during the second year of the realignment. Their charter missed submitting information by the deadline, due to this oversight they will not be allowed to participate in basketball for two years. She asked that the rule be changed. Dr. Harrison explained the Standing Committee on Policy would be hearing a staff proposal that address Ms. Neuman's concern.

**Drew Wyrick, Southwest High School, Fort Worth**, proposed allowing Coaches in Title 1 schools be allowed to coach their students in UIL activities during the summer and/or offseason. He stated low income students can't afford meaningful coaching in the summer. He explained Title 1 schools have only won 4 out of 50 first round games in 5A and 6A. Dr. Poole expressed interest in the dialog. This is not just an issue of winning and losing, people who coach don't always have the best interest at heart. There is unfair equity at the club sport level.

Chairman Pineda recessed the committee at 9:12 and reconvened at 9:22.

**Missy Head, Fine Arts, Lewisville ISD, Chair of UIL Advisory Committee**, supports the proposal to increase the number of OAP directors to four. They studied content of plays across the nation and found their districts refer to local standards allowing local control. This is where OAP directors and OAP organizations believe control should reside.

**Darla Jones, Texas Thespians/EDTA**, expressed there are as many opinions as there are numbers of plays. You will find violence in *Romeo and Juliet*, murder in *Hamlett*, drunkenness in *Anne of Green Gables*, murder in *Of Mice and Men* (which is required reading in Texas) if we are looking for

objectionable material, we will find it. Who should govern these plays? Who decides what language is to be used? Will there be a word count, you are allowed three damns and 2 hells? She stated it is best if local administrators govern their own schools. One thing about opinions, everyone has one.

**Carla Schumann, Texas Theatre Administrators Conference**, stated TTAC supports the proposal to increase directors allowed in the OAP Contest from three to four. TTAC continues to support local control as they know best what their students should present.

**Travis Poe, Texas Education Theatre Association, President**, 32 years teaching and directing OAP. He supports local control. UIL gives schools the right to decide what plays to present, sometimes they deviate to the left or right, he would like to see everyone met in the middle. He did admit he is something of a normality. He stated he has the utmost respect for the Legislative Council and understands their job is not easy.

Cody Moree stated he would like to see an interscholastic neutral committee that hears plays.

**Jerry Ivans, Texas Theatre Adjudicators and Officials**, taught at San Jacinto College for 22 years. He stated he supports UIL OAP. He explained he was a very insecure teenager at a 2A high school who couldn't look people in their face prior to getting into OAP. He now has a PhD in Arts, this is an example of what UIL can do, it changes lives. UIL academics has exceptional leadership under Dr. David Stevens and Luis Munoz. TTAO supports UIL's current rule of local control. Adjudicators are asked to be open minded and unbiased and only judge the execution of the play. He stated he was the Contest Manager for "Holy Day" at the area, district and state level and expressed none of the accused allegations happened.

**Marcus Evans**, stated he has attended Legislative Council meetings for the past 20 years, this is the last time he will present as he has retired. He is in favor of returning the tournament that was taken away a few years ago. He explained he taught at 2 of the poorest schools in Texas, however his students were always able to compete with wealthy schools due to the fact they raised money hosting tournaments to pay their entrance fees. The tournaments also allowed his students the ability to play more holes as they weren't able to afford private lessons. UIL tournaments were the reason for their success. He stated he has been the luckiest person in the world to work with UIL, THSCA, TGCA and ADA.

Dr. Poole thanked Marcus Evans for his passion about kids for all these years. Jim Waller asked Marcus Evans if he coaches in a 6A school. Marcus Evans responded, he has taught and coached golf for 35 years in a 5A school.

**Wendy Gumbert and Darlene Hunter, Texas Regional Paralympic Sport**, proposed adding adapted track and field events for ambulatory athletes with physical disabilities to the UIL State Track & Field Meet. They proposed adding the events of the 100, 200, long jump, shotput and discuss as pilot events for ambulatory athletes and award them points. TRPS has given 40 to 50 chairs to athletes. Darlene Hunter stated this helps break down barriers with chaired student athletes. Dr. Hunter went to the University of Arizona on an adoptive sport scholarship and participated and won a gold medal at the Rio Olympics in wheelchair basketball.

**Shannon Utley, Mansfield ISD and Toby Fawehinmi, UT Arlington track athlete**, proposed adding adapted track and field events for ambulatory athletes with physical disabilities to the UIL State Track & Field Meet. There are 100's of athletes in Texas schools that do not have the confidence to try a school based sport due to their slower speed. Toby Fawehinmi holds the world record in triple jump and is a two-time para Olympian in London and Rio, he stated leaving home and going to UT Arlington was the roughest day of his life. He stated everyone wants to belong somewhere.

Chairman Pineda thanked Dr. Hunter and Toby for their presentations.

### **BB. Speakers Previously Unscheduled**

Chairman Pineda recognized the following unscheduled speakers.

**Mark Sherman, THSGCA, President, Highland Park HS varsity gymnastics**, proposed the addition of gymnastics as a UIL sanctioned sport. By sanctioning the sport, UIL could force coaches to implement safety standards. THSGCA is celebrating its 51<sup>st</sup> year of existence and it's 51<sup>st</sup> State Championship.

(E) Chairman Pineda thanked all scheduled and unscheduled speakers, the council enjoyed listening to the proposals and appreciates the passion and the initiative to fight for what you believe in. Chairman Pineda recessed the public hearing at 10:07 a.m.

### **Business Meeting (F - K) Continued**

#### **F. Standing Committee Meetings**

The standing committees convened on Sunday to take action on items presented to the Council. The business meeting of the Legislative Council reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 17, 2016. On behalf of the UIL Chairman Pineda welcomed everyone. He expressed appreciation for the inspiration and daily impact on students. Chairman Pineda stated it has been an honor to serve as Legislative Council Chair this past year. He thanked Dr. Breithaupt for his leadership and his unwavering commitment to this organization, and to all UIL staff and council.

#### **G. Old Business**

Having none we will move to new business.

#### **H. New Business**

##### **1. Committee Reports and Council Action**

###### **(A) Standing Committee on Academics**

Dr. Breithaupt welcomed the council and guests and thanked Chairman Pineda for his leadership and availability this past year. In 1910 out of a sense of service to the state through its public schools, the University of Texas created a debate league and an athletic organization which then merge to form the UIL. In the 1920's football came in as a UIL sport and was fraught with disasters due to eligibility. Roy Bedichek, UIL director from 1922-1948 made a decentralization of rules. The State Executive Committee, composed mostly of UT professors changed in the 1940's to an advisory panel of superintendents. In 1956-57 they lost their advisory role and became a true legislative body. Council was expanded in the 1980's to include the eight at large members and then a few years ago the 1A's were added giving the council 32 total members.

Dr. Breithaupt expressed his pleaser with UIL's association with other Texas Associations. UIL trusts them to bring issues before you. He stated that we have and will continue to see requests for change which have and will impact the League. Dr. Breithaupt quoted former UIL Director, Roy Bedichek "The UIL has to have strong rules and penalties that support the rules or they aren't worth the words they are written with".

Chairman Pineda recognized Dan Troxell, Chair of the Academic Committee. Dr. Troxell thanked the Academic Standing Committee, recognized the Standing Committee members and thanked Dr. Breithaupt for the leadership, character and integrity he brings to the UIL. He stated it is an honor to work with Dr. David Stevens. He then introduced Dr. Stevens, UIL Academic Director, who thanked the committee and introduced his staff. Dr. Stevens stated he was grateful Dr. Troxell's move to Leander ISD kept him in Region IV and on the Academic Standing Committee. Dr. Stevens gave a brief overview of the four proposals pertaining to OAP that were presented in June which the Standing Committee asked the staff to study. The staff contacted 50 states and found they rely on local control. He shared the following changes the UIL has implemented. 1) The approved list of plays has been updated and approximately 25

titles have been removed and the list will continue to be closely monitored. 2) For plays submitted for approval, the Reading Committee will note any profane, indecent or obscene language or actions that remain in the printed text that was submitted by the director. Scenes that raise question about potential staging will require that the school submit a description of the staging before the script is approved. This communication will be sent to the director and now will be copied to the campus administrator. It is the UIL's goal that the administrator will be included in all correspondence, when previously it was just the director. 3) The Community Standards Compliance Form that requires an administrator's signature indicating that the script and production has been examined and does not offend the moral standards of the community now requires a date that the administrator saw a performance before that contest and must be presented at each level of competition. Previously, the form was just signed by the administrator. 4) The changes will improve communication to alert local administration of any potential controversies early in the process and to compel the administrator to see a performance of the production before it is performed at each contest. It is UIL's intention, per the Supreme Court's Hazelwood v Kuhlmeier ruling, that the administrator serves as publisher, censor and uses his/her power to control expression in any school-sponsored activity.

### **Report of the Standing Committee on Academics**

Dr. Troxell presented the report of the Standing Committee on Academics. It was received by the Council, which took the following actions.

**1. The Standing Committee on Academics moved and Russell Marshall seconded the motion to increase the number of directors allowed in the One-Act Play Contest from three to four.**

The *Handbook for One-Act Play* would be amended as follows:

The company shall include a maximum of ~~three~~ FOUR directors. Directors in the high school One-Act Play Contest shall be full-time employees of the school districts the plays represent.

Full-time means that the person is under contract to the school board of the school that the one-act play represents and the person has enough contractual duties to be considered a full-time employee by the Teacher Retirement System and state law.

**A. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Amendment to Member Schools**

This is an option for schools. Additional costs may include stipends, travel and substitutes.

**B. Legislative Council Consideration Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Academics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective immediately, if approved.

**Motion passed.**

### **THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS Rejected the Following Proposals**

- a. A proposal that a school district with split grade levels at middle schools (6-7 graders at one campus, 8<sup>th</sup> graders at another campus) combine the districts 6-8 graders for middle school one-act play.

- b. A proposal that a school district with split grade levels at middle schools (6-7 graders at one campus, 8<sup>th</sup> graders at another campus) combine 7th and 8th graders for one-act play.
- c. A proposal to hold state one-act play and academic contests the last couple of days of the week before the football state championships or the first couple of days the week that the football championships are played.
- d. A proposal that UIL One-Act Plays should be prohibited from using inappropriate language in performances.
- e. A proposal that UIL One-Act Plays shall follow all of the provisions found in the local Student Code of Conduct and Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.
- f. A proposal that all UIL One-Act Plays shall be appropriate for all school aged children.

### **(B) Report of the Standing Committee on Music**

Chairman Pineda recognized Russell Marshall, Chair of the Standing Committee on Music. Dr. Marshall stated he is pleased to serve as chair and then introduced the Standing Committee on Music members and thanked Chairman Pineda. He then thanked Dr. Brad Kent, UIL Music Director, a superstar in the nation. Dr. Kent recognized the Music Standing Committee and especially Dr. Marshall for their service and thanked his staff. He reported the two pilot programs that council implemented, 1A State Marching Band and Mariachi were very successful. The State Marching Band Contest was expanded to three days.

Dr. Marshall presented the report of the Standing Committee on Music. The Standing Committee on Music voted on and passed all three proposals together and took the following actions.

**1. The Standing Committee on Music moved and Jeff Adams seconded the motion giving the UIL State Director of Music the authority to appoint the members of the music region executive committee, as well as clarifying who may serve on the committee.**

Section 1102 (e) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows, effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1102: GENERAL REGULATIONS

- (e) REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The State DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ~~Executive Committee~~ shall appoint in each region an executive committee comprised of seven school administrators FROM SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE ASSIGNED REGION, WITH NO MORE THAN ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM A SCHOOL DISTRICT. IN THE EVENT THE REGION CONSISTS OF LESS THAN SEVEN SCHOOL DISTRICTS THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT. Those administrators eligible for appointment to the Region Executive Committee are superintendents, associate or assistant superintendents, ~~and~~ high school principals, MUSIC ADMINISTRATORS, AND OTHER ADMINISTRATORS DESIGNATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THERE BE NO MORE THAN TWO MUSIC ADMINISTRATORS ON THE COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE MEMBER MAY APPOINT AN ALTERNATE TO SERVE IN THE EVENT THE MEMBER IS UNABLE TO ATTEND A MEETING. The selection of members shall reflect sensitivity to ethnicity and gender. These members shall serve three-year overlapping terms. Each committee shall

elect its own chair who shall serve a one-year term. ~~or continue in office until a successor has been appointed.~~ The chair may be re-elected.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

None.

**Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Music moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**2. The Standing Committee on Music moved and Jeff Adams seconded the motion to clarify who serves on the area committee for music.**

Section 1106 (c) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows, effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1106: AREA MARCHING BAND

(c) AREA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. ~~THE~~ EACH MUSIC area SHALL HAVE AN executive committee ~~shall consist~~ COMPRISED of two representatives from each Region Executive Committee THAT HAS SCHOOLS IN THE CONFERENCE ASSIGNED TO THAT AREA. IN THE EVENT THERE ARE MORE THAN FOUR REGIONS THAT HAVE SCHOOLS IN THE CONFERENCE ASSIGNED TO AN AREA, THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE COMPRISED OF ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THAT HAS SCHOOLS IN THE CONFERENCE ASSIGNED TO THAT AREA. THE COMMITTEE MEMBER MAY APPOINT AN ALTERNATE TO SERVE IN THE EVENT THE MEMBER IS UNABLE TO ATTEND A MEETING

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

Fewer committee members would likely lower total committee travel costs.

**Legislative Council Consideration: Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Music moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**3. The Standing Committee on Music moved and Jeff Adams seconded the motion to define the Prescribed Music List committees in the C&CR.**

Section 1110 (d)(3)(C) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows, effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1110: CONCERT ORGANIZATION EVALUATION

(d) PERFORMANCE REGULATIONS.

(3): *Required Music.* A COMMITTEE OF SEVEN IN EACH DIVISION (BAND, CHOIR, ORCHESTRA) IS APPOINTED BY THE STATE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC TO THREE-YEAR



OVERLAPPING TERMS TO SELECT MUSIC THAT IS PLACED ON THE *PRESCRIBED MUSIC LIST*.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

There should be no fiscal impact to member schools.

**Legislative Council Consideration: Effective Date:**

The Standing Committee on Music moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC  
Approved a non-C&CR proposal**

- a. Add an on-field awards ceremony for all finalist bands at the state marching band championships and increase the number of finalist bands from 10 to 12 if the Prelims has 36 or more bands.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC  
Rejected or Took No Action on the Following Proposals**

- a. A proposal to limit marching band competitions to a Prelims-Only format.

**(C) Report of the  
Standing Committee on Athletics**

Chairman Pineda recognized Greg Poole, Chair of the Athletic Committee. Dr. Poole introduced Dr. Susan Elza, UIL Athletic Director and stated we appreciate the perspective she brings. Dr. Elza thanked Dr. Poole stated he is a unique leader and thanked him for his support. She thanked the council and standing committee for all they do. It has been a great honor and privilege to serve in this position. She thanked Dr. Breithaupt for his leadership, thanked Dr. Harrison and introduced her staff and stated we are better together.

Dr. Poole recognized his fellow committee members and thanked them for their work. He stated this committee seems to get the proposals that have no easy answers. He then presented the report of the Standing Committee on Athletics. It was received by the Council, which took the following actions.

1. **The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and James Brewer seconded the motion to change the language for the 6A football home field advantage pilot program. The current language provides for home field advantage based on seed. The change in language would give home field advantage based on district finish. The current pilot language also does not address when opposing**

**teams are tied in their district finish. The recommendation is that the language be adjusted to account for home field advantage based on district finish and account for scenarios with ties in district finish.**

Section 1250 (i) (3) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1250: FOOTBALL PLAN

(i) SITE AND DAY OF GAME.

- (3) *Playoff Games.* Unless mutually agreeable otherwise, the place for playing a playoff game shall be determined on a “home and home” basis for the past two football seasons. **Exception:** State championship games. The team that was the visiting team the last time the two teams met on a home field in a post-district playoff game may require the game be played at its home field. In case of disagreement between two teams who have not played a post-district playoff game during the past two football seasons, the game site shall be decided by a coin toss. A school cannot be required to flip for a playoff site that is not large enough to accommodate the fans from both schools. **Exception:** As a pilot study for the 2016 football season in 6A only, for the first round of the playoffs only, ~~the higher seed~~ THE OPPONENT WITH THE HIGHER DISTRICT FINISH will determine whether the game is played on its home field or mutually agree to play the game at a neutral site. IF THE OPPONENTS HAVE THE SAME DISTRICT FINISH, THE TWO TEAMS WILL FLIP A COIN OR AGREE ON A NEUTRAL SITE.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

This proposal will have limited to no additional fiscal impact to schools.

**Legislative Council Consideration: Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**2. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and JoAnn Bludau seconded the motion to provide an exception to the restrictions on travel during the winter holiday period when safety concerns exist related to travel.**

Section 1206 (l) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

According to section 1206 (l) of the Constitution and Contest Rules:

- (l) HOLIDAY RESTRICTION. A school shall not conduct contests or practices, use school facilities, personnel or equipment during five consecutive days of December. Any organized or required practice will be a violation of this regulation. Schools may choose any five consecutive days, which include December 24, 25 and 26, with the following exceptions.
- (1) When December 26 falls on a Thursday schools may participate in a tournament game on December 26.
  - (2) When December 26 falls on a Thursday, schools must still follow a five consecutive day restriction, including December 24 and 25.

- (3) No practice shall be permitted on any of the five consecutive days.
- (4) Travel is not permitted on December 25.
- (5) Travel is permitted on the 26th if a tournament game is scheduled on December 27; however, no practice shall be permitted on the 26th.
- (6) A team that has a game on December 23 could travel home on December 24 and still be in compliance with this section.
- (7) A SCHOOL MAY REQUEST AN EXCEPTION TO THESE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS WHEN SAFETY CONCERNS EXIST RELATIVE TO TRAVEL. THE UIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE, MAY GRANT THE EXCEPTION ONLY WHEN THE SCHOOL HAS CLEARLY PROVIDED EVIDENCE OF THE TRAVEL SAFETY CONCERNS AND DETERMINES THE SCHOOL CANNOT REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO COMPLY WITH THESE RESTRICTIONS.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

This proposal has no fiscal impact to schools, except to the extent that travel costs may be impacted

**Legislative Council Consideration: Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**3. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Kevin Brown seconded the motion to amend Section 1310(g) of the team tennis playoff structure and Section 1208(p) of athletic regulations.**

Section 1310(g) and Section 1208(p) of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules* would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1310: TEAM TENNIS PLAN

(g) CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE.

(1) *District Tournaments.*

(A) *Format.* The District Executive Committee will make arrangements and set format to determine the district representatives.

(B) *Entries.* Each school shall enter the district meet by certifying entries to the district director by the entry deadline set by the District Executive Committee. If a round- robin format is utilized in lieu of a district tournament, the District Executive Committee shall specify entry and team roster regulations prior to the entry deadline.

~~(C) *Area Qualifiers.* The top four teams from each district shall advance to the area tournament. The district meet director shall certify area tournament entries.~~

~~(D) *Regional Qualifiers.* The first and second place team finishers in each area tournament shall advance to the regional tournament. The third place~~

~~school from each area shall be the alternate. Regional tournament entries shall be certified by the area meet director.~~

~~(2) Area Tournaments.~~

~~(A) District winners shall be matched against fourth place finishers from the corresponding district; second place shall be matched against the third place finishers from the corresponding district.~~

~~(B) Results of the final match shall determine area winners, runners up and alternates. EXCEPTION: By mutual consent, teams can exclude the area championship and/or third place matches.~~

~~(C) Regional tournament entries shall be certified by the area meet director.~~

(3) Regional Tournaments.

(A) REGIONAL QUALIFIERS. REGIONAL QUARTERFINAL WINNERS WILL ADVANCE TO A REGIONAL TOURNAMENT. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT ENTRIES SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY REGIONAL QUARTERFINAL WINNERS TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

~~(B) Each regional director shall be authorized to use a seeding procedure.~~

~~(C) Area winners shall be matched against runners up from another area.~~

~~(D) Results of the final match shall determine regional winners, runners up and alternates.~~

(DB) State tournament entries shall be certified by the regional meet director.

(4) State Tournament.

(A) The first place team from each region will advance to the state tournament.

(B) Pairings will be made based on season records.

Section 1208: ATHLETIC REGULATIONS

(p) MID-POINT SITES. Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, TEAM TENNIS and volleyball shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

The fiscal impact to schools is difficult to determine; however, many schools will see a decrease in expenditures for these activities.

**Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**4. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Curtis Rhodes seconded the motion to alter Subchapter C, Sections 1220 – 1240, 1260 – 1290, and 1300 – 1340 related to allowable number of tournaments/meets.**

The listed sections of the Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows, to be effective ~~immediately~~, August 1, 2017, if passed on a referendum ballot and approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1220: BASEBALL PLAN

- (a) ATHLETIC PURPOSE, CODE, PLAN APPLICABLE. Rules in Sections 1200-1209 also apply to the Baseball Plan.
- (b) NUMBER OF GAMES, TOURNAMENTS AND SITES.
  - (1) *Violations/Penalties.* The District Executive Committee shall determine the penalty for violations of the regulations below.
  - (2) Total Number of Games. No team or student shall compete in more than ~~two~~ THREE invitational tournaments plus 17 baseball games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Three games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of three games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1230: BASKETBALL PLAN

- (3) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than THREE ~~two~~ invitational tournaments plus 21 basketball games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games and games played in pre- scheduled district tournaments. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of two games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1240: CROSS COUNTRY PLAN

- (e) MEET LIMITATIONS.
  - (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ meets during the school year, excluding one district meet, the regional meet and the state meet. Each meet a school team enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

Section 1260: GOLF PLAN

- (e) INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS.
  - (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments during the school year, excluding one 36-hole maximum district tournament, the regional tournament and the state tournament. Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Tournaments which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a tournament for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

Section 1270: SOCCER PLAN

- (3) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than THREE ~~two~~ invitational tournaments plus 15 soccer games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games and games played in pre-scheduled district tournaments. If the district champion has a bye for the first round of the play-offs, that school may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Two games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of two games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1280: GIRLS' SOFTBALL PLAN

- (2) *Total Number of Games.* No team or student shall compete in more than ~~two~~ THREE invitational tournaments plus 17 softball games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time, but may not be played as an exception to the school week limitation. Three games may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of three games. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1290: SWIMMING PLAN

(f) NUMBER OF MEETS.

- (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ meets during the school year, excluding one district meet, the regional meet and the state meet. Each meet a school team enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee. Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time.

Section 1300: TENNIS PLAN (INDIVIDUALS AND DOUBLES)

(e) INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Tournaments.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments (total for tennis and team tennis combined) during the school year, excluding one district tennis tournament, the regional tournaments and the state tournament. (Note: The team tennis district tournament counts as one of the EIGHT ~~seven~~ allowable tournaments if school time is lost.) Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

Section 1310: TEAM TENNIS PLAN

(f) NUMBER OF MATCHES AND TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Tournaments.* No student or team representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments (total for tennis and team tennis combined) during the school year, excluding one district tennis tournament, the regional tournaments and the state tournament. Note: The team tennis district tournament counts as one of the EIGHT ~~seven~~ allowable tournaments if school time is lost. Each tournament a school team enters counts as one tournament for the team and one tournament for each participating individual. Students are

considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

Section 1320: TRACK AND FIELD PLAN.

(m) INVITATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD MEETS.

- (1) *Number of Meets.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ meets during the school year, excluding one district meet, the area meet, the regional meet, a regional qualifiers meet and the state meet. Meets which are limited to three or fewer schools, do not count as a meet for participants, provided there is no loss of school time. Each meet a school enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

Section 1330: GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL PLAN.

- (3) *Total Number of Games, Matches, Tournaments.* No team or student shall compete in more than THREE ~~two~~ invitational tournaments plus 23 matches in a season, including all matches prior to the first playoff match. This shall include non-district and district matches. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up match in addition to the match limits. This additional match shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Two matches may be substituted in place of a tournament. ~~A tournament may be substituted in place of two matches. Schools can only utilize this exception to participate in one additional tournament.~~

Section 1340: WRESTLING PLAN.

(d) MEETS AND TOURNAMENTS.

- (1) *Number of Tournaments.* No student representing a member school shall participate in more than EIGHT ~~seven~~ tournaments during the school season excluding one district tournament and the regional and state tournaments. Each tournament the school team enters counts as one meet for each participating individual. Students are considered to be representing their school if they are wearing and/or using school equipment or being directed or transported by a school employee.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

This proposal will have a fiscal impact only on schools who choose to participate in these restored contests. Of those schools that do play additional games, the fiscal impact could vary due to travel and other costs.

**Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective immediately, if approved on a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education.

Chair Pineda asked for discussion. Jeff Adams asked if each of the sports will be placed on the referendum ballot. Susan Elza answered, All classes all sports. Todd Morrison asked if this pertains to each division. Susan Elza responded, yes 1A-6A. Mary Huckabay asked if it needed to be approved by each conferences to pass. Jamey Harrison stated yes, it is all or nothing. Todd Morrison asked why this wouldn't go out to 5A & 6A only. Charles Breithaupt explained that even though 5A & 6A had more votes wanting tournament/meets returned, they were taken from each classification and will be approved or rejected the same way. Cody Moree asked if the match games will be removed. Dr. Breithaupt said they would be removed. Dan Troxell thanked the staff for taking this to a referendum ballot. In 2012 the

tournament/meets were cut due to fiscal impact, he stated this wasn't a unanimous decision to cut at that time. Now it is up to the AD's and coaches to talk with your superintendents letting them know why this is important. Kevin Worthy asked when the ballot would go out. Dr. Harrison stated they historically go out in January but if passed this one would go into effect August 1<sup>st</sup> if approved on the referendum ballot. Dr. Poole noticed the motion had been approved effective immediately. He then made another motion: "The Standing Committee on Athletics moves the Legislative Council pass this amendment, effective August 1, 2017, if approved on a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education". Curtis Rhodes seconded the motion.

**Motion passed.**

**5. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Kevin Worthy seconded the motion to establishes pitch count limitations as ~~required~~ strongly suggested by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) baseball rules.** Proposal edited by Dr. Poole.

The UIL Baseball Manual would be would be amended immediately, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

~~**Pitching Limitation.** A pitcher may pitch one game each day in an unlimited number of innings. If he pitches in more than one game during a day, he will be limited to a total of ten innings each day. It is strongly recommended that a player who has pitched a full game the previous day not be used as a pitcher the following day.~~

HIGH SCHOOL PITCHERS WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 110 PITCHES PER DAY. JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PITCHERS WILL BE LIMITED TO NO MORE THAN 85 PITCHES PER DAY. REQUIRED REST DAYS BETWEEN PARTICIPATION AS A PITCHER ARE AS OUTLINED IN THE CHARTS BELOW.



High School Pitch Count (Grades 9 through 12):

0-30 pitches	0 days rest
31-45 pitches	1 day rest
46-65 pitches	2 days rest
66-85 pitches	3 days rest
86-110 pitches	4 days rest

Junior High Pitch Count (Grades 7 and 8):

0-20 pitches	0 days rest
21- 35 pitches	1 day rest
36 - 50 pitches	2 days rest
51 – 65 pitches	3 days rest
66 - 85 pitches	4 days rest



During regular season, pitch count total is determined after each single game appearance



**ch Count Accountability and Reporting**

Only official game pitches will count. (not warm up pitches)

Rest is defined as not using a pitcher in a contest.

Rest days are counted for the full day regardless of appearance start time. (ex: Varsity Pitcher throws 95 pitches on Friday. Rest days are Sat, Sun, Mon, and Tues. He is eligible to pitch on Wednesday, not Tuesday night.).

A pitcher will be allowed to complete current at-bat even if they hit pitch count max during the at-bat, but must exit game as a pitcher after that hitter regardless of recording an out or number of outs in inning.

There are no restrictions on allowing any game day pitcher (starter or reliever) from resuming play in the field after being removed as a pitcher, regardless of pitch count.

There will be NO change to regulations in post-season play. (i.e.: no increase in pitch count max or leeway in rest days)

**Tournaments or Series:**

In multi game series or tournaments, pitch count can be divided into separate appearances as long as combined total does not exceed appropriate pitch count max. Days of rest will be determined by final pitch count of the series or tournament.

(ex: In post season series, starter goes (X) innings for a total pitch count of (X) (amount not exceeding max count) in first game of 3 game series. That same athlete can be used as short reliever in either of next 2 games of the same series, up to combined total pitch count max (85/110). At conclusion of series, combined total number of pitches will determine days of rest based on chart.)

**Back to Back Games due to postponement:**

In the case of games that are rained out, and rescheduled on consecutive nights, pitch counts will follow the series protocol.

**Double Header:**

In the case of a doubleheader, the second game will not serve as a rest day for pitchers who threw in the first game. However, pitch count max can be split up between both games and total pitches after second appearance will determine rest day period.

\*\*\*If pitcher is used twice in 3-day series, the rest day start period will begin after the second appearance even if there was a day of rest in between.



UIL Pitching Regulations and procedures apply to all levels of play. (Junior High, Freshman, JV, and Varsity)

Each game will need an official pitch counter provided by the home team. The official pitch counter will not be allowed to be in the dugout. Coaches/team representative will meet between innings to verify counts. Pitch counts will be verified at the conclusion of the game with a signature on a verification form.

DEC will establish the means for the record of tracking pitches and the protocol for game reporting for both pre-season and district play. DEC will maintain record of pitch counts and establish procedures accordingly

The home team is responsible for getting the signed form to their District Chair within 48 hours of the end of the contest for filing.

District Chairs are responsible for keeping the Certification and providing access to those numbers when requested.

In post season, official pitch counts MUST be entered in Max Preps after each game. The home team will provide the official pitch counter (the same as in regular season games).

Should any dispute arise, the primary source for final pitch count will be the official scorebook/count of the home team.

Umpires will NOT have any kind of jurisdiction or involvement in pitch count.



Alleged violations of the Pitch Count Rule occurring during the regular season will be handled by the District Executive Committee in accordance with section 29 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

Alleged violations of the Pitch Count Rule occurring during the post season will be handled by the State Executive Committee in accordance with section 27 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

This proposal has no fiscal impact.

**Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective immediately, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Chairman Pineda asked for discussion, Dr. Poole asked if this was an absolute requirement? Dr. Breithaupt explained members of NFHS, need to follow suit in order to continue as members. This rule has been fully vetted. Dr. Poole then adjusted the proposed amendment to state “strongly suggested” as opposed to “required by”.

Chairman Pineda asked what the penalty would be for not following the rule. Dr. Breithaupt stated the penalty would be probation, to suspension, to forfeit. Dr. Breithaupt emphasized our coaches will do the right thing, they have and will continue to follow rules and they take care of our kids.

**Motion passed.**

**6. The Standing Committee on Athletics moved and Shane Fields seconded the motion amending Section 1204, SPORTS OFFICIALS, of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, to account for situations in which there is a dispute related to the assignment, scratching, and/or pay of a sports official.**

Section 1204 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows effective August 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education.

Section 1204: SPORTS OFFICIALS

(V) DISPUTES RELATED TO ASSIGNMENT, SCRATCHES, AND/OR PAY OF SPORTS OFFICIALS. IN SITUATIONS WHERE THERE IS A DISPUTE REGARDING THE ASSIGNMENT, SCRATCHING, AND/OR PAY OF A SPORTS OFFICIAL, A RECOGNIZED CHAPTER OR ASSOCIATION, AND TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE IN RESOLVING THE DISPUTE, AS DETERMINED BY THE UIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (OR DESIGNEE), THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE CHAIR OF THE UIL SPORTS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE, MAY TAKE ANY REASONABLE, NECESSARY ACTION NOT IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE UIL CONSTITUTION AND CONTEST RULES TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION IN THE SHORT TERM AND REFER ANY SUCH MATTER TO THE UIL SPORTS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE FOR ANY FINAL RESOLUTION THAT MAY BE NECESSARY.

IN SITUATIONS WHERE TIME IS NOT OF THE ESSENCE BUT THE SITUATION INVOLVING THE ASSIGNMENT, SCRATCHING, AND/OR PAY OF A SPORTS OFFICIAL, A RECOGNIZED CHAPTER OR ASSOCIATION IS NOT ADDRESSED IN THE UIL CONSTITUTION AND CONTEST RULES, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REFER THE MATTER TO THE UIL SPORTS OFFICIALS COMMITTEE FOR RESOLUTION THROUGH THE COMMITTEE'S HEARING PROCESS.

***D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools***

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

***E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date***

The Standing Committee on Athletics moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective August 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Passed the Following Proposals**

- a. A proposal to alter the language for the 6A football home field pilot program**
- b. A proposal to adjust the language for the holiday restriction to allow for travel**
- c. A proposal to create a bracket playoff structure for team tennis**
- d. A proposal to establish pitch count limitations**
- e. A proposal to adjust language regarding officials dispute resolution**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Passed the Following Proposals to be Placed on a Referendum Ballot**

- a. A proposal to restore the allowable number of tournaments/meets for all sports except football to be placed on referendum ballot**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Authorized the Staff to Study The Following Proposal**

- a. Creating three additional events (discus, 800m, 200m) for the track and field wheelchair pilot program and return with historical information comparative to other states**
- b. Creation of area golf meet**
- c. Awarding points for adaptive track and field events**
- d. Creating an ambulatory event pilot program for track and field**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Referred the Following to the Football Rules Committee**

- a. Allow the use of electronic devices on the sidelines and in the press box**
- b. Allow class 1A six-man football to use composite footballs during regulation play in addition to leather footballs**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Referred the Following to the Sports Officials Committee**

- a. Officials travel and mileage reimbursement in Section 1204**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposal with a Survey**

**a. Officials travel and mileage reimbursement in Section 1204**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS  
Denied, Rejected, or Took No Action on the Following Proposals**

**a. Allowing for a double-elimination tournament for 5A and 6A baseball in the first and second round of the playoffs**

**b. Allowing for a double-elimination format for the 6A baseball state tournament**

**c. Allowance for a Unified Team participation and inclusion to the track and field state meet**

**d. Allow the top two representatives to host a first round playoff game in all football conferences**

**e. One game exception to the season limit for teams with a bye in the first round of the playoffs**

**f. Require area track and field meets**

**g. Allow 6<sup>th</sup> graders to compete in cross country and track and field**

**h. Allow coaches in Title I schools to coach their students in UIL activities during the summer and /or offseason**

Chairman Pineda asked if any member of the Council wished to present any other athletic proposals. Cody Moree encouraged each committee member to look at the difference between the leather football and a composite football. He stated there isn't that much of difference except for the cost of the football. Chairman Pineda thanked Greg Poole and the other members of the Athletic Committee for the report. Chairman Pineda called for a 10-minute recess. Chairman Pineda recalled the committee at 10:35.

**(D) Report of the  
Standing Committee on Policy**

Chairman Pineda recognized Shannon Holmes, Chair of the Policy Committee. Dr. Holmes recognized and thanked the members of the Standing Committee on Policy and thanked the council for their leadership. He introduced Dr. Jamey Harrison, UIL Deputy Director, who thanked the Legislative Council on the well run and smooth committee meetings. He stated we are very proud of the relationships UIL has with other organizations and were especially proud of the esteemed superintendents we have on this current council. The UIL is in ongoing discussion on telling our story, PSA's are currently being created. Dr. Harrison thanked his staff for their support.

Dr. Holmes presented the report of the Standing Committee on Policy. It was received by the Council, which took the following actions.

**1. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Walter Jackson seconded the motion to alter the Reclassification and Realignment Policies for the 2018-2020 alignment.**

UIL Reclassification and Realignment Policies would be amended as follows for the 2018-2020 alignment, with the exception of the deletion of 16(A), which shall be effective March 1, 2017, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Conference and District Assignment Policies and Procedures

## ~~2016-17~~ 2018-19 and ~~2017-2018~~ 2019-20 Realignment

1. The League office shall obtain enrollment data on participant schools (grades 9-12).
2. The League office shall verify the enrollment figures submitted by the schools.
3. Conference AAAAAA should consist of a minimum of 220 schools and a maximum of ~~245~~ 250 schools participating in football; Conferences AA through AAAAAA should consist of a number of schools such that the enrollment ratio in grades 9-12 between the largest school and the smallest school is approximately 2.0. There should be at least 200 schools each in Conferences AA and AAAAAA. Conference A shall consist of all schools that are not in Conferences AA-AAAAAA.
4. Schools with an enrollment of 104.9 or lower may choose to participate in Conference A football (six-man football) or may opt to play in Conference AA football (eleven-man football) but remain in Conference A for other applicable activities (see #6 below). Schools desiring to participate in Conference A FOOTBALL may submit enrollment figures by any one of the following combinations of grades: grades 9, 10, 11 and 12; grades 8, 9, 10 and 11; grades 7, 8, 9 and 10; or grades 9 and 10 doubled.
5. Any school may request to be elevated one conference, provided notification is submitted to the League office simultaneously with enrollment figures.
6. Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA schools will be further divided by enrollment figures for football (see (e) below). Then map pins are used to represent all schools in a conference and both divisions of Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football. Schools are placed into districts keeping the following criteria in mind:
  - a. Group geographically contiguous schools in groups of no more than ten, ~~and place in districts with an even number of schools, except when that action causes an extreme travel hardship~~ UNLESS APPROVED ON APPEAL TO THE DISTRICT ASSIGNMENT APPEALS COMMITTEE. Schools in a district in urban areas may not always be contiguous.
  - b. Except in ACADEMICS, WRESTLING, AND Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football, there are 32 districts to facilitate the playoff procedures (except in activities that do not have enough schools).
  - c. Multiple-high school districts with more than one school in the same conference will have those schools assigned as follows.
    - (1) Multiple High School Districts with 11 or More Schools in the Same Conference: A multiple high school district with 11 or more schools in the same conference shall have its schools assigned to two or more UIL districts, UNLESS REQUESTED **OTHERWISE** BY THE ISD SUPERINTENDENT AND APPROVED BY THE UIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. Any UIL district resulting from this division with seven or fewer schools from the same ISD in it may have additional schools assigned to the UIL district by the League office.
    - (2) Multiple High School Districts with Seven or Fewer Schools in the Same Conference: A multiple high school district with seven or fewer schools in the same conference shall have its schools assigned to the same UIL district. Other schools may also be assigned to this UIL district by the League office.
    - (3) Multiple High School Districts with Schools in Different Conferences: A multiple high school district may opt to have one or more of its schools elevated one conference if it wants its schools to be assigned to the same UIL district.
    - (4) Multiple High School Districts with schools in more than one conference, one of which is a magnet NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE school. (SEE EXAMPLES OF THESE SCHOOLS BELOW). A multiple high school district with schools in more than one conference, one of which is a magnet NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE school, shall have the magnet NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE school placed in the same conference as the high school in that school district with the largest enrollment. ~~A magnet school is defined as a high school within a multiple high school district where all students~~

~~participate in the magnet curriculum.~~ EXAMPLES OF NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS: DROP OUT PREVENTION AND DROP-OUT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, CREDIT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, SCHOOLS OF CHOICE, ISD CHARTER SCHOOLS, HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (GED) PROGRAMS, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAMPUSES, EARLY COLLEGE CAMPUSES, T-STEM CAMPUSES, MEN'S/WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES ETC.

- (5) EXCEPTION: Exceptions to the above may be made when agreed upon by all participating schools and approved by the District Assignment ~~Review~~ APPEALS Committee.
- ~~d. If a school district with only one high school opens a second high school with the same attendance boundaries as its primary high school, the enrollment of both schools will be combined to determine conference placement for the primary school.~~
- D. Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA Football: Conference A, AA, AAA and AAAA football schools will be divided into large schools (Division 1) and small schools (Division 2), through the state championship event, with 16 districts in each division.
- E. There will be six (6) Conferences in the following activities: Cross Country, Football, Basketball and Spring Meet (Academics [including One-Act Play], Golf, Tennis and Track and Field). There will be five (5) Conferences in the following activities: Music, Volleyball, Baseball and Softball. There will be three (3) Conferences in the following activities: Team Tennis and Soccer. There will be two (2) Conferences in the following activities: Swimming/Diving and Wrestling.
7. There shall be no attempt made to perpetuate or avoid "old rivalries." Socioeconomic and ethnicity factors are not considered.
  8. A school may be placed in different districts for different activities to alleviate extreme travel situations.
  9. If there is a clerical error in assignment or if a school has been omitted, the staff is authorized to correct the error or omission. Schools in both districts will be notified of the correction.
  10. A school may change districts with the unanimous consent of all schools in both districts. This is the first level of appeal.
  11. If the first level of appeal is denied, schools may appeal their district assignment to the District Assignment Appeals Committee. All schools will be notified of the deadline for this appeal.
  12. A school may be disqualified from district honors for up to two years in that sport for contracting games prior to finalizing the reclassification and realignment by all UIL appeal committees. Athletic schedules will not be considered official until approved by the superintendent of the member school district.
  13. Schools may play their first football game the last Thursday in August. Beginning practice dates will remain the same for all conferences. Schools will be limited to no more than ten regular season games.
  14. Schools shall be assigned to football districts only in even-numbered years.
  15. A new school may be assigned on a non-honors basis in football for one two-year assignment period BASED ON THEIR ENROLLMENT.
  16. Charter Schools.
    - ~~a. Charter schools will be assigned to districts in team sports only prior to even-numbered years.~~
    - a. Charter schools may be reassigned to a higher conference if actual enrollment is larger than enrollment projections.

- b. Charter schools shall not be assigned to a football district unless they have provided evidence to the UIL staff that they have participated previously.
  - c. Unless its enrollment qualifies it for a higher conference, a charter school shall have its classification determined by placing it in the conference of the lowest enrolled school from the ISD in which the charter school is physically located.
    - 1. This rule is applicable to charter schools located within an ISD consisting of three (3) or more high schools.
    - 2. Any charter school that is elevated in conference under this rule will receive an automatic appeal to UIL staff regarding their conference assignment. Additionally, any charter school who chooses may appeal the decision of UIL staff to the District Assignment Appeals Committee.
17. Schools gaining or losing students by consolidation, **WHERE TWO (2) OR MORE SCHOOLS ARE COMBINED**, may have their conference and district assignments changed during the two-year alignment period.
  18. Schools will not be changed because of loss or gain within a district during growth or decline in membership after enrollment figures are certified.
  19. Schools may be in different regions in different activities.
  20. District numbering begins in the north or west and culminates in the southern part of the state.
  21. Schools which are assigned to an athletic district and fail to participate may be suspended by the State Executive Committee in the germane activity, see section 27 of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

#### FORMULAS

A participant school shall be classified for assignment to a conference on the basis of enrollment on a date from the previous October. The formulas used to determine enrollment shall be:

1. Schools with four high school grades (9-12) or three high school grades (10-12) which will receive incoming tenth graders from specific, identifiable schools:  

$$\text{Enrollment} = \text{Grades } 9 + 10 + 11 + 12$$
2. Schools with only grades 10-12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the ninth graders will attend as tenth graders:  

$$\text{Enrollment} = \text{Grades } (10 + 11 + 12) \times 1.33$$
3. Schools with only grades 11-12 when it cannot easily be determined which schools the tenth graders will attend as eleventh graders:  

$$\text{Enrollment} = \text{Grades } (11 + 12) \times 2$$
4. New schools:  
 Schools opening or entering competition in the first year of an alignment period will have their conference placement determined by the following procedure:
  - a. Opening or entering with 1 grade: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 2
  - b. Opening or entering with 2 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 1.33
  - c. Opening or entering with 3 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual) multiplied by 1.33
  - d. Opening or entering with 4 grades: Enrollment (projected or actual)



Schools opening or entering competition in the second year of an alignment period will have their conference placement determined (for varsity activities in which they participate) by the enrollment (projected or actual, with no multiplier applied) with which they open.

Existing schools affected by the opening of a new school (which will open or did open in the first or second year of an alignment) will have their conference placement determined ~~by taking the current~~ BASED ON THEIR PROJECTED enrollment ~~in grades 9-11 + projected number of 8<sup>th</sup> graders entering that high school the following school year~~ FOR THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR.

5. **COUNTING STUDENTS IN 'ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS'.** ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS ~~COULD~~ INCLUDE (BUT MAY NOT BE LIMITED TO): DISCIPLINE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS, JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS, JUVENILE DETENTION CENTERS, COUNTY JAILS, DROP OUT PREVENTION AND DROP-OUT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, CREDIT RECOVERY SCHOOLS, SCHOOLS OF CHOICE, ISD CHARTERS, HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (GED) PROGRAMS, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CAMPUSES, EARLY COLLEGE CAMPUSES, T-STEM CAMPUSES, MEN'S/WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACADEMIES, OR OTHER ISD SCHOOLS THAT DO NOT HAVE DEFINED ATTENDANCE ZONES FROM WHICH THEY DRAW THEIR STUDENTS, ~~ETC.~~

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS WHERE THE STUDENTS REMAIN ENROLLED IN THEIR ORIGINAL SCHOOL AND ARE COUNTED IN THE ENROLLMENT OF THAT SCHOOL SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED MORE THAN ONCE.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS THAT ARE PARTICIPATING MEMBER SCHOOLS IN UIL WILL HAVE ALL OF THEIR STUDENTS COUNTED TOWARD THE ENROLLMENT AT THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL.

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT PARTICIPATING MEMBER SCHOOLS IN UIL ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT STUDENTS TOWARD THE ENROLLMENT FIGURES OF THE 'TRADITIONAL' SCHOOL EACH STUDENT WOULD HAVE ATTENDED BASED ON THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARENTS OF SAID STUDENT OR TO THE SCHOOL THE STUDENT WOULD ATTEND BY ISD POLICY IF THEY WERE NOT ENROLLED IN THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL.

MEMBER SCHOOLS THAT ALLOW STUDENTS ATTENDING NON-DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS TO PARTICIPATE IN UIL ACTIVITIES AT THEIR SCHOOL MUST COUNT ANY SUCH STUDENT TOWARD THEIR ENROLLMENT FIGURES.

#### **Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

#### **Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective for the 2018-2020 alignment, with the exception of the deletion of 16(A) above, which shall be effective March 1, 2017, if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

Chairman Pineda asked for discussion. Dr. Harrison explained there are two areas of this proposal the staff is concerned with, 6 (d) which has been stricken and the last paragraph of #5 under formulas. We are asking you to pass this proposal as printed, the staff will work on these two sections and bring them back in June. Dr. Breithaupt asked the council to trust the staff, we know we have to get this right. We will continue to look at this and bring these two portions back to you in June.

**Motion passed.**

**2. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Aaron Hood seconded the motion to extend the current exception for graduating seniors in baseball and softball to continue to participate after the end of the school year to additional activities.**

Sections 405, 1220 (f) and 1280 (g) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules would be amended as follows immediately, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 405: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

- (a) COMPLETION OF HIGH SCHOOL. A person is considered a high school graduate if that person received a diploma or other certificate signifying successful completion of high school from a high school or other institution of equal or higher rank, participated as a graduate in the graduation exercises of a high school, or complied with the requirements for graduation during a four-year program, whether or not the student participated in the graduation exercises. However, a student who has accumulated enough credits to satisfy graduation requirements prior to the end of four years, but remains in school as a full time student, is not considered a high school graduate under this rule.
- (b) GED TESTING PROGRAM. A student who receives an equivalency credential based on the General Education Development Testing Program is not considered a high school graduate, if that student remains in or returns to high school, and has not otherwise met the requirements for high school graduation.
- (C) THIS SECTION SHALL NOT DISQUALIFY A CONTESTANT WHO IS ELIGIBLE IN ALL OTHER RESPECTS AT THE TIME OF SPRING GRADUATION. THIS EXCEPTION REFERS ONLY TO CONTESTANTS WHOSE UIL COMPETITION EXTENDS INTO THE SUMMER FROM THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

Section 1220: BASEBALL PLAN

- ~~(f) GRADUATING SENIORS. Sections 400 (a) and 405 of the Constitution shall not disqualify a contestant during the baseball season, who is eligible in all other respects at the time of spring graduation. This exception refers only to contestants whose playoff competition extends into the summer from the end of school.~~

Section 1280: GIRLS' SOFTBALL PLAN

- ~~(g) GRADUATING SENIORS. Sections 400 (a) and 405 of the Constitution shall not disqualify a contestant during the softball season who is eligible in all other respects at the time of spring graduation. This exception refers only to contestants whose playoff competition extends into the summer from the end of school.~~

***D. Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools***

There would be no fiscal impact to member schools as a result of this proposal.

***E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date***

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective immediately if approved by the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**3. The Standing Committee on Policy moved and Kevin Worthy seconded the motion to create a split conference alignment for 5A football, similar to what is currently utilized in 1A-4A football.**

UIL Reclassification and Realignment Policies would be amended as follows effective for the 2018-2020 alignment, pending approval by a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education:

Conference and District Assignment Policies and Procedures

6. Conference A, AA, AAA, ~~and~~ AAAA **AND AAAAA** schools will be further divided by enrollment figures for football (see (e) below). Then map pins are used to represent all schools in a conference and both divisions of Conference A, AA, AAA, ~~and~~ AAAA **AND AAAAA** football. Schools are placed into districts keeping the following criteria in mind:
  - b. Except in Conference A, AA, AAA, ~~and~~ AAAA **AND AAAAA** football, there are 32 districts to facilitate the playoff procedures (except in activities that do not have enough schools).
  - e. Conference A, AA, AAA, ~~and~~ AAAA **AND AAAAA** Football: Conference A, AA, AAA, ~~and~~ AAAA **AND AAAAA** football schools will be divided into large schools (Division 1) and small schools (Division 2), through the state championship event, with 16 districts in each division.

**Potential Fiscal Impact of the Proposed Rule to Member Schools**

This recommendation would not have a fiscal impact on member schools.

**Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date**

The Standing Committee on Policy moves that the Legislative Council pass this amendment, to be effective for the 2018-2020 alignment, if approved on a referendum ballot of member school superintendents and the Commissioner of Education.

**Motion passed.**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY  
Passed the Following Proposals**

- a. **A proposal to amend the Reclassification and Realignment Policies for the 2018-2020 alignment.**
- b. **A proposal to extend the current exception for graduating seniors in baseball and softball to continue to participate after the end of the school year to additional activities.**

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY  
Passed the Following Proposals to be Placed on a Referendum Ballot**

- a. A proposal to create a split conference alignment for 5A football.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY**  
**Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposal with a Survey**

- a. A proposal to add Gymnastics as a UIL sanctioned sport.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY**  
**Authorized the Staff to Continue to Monitor the Following Proposals**

- a. A proposal to add Water Polo as a UIL sanctioned sport for 5A and 6A.

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY**  
**Tabled, Rejected or Took No Action on the Following Proposals**

- a. A proposal to add Lacrosse as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- b. A proposal to allow 2A schools to participate in soccer.
- c. A proposal to create a Super 6A Classification for schools with an enrollment of 3,500 students and above.
- d. A proposal to provide medals for all cross country team members, manager, and coaches at Regional and State cross country meets.
- e. A proposal to provide medals and recognition for the 4<sup>th</sup> place team and individual qualifiers at Regional cross country meets.
- f. A proposal to allow in-district home school students to participate in UIL activities.
- g. A proposal to allow homeschoolers to participate in athletics.
- h. A proposal to allow home school students to participate in band activities.
- i. A proposal to add Table Tennis as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- j. A proposal to add Boxing as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- k. A proposal to add Bass Fishing as a UIL sanctioned sport.
- l. A proposal to add Cooking as a UIL sanctioned activity.

**I. Election of Officers for 2016-17**

Dr. Dan Troxell nominated the following slate of officers for 2016-17: Jim Waller as Chairperson, Shannon Holmes as First Vice Chair and Thomas Randle as Second Vice Chair.

Mark Henry seconded the motion.

**Motion passed.**

**J. Announcements**

Chairman Pineda turned the floor over to Dr. Breithaupt. Dr. Breithaupt stated it is his honor to present this award. He first met Johnny Pineda in 1995 when Johnny was Assistant Superintendent in Brownsville. At that time Brownsville had many issues and Johnny Pineda helped them get on track.

Superintendent Pineda has worked on many projects and served on many committees in his career. His openness and willingness to work with UIL on getting vacancies and retirements filled this past year has been greatly appreciated. Thank you for your diligence, your availability and willingness in doing a phenomenal job as chair. This year we gave out 2,200 trophies and 53,000 medals but the award we are about to give out is as significant as all those student awards. Dr. Mark Henry presented Johnny Pineda, as chair of the council, with an award and thanked him for his service.

Chairman Pineda thanked Dr. Breithaupt and stated it has been a tremendous honor to be on this council and serve as chair this past year. He thanked the UIL and Legislative Council for instilling, inspiring and impacting students in Texas. As he graduated high school in 1976 never did he imagine as a young boy, born to one parent who has their GED and one parent who has a high school education, in the poorest area of Brownsville, would ever rise to the superintendence level but to have the opportunity to chair the UIL is a fantastic accomplishment. It will go down as one of the greatest accomplishments he has ever had. He thanked Dr. Breithaupt, Dr. Harrison and Dr. Poole for nominating him as chair. With this leadership the students of Texas are off to great adventures in the future. No matter what tasks or challenges the UIL will face, they will overcome because of the leadership and staff..

### **K. Adjournment**

The meeting recessed at 11:10 AM.

