

AGENDA
The University Interscholastic League
Legislative Council Meeting
October 19, 2020

The 80th annual meeting of the Legislative Council of the University Interscholastic League will meet on Sunday and Monday, October 18 & 19, 2020 via teleconference beginning at the time indicated below, according to the following agenda, unless otherwise announced by the Chair of the Legislative Council.

In accordance with the waiver to certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act issued by Governor Greg Abbott on March 16, 2020, and in the interest of avoiding large gatherings and promoting social distancing during this pandemic, one or more members may participate by teleconference or videoconference.

Please note that there is no physical location for this meeting in order to ensure safe social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is only accessible via live stream at <https://www.uil texas.org/policy/legislative-council>

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBLE
9:00 am	Business Meeting (continued G-K)	Curtis Rhodes, Chair
	G. Old Business	
	H. New Business	
	1. UIL Director's report and other area reports	
	(a) Academics	David Stevens
	Academic Committee	Keith Bryant, Chair
	(b) Music	Brad Kent
	Music Committee	Kevin Worthy, Chair
	(c) Athletics	Susan Elza
	Athletics Committee	Greg Poole
	(d) Policy	Jamey Harrison
	Policy Committee	Aaron Hood, Chair
	I. Election of Officers for October 2020 to October 2021	
	J. Announcements	
	K. Adjournment	

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MAY GO INTO CLOSED (EXECUTIVE) SESSION ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA WHERE AUTHORIZED BY THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 551.

1. Pursuant to Government Code, Section 551.071, Members of the UIL Legislative Council may consult with their attorney concerning pending or contemplated litigation, and all matters identified in the agenda where the Committee members seek the advice of their attorney as privileged communications under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas.
2. Action, if any, in Open Session on items discussed in closed (executive) session.

Meetings of the UIL Legislative Council are open to the public except for any closed (executive) session held in compliance with Texas Open Meetings Act. Persons interested in a UIL Legislative Council meetings and desiring communication with the Committee or any special accommodations should contact the UIL Office at least two working days prior to the meeting. The UIL Office is open Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The UIL Office may be contacted by phone (512) 471-5883; fax (512) 471-5908; email info@uiltexas.org. The UIL's physical address is 1701 Manor Road, Austin, Texas 78722.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This amendment to Section 902, *General Regulations*, would award academic sweepstakes points at the state meet to the school of the individual in each conference that finishes as the Outstanding Presiding Officer in Congress.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

Currently, no points are awarded for the outstanding presiding officer award that is presented in each conference at the Congress State Meet. This would align Congress with other academic contests that recognize a top performer or scorer.

C. Proposed Amendment

Section 902(k) of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules* would be amended as follows, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 902: GENERAL REGULATIONS

(k) POINTS

(3) Schedule of Points. Points shall be awarded on the following basis:

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
ACADEMIC CONTEST POINTS						
SPEECH						
Congress*	15	12	10	8	6	4
TOP PRESIDING OFFICER*	10					

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

This proposed amendment should have minimal fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment will be effective August 1, 2021.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposal

This amendment to Section 1466, *Science I and II*, would change the event structure of A+ Science from the current Science I and Science II contest for grades 7 and 8 to a combined A+ Science contest that would be open to students in grades 6-8.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

Currently, students in grades 7 take the Science I test and grade 8 the Science II test. Moving to one A+ Science event would align the structure with the A+ Calculator Applications and A+ Mathematics contests, correlate the test more closely to the high school Science contest, and would remove barriers to participation that exist with the current Science I and II format.

C. Proposal

Section 1466 of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules* would be amended as follows, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1466: SCIENCE I and II

(a) THE CONTEST.

(2) Contest Format. Each test will consist of approximately 35-50 objective questions that will be taken primarily from current state-adopted science textbooks and the curriculum. Forty-five minutes will be allotted for the testing period exclusive of time required for instructions.

(b) REPRESENTATION.

(1) Contestants. Students in officially prescribed grade levels below 9th grade who are eligible under Section 1400 or 1405 may enter each division of this contest only one time.

(2) Divisions. Districts shall offer either a separate division for each participating grade level OR COMBINED GRADE LEVEL DIVISIONS AS SPECIFIED IN OFFICIAL CONTEST PROCEDURES.

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

This proposed amendment should have minimal fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment shall be effective August 1, 2021.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Referred this proposal to entire Council

- a. A proposal to combine A+ Science I and II tests for grades 6-8
- b. A proposal to add points for Top Presiding Officer in State Congress

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposals with survey

- a. Proposals to re-evaluate the Computer Applications Contest

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposals without survey

- a. A proposal for academic events with a team component to enter a total of up to six contestants at the district level, and advance the top four scorers as the team
- b. A proposal to expand the number of divisions from 2 divisions to 3 in the film contest

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ACADEMICS
Authorized the Staff to Monitor the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to create a new division of speech and debate called "Negotiation"
- b. A proposal to add a new STEM event, SPACE TEAMS

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

This amendment to the manual referenced in Section 1115, *State Mariachi Festival*, would increase the number of judges for all mariachis at the region contest from one to three, send all mariachis to one of five regional sites, and allow only traditional mariachis to advance to state.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

In 2020 there were one hundred and eight experimental and traditional mariachis in all conferences in the state that were assigned to eighteen different regional sites and evaluated by only one judge at each site. These groups are unevenly located across the state, creating a scenario of as many as twenty-four at one site and as few as one at other sites. Assigning every mariachi to one of five regional sites in the state, having every group evaluated by a panel of three judges, and advancing only traditional mariachis receiving a division 1 rating to state will more evenly distribute the schools to contest locations, improve the overall educational and competitive experience for all schools, and increase the quality of the state festival.

C. Proposed Recommendation

The State Mariachi Festival Manual, referenced in Section 1115 of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules* would be amended as follows, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1115: STATE MARIACHI FESTIVAL

- (a) CONTEST SCHEDULE. The State Mariachi Festival will be held annually. All rules and procedures regarding the event shall be followed, as defined in the State Mariachi Festival Manual.

From the State Mariachi Festival Manual:

ELIGIBILITY. Any high school may enter one TRADITIONAL mariachi group ~~=traditional or experimental=~~ in the State Mariachi Festival, provided that the group earns a Division 1 rating FROM A PANEL OF THREE ADJUDICATORS at the current year's ASSIGNED region medium ensemble contest.

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

This proposed amendment should have minimal fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment shall be effective August 1, 2021.

**Proposed Amendment to the
University Interscholastic League Constitution and Contest Rules**

A. Brief Explanation of Proposed Recommendation

Similar to what is in rule for the other five conferences, this amendment to Section 1105, *Region Marching Band Contest*, would add a ranking process to the ratings process that is already in rule for 1A marching bands to advance to the state contest.

B. Factual and Policy Justifications

Unlike the other five conferences, current rule advances any 1A varsity marching band receiving a division 1 rating at the region contest directly to the state contest. The other five conferences have ranked contests to determine the bands that will advance to state. Designed to account for the small number of 1A bands in the state compared to the other conferences, the current 1A advancement structure began in the fall of 2015 after UIL expanded to six conferences. Under current rule, the number of 1A bands at the state contest has grown almost fifty percent in four years from thirteen bands in 2015 to nineteen bands in 2019. And, the nineteen bands at the 2019 1A state contest comprised almost fifty percent of the forty-one total 1A bands in the state. In contrast, the seventeen 2A bands at their last state contest were selected from one hundred thirty-eight 2A bands in the state.

C. Proposed Recommendation

Section 1105(k) of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules* would be amended as follows, pending approval by the Commissioner of Education:

Section 1105: REGION MARCHING BAND CONTEST

(k) REGION CERTIFICATION TO STATE.

(1) *Advancement.* Conference 1A bands will advance to state in odd numbered years.

(2) *Certification for Advancement.* ON ELIGIBLE YEARS 1A REGION CONTESTS MAY NOT BE ZONED AND EACH MUSIC REGION SHALL CERTIFY BANDS UNDER THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

(A) SHOULD THREE OR FEWER 1A VARSITY BANDS IN A REGION RECEIVE A DIVISION 1 RATING, any conference 1A varsity band that has followed the procedures established by the Region Executive Committee to indicate to the Region Executive Secretary the intent to advance to state and that receives a Division 1 rating at the region contest shall be certified for advancement to the state contest.

(B) SHOULD FOUR OR MORE 1A VARSITY BANDS IN A REGION RECEIVE A DIVISION 1 RATING, ALL 1A VARSITY BANDS IN THE REGION RECEIVING A DIVISION 1 RATING SHALL BE RANKED USING THE PROCEDURES OUTLINED ON THE UIL WEBSITE AND THE THREE 1A VARSITY BANDS RECEIVING THE HIGHEST RANKING SHALL BE CERTIFIED FOR ADVANCEMENT TO THE STATE CONTEST. IN ADDITION, ONE BAND FOR EACH TWO BANDS RECEIVING A DIVISION 1 RATING RANKED BELOW THIRD PLACE SHALL BE CERTIFIED FOR ADVANCEMENT TO THE STATE CONTEST.

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

This proposed amendment should have no fiscal impact on member schools.

E. Legislative Council Consideration; Effective Date

If approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, this amendment shall be effective August 1, 2021.

1A Band Region Contest Ranking Process - as referenced in this rule proposal and to be placed on the website

- (1) In contests with three or fewer bands receiving an overall division one rating, each band receiving an overall division one rating shall be certified to advance to the state contest. For other scenarios, proceed to (2).
- (2) In contests with four or more bands receiving an overall division one rating any band receiving ratings of 1-1-1 shall be ranked first, followed by any band receiving ratings of 1-1-2, 1-1-3, 1-1-4, and 1-1-5 – in that order. Should ratings ties need to be broken to determine advancement, proceed to (3).
- (3) At the end of the contest each judge shall rank all bands receiving ratings of 1-1-1 by using the numbers 1, 2, 3, etc. and adding the rankings of all three judges for each band. The band with the lowest sum total shall be ranked first within this group. The band with the second lowest sum total shall be ranked second within this group, etc. Exception: Any band receiving two first place rankings within a group will be ranked first within that group. Second place within this group shall then be determined according to next lowest sum total. If necessary to determine advancement, each judge shall then use the same process to rank all bands receiving ratings of 1-1-2 and those bands will then be ranked behind the bands receiving ratings of 1-1-1. Should more ratings ties need to be broken to determine advancement, each judge shall then rank all bands receiving ratings of 1-1-3 and those bands will be ranked behind the bands receiving ratings of 1-1-2. If necessary, this process continues with bands receiving ratings of 1-1-4 and 1-1-5.
- (4) Ranking sum total ties shall be broken by judges' preference. For example, if Band A has rankings of 1, 3, 4 (Sum total of 8) and Band B has rankings of 4, 1, 3 (Sum Total of 8) Band B would rank ahead of Band A due to judge 2 and 3 having that band ranked higher out of the two. Should more than two bands tie for a place that determines advancement, the procedures found at the following link shall be followed:
<http://www.uiltexas.org/music/marching-band/marching-band-scoring-and-advancement-procedure>

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC
Moves the Legislative Council
Allow UIL to delay the following pilot to a future year

- a. A pilot to amend the rules for the sight-reading explanation period
- b. A pilot for a State Chamber Music Contest

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC
Passed the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to add a ranking process to 1A state marching band advancement
- b. A proposal for mariachi events to add judges, consolidate regions, and allow only groups competing in the traditional category to advance to state

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC
Authorized UIL Staff to consider the following proposals under the COVID Resolution

- a. A proposal due to COVID-19 to change the formula used to determine how many bands advance to the state marching band contest for the current school year
- b. A proposal due to COVID-19 to adjust the minimum requirements for concert and sight-reading evaluation for the current school year

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC
Authorized UIL Staff to consider the following proposal under the COVID Resolution after surveying the 2A, 4A, 6A superintendents

- a. A proposal due to COVID-19 to hold the state marching band contest for all conferences in the 21-22 school year

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MUSIC
Authorized the Staff to Monitor the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to change how *prescribed music list* committee members and sight-reading committee members are determined
- b. A proposal to create an ad-hoc committee to address diversity, inclusion, and equity on the choir *prescribed music list*
- c. A proposal to eliminate the requirement for 5A and 6A schools to enter a varsity mixed choir in concert and sight-reading evaluation
- d. A proposal to reduce the required sight-reading level for sub non-varsity bands

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Moves the Legislative Council
Allow UIL to delay the following pilot for one year

- a. A proposal to add water polo as a sanctioned activity

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Authorized the Staff to Study the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to add a two-week period before the regular baseball season for pitchers and catchers to work on fundamentals

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Authorized the Staff to Survey the Following Proposals

- a. A proposal to allow schools to flexibility to schools to interchange when the sixty-minute skills training and sixty-minute strength and conditioning are scheduled
- b. A proposal to give an additional 60 minutes of strength and conditioning period outside of the school day

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

- a. A proposal to create a separate 1A conference in volleyball, softball and baseball
- b. A proposal to consider a \$5 increase for officials for the 2021-22 school year or to create a long-term plan
- c. A proposal to adjust the junior high athletic start time

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS
Passed the Following Proposals in Concept

- a. A proposal to amend Section 1204(m) to adjust the portal-to-portal travel reimbursement and remove the last mileage range

**RESOLUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CONCERNING OPERATIONS DURING THE
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY CAUSED BY COVID-19**

Whereas, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak and spread of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern, and on March 11, 2020 publicly characterized the spread of COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

Whereas, on January 31, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency in the United States, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the outbreak and spread of COVID-19 in the United States a national emergency; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas due to the eminent threat posed by COVID-19; and

Whereas, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued an executive order closing all public schools in Texas from midnight Friday, March 20 through 11:59pm Friday, April 3, 2020; and

Whereas, on March 31, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued an executive order for all schools to remain temporarily closed to in-person classroom attendance, not commencing before May 4, 2020; and

Whereas, on April 17, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued an executive order for all schools to remain closed to in-person classroom attendance for the remainder of 2019-2020 academic school year; and

Whereas, the disruption to the normal operations of the University Interscholastic League (UIL) is unprecedented and may continue for an extended time; and

Whereas, the Legislative Council believes the public purposes described in this resolution are fulfilled by making certain delegations to the Executive Director and his designees, as described more fully herein, to effectively and efficiently address the ever-changing nature of this complete disruption of normal operations of UIL in the best interests of students and the communities at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UIL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

1. All the above paragraphs are incorporated into and made a part of this resolution; and
2. The Legislative Council finds that a public purpose is served and a benefit to UIL and its member schools exists to make the following delegations to the Executive Director and his designee(s):

- a. The authority to make decisions regarding resuming UIL activities;
 - b. The authority to alter and/or waive rules in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules necessitated by any disruption of normal business operations related to COVID-19, orders of the state or federal government, or related COVID-19 concerns;
3. The Executive Director and/or designee(s) will provide timely and reasonable information to the Legislative Council with regard to decisions made pursuant to this Resolution;
4. This Resolution will remain in effect until rescinded by Legislative Council action at a duly called meeting, or until August 1, 2021;
5. The above Resolution is passed and adopted the 19th day of October, 2020, by the UIL Legislative Council.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON POLICY
Passed the Following Proposal

- a. Resolution to temporarily expand the authority of UIL Executive Director due to COVID-19

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

- a. A proposal to add eSports as a UIL sanctioned activity

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

- a. A proposal to amend the full-time day student rule
- b. A proposal to lift “no pass no play” due to the pandemic
- c. A proposal to add Space Teams as a UIL sanctioned activity
- d. A proposal to amend the requirements for the over-age waiver