

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, August 20, 2018 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Gribbin and Wallace; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Cobain, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Michael Lunney, Assistant Executive Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Mmes: Keegan and Ponte Messrs: Solomon and Warner

The August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:45 p.m.

WELCOME NEW PCOA MEMBER

The Committee welcomed new PCOA member Shani Wallace, Principal of East Providence High School.

PCOA RESIGNATION

The Committee received a letter of resignation from Mr. Carnell Henderson, as a member of the Committee and Sport Co-Director of Football. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously accepted (12-0), with regret, Mr. Henderson's resignation.

PCOA MINUTES JUNE 18, 2018

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the June 18, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved (12-0).

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: PCOA vacancy; RIIL rules revisions; Requests from member schools and Rule violations.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Kelly, chairman of the Finance Committee reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on August 20, 2018 and submitted its report regarding the 2018-2019 RIIL budget. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee on Athletics unanimously approved (10-0) the RIIL budget for the 2018-2019 school year.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- "E" Sports – Play VS – Orientation on September 6, 2018 at the RIIL Office, – Season begins in October
- 2018-2019 PCOA Meeting Dates Revised – November 5th & January 14th
- Rule Revisions under discussion:
 - Coaching out of season
 - Foreign Exchange Students (J1 Visa/F1 Visa)
- NFHS Section I Meeting in RI in October 3-5, 2018 will be held at the Atlantic Resort, Middletown, RI
- Dr. Neha Raukar elected to NFHS Sports Medicine Committee as a staff liaison
- Safe Sport Zone Workshop – August 21, 2018 at LaSalle Academy
- RI Special Legislative Commission to study the start time in RI High Schools
 - Commission position
 - Letter regarding school start times
- Boynton vs. RIIL – Attorney General Decision
- RIIAAA thanks to the RIIL for sponsoring a tee sign at their annual golf tournament

2018-2020 RE-ALIGNMENT

Deadline for spring sports alignments is October 2018. Approval of alignments due to PCOA at the November 5th meeting.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received requests from Highlander Charter School, Barrington Christian Academy and Mount Saint Charles Academy to become affiliate members (Article 2., Section 1). On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (12-0) approved to table the requests.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Hope High School – Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Boys Basketball)

The Committee reviewed a report received from Mr. John Hunt, Principal, Hope High School, as well as, the information provided at the June 18, 2018 meeting. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (12-0) voted to approve the following sanctions:

1. Place the Hope High School Athletic Department on probation for a period of three years (2018-2021).
2. Hope High School is assessed a \$500.00 fine (payable to the RIIL).

In addition, the Committee voted to table its response to the actions taken by the Hope Head Basketball Coach during this matter pending a resolution of the investigation by the Providence School Department

Mt. Hope High School – Article 6, Section 7, Ejection from Game (Baseball Coach Ejection)

The Committee reviewed the issues regarding the ejection of Mt. Hope High School Head Baseball Coach on June 9, 2018. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (12-0) voted to suspend the coach an additional two games (total four games). In addition, to this suspension the Head Baseball Coach must pay a fine of \$50, complete the Unsportsmanlike Conduct Questionnaire, the NFHS Sportsmanship Course, as well as the NFHS Teaching and Modeling Behavior online courses (www.nfhslearn.com). These sanctions must be completed and verified prior to the 2019 baseball season.

The Committee thanks the Mt. Hope administration for their involvement in this case and commitment to upholding the rules and regulations of the RIIL

RIIAAA REPORT AND NEW RIIAAA APPOINTMENT – MR. CHRISTOPHER COBAIN, EAST GREENWICH HS

Mr. Cobain, President of the RIIAAA, provided updates as to issues, concerns and recommendations on behalf of the RIIAAA. He will serve as the RIIAAA representative on the PCOA for a two-year term.

FALL SPORTS

Mr. Lunney reported Cheer Game Day is on October 27, 2018. In addition, it's recommended that cheer and gymnastics coaches and athletic directors take the NFHS Understanding Copyright and Compliance online course.

WAIVER HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Nathan Bursell – North Smithfield High School

Waiver of Article 3, Section 6., Transfer Rule. Appealing a decision of Waiver Hearing Committee.

Motion to grant waiver: 4-6 (**denied**)

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The August meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, November 5, 2018 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Keegan and Ponte Gribbin and Wallace; Messrs., Barr, Cobain, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, Solomon, and Whaley.

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Michael Lunney, Assistant Executive Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Messr: Barbieri and Warner

The November meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

PCOA MINUTES AUGUST 20, 2018

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the August 20, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved (13-0).

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: PCOA vacancy; RIIL rules revisions; Requests from member schools; Rule violations and Article 2, Section 1., Membership.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

RIIL BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

The Committee reviewed the August - October RIIL Profit and Loss Budget Report.

RIIL ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1, MEMBERSHIP

Affiliate member schools Block Island, Providence Country Day and Rocky Hill School all reported to the Principals' Committee on Athletics how affiliate membership benefits their athletic program. In addition, Barrington Christian Academy, Highlander Charter School and Mount Saint Charles reported to the Committee their need to become an affiliate member and how it would benefit their athletic program.

PCOA VACANCY

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to table the matter of an appointment to the PCOA until the January 14, 2019 meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Due to the length of the meeting, on a motion made and seconded, the Executive Director's Report was unanimously (13-0) tabled until the January 14, 2019 meeting.

2019 & 2020 SPRING ALIGNMENTS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the following spring alignments (as approved by the RIIAAA) for 2019 & 2020: Baseball, Fast Pitch Softball, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Boys Volleyball, Boys Tennis and Golf.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved a rule revision of Article 7, Section 2. – Definition of a Game.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved a rule revision of Article 23, Section 2. – Boys & Girls Lacrosse (Schedule/Games): Division I: Total number of games (cap) is 16.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved to table a rule revision of Article 3, Section 1. – Eligibility (Determination of Eligibility) for further consideration.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a request from Moses Brown School to dissolve the Girls Hockey Co-op between La Salle Academy and Moses Brown School. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request.

The Committee received a request from Burrillville High School to join the league in Boys' Volleyball beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request.

The Committee received requests from Rocky Hill & Providence Country Day School to join the league in Girls' Lacrosse beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their requests.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Central Falls High School – Article 6, Section 6, Use of Ineligible Athlete (Football)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted (13-0) to sanction Central Falls High School for violating Article 6, Section 6 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Central Falls High School is assessed a \$100 fine. In addition, the Central Falls football team must forfeit its game versus Narragansett on October 5, 2018.

Narragansett High School: Article 3, Section 6: (Transfer Rule) (Girls Tennis)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Narragansett High School for violating Article 3, Section 6 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Narragansett High School is assessed a \$100 fine.

Pilgrim High School – Article 6, Section 6, Use of Ineligible Athlete (Football)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted (12-0-1) to sanction Pilgrim High School for violating Article 6, Section 6 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Pilgrim High School is assessed a \$100 fine. In addition, the Pilgrim football team must forfeit its game versus Ponaganset on September 21, 2018.

Providence Country Day School – Article 6, Section 6A, Use of Ineligible Athletes (Boys' Soccer)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted (13-0) to sanction Providence Country Day School for violating Article 6, Section 6A of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, Providence Country Day School is assessed a \$100 fine. (due to a clerical error)

South Kingstown High School – Article 7, Section 7, Coaching out of Season (Baseball)

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA voted (13-0) to sanction South Kingstown High School for violating Article 7, Section 7 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, South Kingstown High School is assessed a \$200 fine; the baseball coach is suspended for two RIIL League games in 2019 and the South Kingstown High School baseball program is placed on probation for two years 2019 & 2020.

PCOA HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Hope High School – Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Boys Basketball)

The Committee met with the Hope High School Boys' Basketball Head Coach to discuss the use of an ineligible athlete during the 2017-2018 basketball season. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted (7-6) to suspend the Hope High School Boys Basketball Head Coach for two RIIL League basketball games and any non-league games in between at the start of the 2018-2019 boys' basketball season. In addition, the Committee considered Hope High School's appeal of the \$500 fine and reduced it to \$300.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The November meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Signed:

Date: _____

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Special Meeting
Monday, November 26, 2018 @ 3:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Gribbin, Keegan, Ponte and Wallace; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Cobain, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, Solomon and Whaley

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Michael Lunney, Assistant Executive Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant and Jeffrey D. Sowa, Esq.

Absent: Messr: Warner

The Special meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

WELCOME: MR. JEFFREY D. SOWA, ESQ

DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE 2 SECTION 1: MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Mezzanotte provided the Committee with the following:

- A historical perspective of the emergence and issues relating to Affiliate Membership in the RIIL.
- The reasons why current RIIL schools want to continue as Affiliate Members.
- The issues associated with Affiliate Membership and how it deviates from the mission, scope and spirit of the rules and regulations of the RIIL
- The requests from MSC Academy, Highlander Charter School and Barrington Christian Academy to become Affiliate Members.
- Recommendation to revise Article 2 Section 1 as it relates to Affiliate Membership

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously voted (15-0) to Revise Article 2, Section 1. All schools must be compliant by August 1, 2020.

Revised Article 2, Section 1

Section 1. MEMBERSHIP

- A. The Principal of each school of the RIIL must be a member in good standing of the RIASP at the time of filing the Declaration of Intent to compete on April 1st. The Declaration of Intent to compete of any school whose Principal is not a member of the RIASP will not be accepted and hence; no schedule will be given that school for the following year of competition in the RIIL.
- B. All member schools must participate in the RIIL online Arbiter Ref-Pay Program.

Full Membership:

- For schools whose teams solely participate in sports offered by the RIIL and governed by the Principals' Committee on Athletics.
- **Benefits:**
 - Allowed to participate in sports offered by the RIIL and use NFHS rules.
 - Allowed to participate on PCOA approved standing committees.
 - Allowed to apply and become a member of the Principals' Committee on Athletics.
 - Allowed to participate in alignment and sport related surveys.
 - Allowed to recommend by-law and sport related rule changes

- **Terms and Conditions:**
 - Must be a member of the Rhode Island Association of School Principals (RIASP)
 - Must Pledge Acceptance to all RIIL Rules and Regulations
 - Must file a Declaration of Intent indicating those sports you will be participating in that are offered by the RIIL by April 1st.

Affiliate Membership

- For schools who participate in some sports offered by the RIIL, AND some sports offered by another association (also offered by the RIIL) or play an independent schedule in a sport also offered by the RIIL.
- **Benefits:**
 - Allowed to play sports offered by the RIIL and use NFHS Rules
- **Terms and Conditions:**
 - Must complete and file an application for Affiliate Membership in the RIIL.
 - Must be a member of the RIASP
 - **Must Pledge to abide by all RIIL Rules and Regulations (even in sports played in another association, league or independent schedule.**
 - **Must file a Declaration of Intent indicating those sports you will be participating in that are offered by the RIIL and disclose those sports you will participate in outside of the RIIL by April 1.**
- **Penalty for rule violation:**
 - Failure to comply with all Affiliate Member Terms and conditions will result in a fine, penalties and may include denial of future RIIL membership.
 - All school applications for Affiliate Membership will be denied for failure to comply with all terms and conditions.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The Special meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, January 14, 2019 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Keegan, Gribbin, Ponte and Wallace; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Cobain, Goho, Habershaw, Kelly, Sollitto, Solomon and Whaley.

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Michael Lunney, Assistant Executive Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Messrs: Kavanagh and Warner

The January meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

PCOA MINUTES NOVEMBER 5 & 26, 2018

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the November 5th and 26th, 2018 meetings were unanimously approved (14-0).

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: PCOA vacancy; RIIL Rules Revisions; Requests from Member Schools; Rule Violations and Article 2, Section 1., Membership.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

RIIL BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

The Committee reviewed the August - January RIIL Profit and Loss Budget Report.

PCOA NEW APPOINTMENT

The Committee on Athletics reviewed and discussed several applications of those administrators interested in serving on the PCOA. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted (14-0) to approve the appointment of Neeltje Henneman, Principal of Wheeler School.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- "E" Sports – Play VS – RIIL Championships – January 27th at Providence College
- 2019 NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service – Betty Marquis
- NFHS Participation Report
- Rice Commission – Basketball
- Eligibility Checklist

2019 NFHS STATE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved the nomination of Mrs. Betty Marquis for the 2019 NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service Award.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved a rule revision of Article 3, Section 1, Determination of Eligibility (Athletes) and Article 3, Section 7, Foreign Exchange Students:

- Article 3, Section 1, Determination of Eligibility (Athletes) – Student-athletes must be enrolled in the school for which they participate.
 1. Student-athletes enrolled at a RIIL Member School are prohibited from participating in any practice, try-out, or competition for any school that they are not enrolled in.

2. Exceptions:

- a. Students who attend a state certified career and technical facility and/or a state certified career pathways program, except for Davies Career and Technical High School are eligible for athletic participation under the following guidelines.
 - Article 3, Section 7, (Foreign Exchange Students) – Foreign Exchange Students (J-1 Visa and F-1 Visa) entering any secondary member school must have their eligibility status reviewed by the Executive Director of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League. Principals who have Foreign Exchange Students that desire to participate in interscholastic athletics are required to communicate with the Executive Director to seek eligibility for such students, and they must provide the following information on a form provided by the Rhode Island Interscholastic League which can be found on the Rhode Island Interscholastic League website.
 - J-1 Visa and F-1 Visa students from an approved CSIET Program (www.csiet.org) are eligible immediately for a duration of up to one year. If they are NOT from an approved CSIET Program, they must sit out 50% of the League in each sport in which they participated on a varsity level and are eligible for a duration of up to one year.
 - F-1 Visa students from a non-public school who are from an approved CSIET Program are eligible for a duration of up to four years
 - If they are NOT from an approved CSIET Program, they must sit out 50% of the League in each sport in which they participated on a varsity level and are eligible for a duration of up to four years.

Note: The Foreign Exchange Student will be ineligible to participate in any Rhode Island Interscholastic League or League-sanctioned games, matches, meets, etc. until an eligibility ruling is rendered by the League.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a request from Davies Career & Technical High School to join the league in Football and Girls' Volleyball beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) approved their request.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Blackstone Valley Prep – Article 6, Section 10, Cancellation/Forfeits of a Game (Girls Indoor Track)

The Committee received a letter from Blackstone Valley Prep detailing a violation of Article 6, Section 10 - Cancellation/Forfeits of Game. After reviewing the circumstances of this matter, and due to the fact that Blackstone Valley Prep is new to the RIIL Indoor Track League, the Committee recommends that the school review with all coaches the Rules and Regulations governing participation in all League events.

Hope High School – Article 6, Section 10, Cancellation/Forfeits of a Game (Football)

The Committee received a letter from Hope High School reporting the cancellation of a non-league Thanksgiving Day football game against Central High School on Thursday, November 22, 2018. Hope High School has had numerous issues (cancellations) with Central High School on Thanksgiving Day in previous years. Due to the fact that this is a non-league game and therefore NOT governed by Article 3, Section 10, the Committee urges Hope High School to discuss with Central High School the necessity of continuing this traditional game.

RIIAAA REPORT – CHRIS COBAIN

Mr. Cobain, President of the RIIAAA, provided updates as to issues, concerns and recommendations on behalf of the RIIAAA.

PCOA HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Coach David Nyblom Hope High School – Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Boys Basketball)

The Committee heard an appeal by Hope High School Head Basketball Coach David Nyblom. After due consideration, on a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (14-0) voted to deny the appeal and upheld the suspension of two RIIL League Boys' Basketball games and any non-league games in between effective immediately.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The January meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Signed:

Date: _____

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, March 25, 2019 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Henneman and Keegan; Messrs., Barbieri, Barr, Cobain, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, Solomon and Warner.

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Michael Lunney, Assistant Executive Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Mmes., Gribbin, Ponte and Wallace; Messr., Whaley

The March meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME NEW PCOA MEMBER

The Committee welcomed new PCOA member Neeltje Henneman, Principal of Wheeler School.

PCOA MINUTES JANUARY 14, 2019

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the January 14, 2019 meeting was unanimously approved (13-0).

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: RIIL Rules Revisions; Requests from Member Schools and Rule Violations.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Kelly, chairman of the finance committee reported its meeting held on March 25, 2019. Mr. Dan Carney and Mr. Stuart Peterson of Janney provided the Committee with an RIIL update on investments. The finance committee approved a revision of the RIIL investment holdings to 70% equities, 30% fixed income. The finance committee was informed that rSchool Today would be providing repay initiating in August 2019. The Committee reviewed the 2018-2019 budget.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- 2019 8th Annual RIIL Awards Luncheon, April 10th at Crowne Plaza, Warwick
 - Administrator of the Year: Colleen Gribbin, Principal, Bay View and PCOA Member
 - Athletic Director of the Year: Dick Fossa, North Kingstown School
 - Male Coach of the Year: Dan Silva, Tolman HS
 - Female Coach of the Year: Anjelique Cooley, Boys & Girls X-try & Track, Central Falls HS
 - Team of the Year: 2019 North Kingstown High School Boys Basketball
 - RIIL Spirit of Sport: Rachel Motta, Tiverton HS
 - NFHS State Award for Outstanding Service: Betty Marquis, Fast-pitch Softball
 - RIIL Distinguished Service Award: Cindy Bowden, Boys & Girls Swimming
 - Student-Athlete of the Month winners (male & female)
 - Student-Athlete of the Year winner (male & female)
 - RIIL Student Advisory Board – Senior Members
 - RI Army National Guard Adjutant General Award & Honorable Mention
- CTE Programs in RI – Dr. Sollitto and Mr. Solomon discussed how the CTE Programs in RI are affected by athletics.

- Article 3, Section 2. Alternative Education (Charter Schools Athletic Participation) – Mr. Mezzanotte discussed the importance for schools to follow guidelines as they relate to athletic eligibility.
- Sportsmanship; School Responsibilities. A sportsmanship sub-committee is being established for all spectators at all RIIL contests.
- Educational Services Update from the NFHS
- AED's shipped to schools
- Spring Athletic Directors Meeting
- Esports-Play-VS Rights Agreement. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-) approved a three (3) year contract with PlayVs (Esports).
- Donation to South County YMCA in memory of Dick Lynch in the amount of \$500 was unanimously (13-0) approved by the PCOA.

2019-2020 PCOA MEETING DATES

- August 19 and November 18, 2019 and January 13, March 16 and June 15, 2020

2019-2020 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

- August 19, 2019, March 16 and June 15, 2020

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

Mr. Lunney met with a sub-committee (including several athletic directors from the RIIAAA) to discuss a revision proposal to Article 7, Section 7, Coaching During the Academic School Year. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the revisions to Article 7, Section 7, Coaching During the Academic School Year.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received a request from Rogers High School to be moved from Division 3 to Division 2 in Girls' Volleyball beginning in the fall of 2019. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) denied their request since we are in the middle of a 2-year alignment. The Committee received a letter from Blackstone Valley Prep notifying the League they must drop Boys' Tennis beginning with the spring 2019 due to low numbers. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request without any penalties. In another matter, the Committee received a letter from Moses Brown School requesting a waiver of Article 3, Section 5, Length of Eligibility (eight-semester rule). On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their request. The athlete will be allowed to compete in the sport of ice hockey only.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved to table the following requests: East Providence HS Girls Basketball alignment and Juanita Sanchez/Wheeler/PCD Football Co-op alignment.

RIIL RULE VIOLATIONS

Mount Pleasant High School, Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Girls Basketball)

The Committee reviewed the circumstances involving the use of an academically ineligible athlete at Mount Pleasant High School. On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Mount Pleasant High School for a violation of Article 3, Section 4, (Academic Eligibility) of the RIIL Rules and Regulations. As a result, the Mount Pleasant High School Girls' Basketball team:

1. Must forfeit its two (2) games versus Central Falls on February 7 and Davies on February 11, 2019.
2. Is assessed a \$100 fine (make check payable to the RIIL).

The PCOA commends the Mount Pleasant administration for their integrity and professionalism in handling this matter.

Times2 STEM Academy, Article 3, Section 1.E. (student-athletes must be enrolled in the school for which they participate)

The Committee reviewed the circumstances involving the use of ineligible athletes at Times2 STEM Academy.

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA unanimously (13-0) voted to sanction Times2 STEM Academy for a violation of Article 3, Section 1.E., (student-athletes must be enrolled in the school for which they participate). As a result, Times2 Academy:

1. Placed on probation for three (3) years: 2019-20, 20-21 & 2021-2022.
2. Is assessed a fine of \$200 (make check payable to the RIIL).

The PCOA commends the Times2 Academy administration for their integrity and professionalism in handling this matter.

Block Island High School: Article 6, Section 10, Cancellation/Forfeit a Game (Girls Basketball Playoffs)

The Committee reviewed the circumstances regarding a violation of Article 6, Section 10, Cancellation/Forfeit a Game in girls basketball playoffs. Due to the extenuating circumstances as reported by Block Island High School, on a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to not penalize the school for the violation.

Scituate High School: Article 32, Section 1, Weight Certification (Independent Wrestler)

The Committee reviewed the circumstances regarding Article 32, Section 1, Weight Certification. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) voted to not penalize Scituate High School for the oversight. However, in the future, Scituate High School must adhere to the Weight Management Procedure.

RIIAAA REPORT – CHRIS COBAIN

Mr. Cobain, President of the RIIAAA, provided updates as to issues, concerns and recommendations on behalf of the RIIAAA.

RIIL FROSHMORE LEAGUE

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the football froshmore (freshman/sophomore) League within the established guidelines.

WINTER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the 2019 Boys & Girls Indoor Track, Boys & Girls Swimming, Gymnastics, Wrestling, Boys & Girls Basketball and Boys & Girls Hockey Winter Championships.

PCOA HEARING

Hope High School – Article 3, Section 4, Academic Eligibility (Boys Basketball)

Due to RIIL rule violations that occurred during the 2018 school year (for use of academically ineligible athletes Article 3 Section 4), the Hope High School Athletic Program was placed on probation by the PCOA for 3 years (2019-20-21). In addition, the school was fined a sum of \$500 and the boys' basketball head coach was suspended for two (2) RIIL League games.

The PCOA asked to meet with the principal Mr. John Hunt and the Hope High School athletic director Vismark Maria-Gonzalez to discuss several additional violations of RIIL rules (use of ineligible athletes) that occurred during the 2018-2019 boys' basketball season.

Specifically, the PCOA wanted to discuss and identify the reasons why Hope High School violated RIIL rules while on probation. Throughout the meeting, the PCOA asked specific questions relating to the circumstances surrounding the violations. In the end, it was obvious to the PCOA that since being placed on probation, no policies and/or procedures were issued or implemented to ensure compliance with the rules. As a result, the 2018-2019 Hope High School Boys' Basketball team forfeited two (2) games that had a direct impact on other schools in the divisional standings and in the RIIL State Tournament Seedings.

After discussing this matter the PCOA voted 10-1 to issue the following penalties:

1. The school is assessed a fine of \$1,500.
2. The school's boys' basketball program will be suspended for the 2019-2020 season pending the completion and approval of the following:
 - a. A complete formal review of the Hope High School athletic program as outlined in Article 6, Section 16 of the RIIL Rules and Regulations.
 - b. The development of a detailed plan including those institutional controls necessary to ensure compliance of all RIIL Rules and Regulations.

This plan must be completed and presented to the RIIL Executive Director no later than Monday, June 3, 2019. The PCOA will review this plan at its meeting on Monday, June 17, 2019.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The March meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____

**RHODE ISLAND INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
Principals' Committee on Athletics
Monday, June 18, 2019 @ 1:30 pm
RIIL Office
875 Centerville Road, Building #3
Warwick, RI 02886**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman McNamara; Mmes., Henneman, Keegan, Ponte and Wallace; Messrs., Barbieri, Cobain, Goho, Habershaw, Kavanagh, Kelly, Sollitto, Solomon and Whaley.

Also Present: Thomas Mezzanotte, Executive Director; Michael Lunney, Assistant Executive Director, Susana Borges, Administrative Assistant and Brendan McGair, *Pawtucket Times*

Absent: Mmes., Gribbin; Messrs., Barr, Warner.

The June meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME NEW DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

The Committee welcomed RIIL's new Marketing GM and Director, Will Shapiro of TPG.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session.

PCOA EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following items were discussed in Executive Session: RIIL Rules Revisions; Requests from Member Schools and Rule Violations.

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to move out of Executive Session.

PCOA MINUTES MARCH 25, 2019

On a motion made and seconded, the PCOA minutes from the March 25, 2019 meeting was unanimously approved (13-0).

PCOA RESIGNATION

The Committee received a letter of resignation from Mr. Joseph Goho, as a member of the Committee. However, he will continue to serve as Sport Co-Director of Boys' Basketball. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously accepted (13-0), with regret, Mr. Goho's resignation and wished him continued success in his new position as Superintendent of North Providence schools.

RIIL FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on June 17. Items discussed were review of the 2018-2019 RIIL budget; Summaries and recommendations for the 2019-2020 RIIL budget; Review of the 2018 audit, and review of the RIIL investments. On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the following:

1. The Finance Committee's recommendation of the RIIL Budget for the 2019-2020 school year.
2. A three-year contract for the Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director of the RIIL.
3. Agreement between the RIIL and TPG.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Mezzanotte reported on the following:

- Approval of Championship Award Guys beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.
- Letter to La Salle Academy parent regarding an incident that took place at the conclusion of the La Salle versus Moses Brown Boys' Lacrosse Championship game on June 2, 2019 at Cranston Stadium. As a result, the RIIL has prohibited this parent from attending any RIIL sanctioned activities. La Salle will monitor spectator attendance at all future La Salle and RIIL events.

- Sportsmanship Committee – **Ways to enforce good sportsmanship:**
- The Superintendent, Principal/Administration are essential to promoting and enforcing good sportsmanship. They set the tone for prioritizing good sportsmanship with students, parents, coaches and players.
- Create a Code of Conduct to be reviewed and signed by all parents, coaches, and athletes.
- Principals should present and discuss this at all seasonal sport meetings (if possible, include the Superintendent)
- Principal and AD meet with all coaches prior to each season to reinforce the need to exhibit good sportsmanship – to players, officials, and fans.
- Prior to games make in-school and at each game an announcement regarding good sportsmanship and hold all accountable.
- Game Management is critical:
 - The school AD must select those responsible for supervising games:
 - Announcer, Security, ticket personnel, etc and assign duties and responsibilities
 - Prior to each season the AD and or Administration meet with all those who will be working at the games. Taylor responsibilities to the types of events (indoor/outdoor)
 - The RIIL will organize a workshop for any school staff assigned to work at games.
 - How to seat fans, what to look for before, during, and after games, what to do with a uncooperative fan, etc...
 - Assigning school administration to games is very important!!! Administration will support game supervisors, and be able to witness those exhibiting inappropriate behavior (fan, coach, player)
- Additional suggestions:
 - As a result of unsportsmanlike behavior -schedule games at 4:00pm. And explain why the school this is necessary
 - Eliminate fans from a game
 - Penalize - suspend players, and or coaches for inappropriate unsportsmanlike behavior during a game as determined by the AD or Administration.
 - Organize groups of students(fans) and coach them on appropriate behavior.
 - Make all aware that sportsmanship is a priority of their school.
- Officials
 - Encourage all participants (players, coaches, and fans) to respect game officials. Disrespectful behavior towards game officials will not be tolerated.
 - At the end of each game have players and coaches thank officials.

RIIL RULE REVISIONS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the following RIIL rule changes:

- **Article 6 – Penalties – Section 11 – School Withdrawal**

“In the event that a school withdraws from any sport, the Committee may exclude said school for a period of two years or multiple thereof from that sport. Upon return to the RIIL in that sport, the team will be ineligible for post season play in the first season that they return.

A. In the event that a school withdraws from the RIIL in any sport to participate in another league, the Committee shall exclude said school from participation in all RIIL sports. An appeal of this suspension shall be governed by Article 1, Section 16.

- **Article 12 – Sportsmanship – Section 2.C. – The Coach**

“The coach plays a critical role in supporting and enhancing good sportsmanship. The coach must accept primary responsibility for the behavior and actions of his/her players and assistant coaches before, during and after all games. The coach serves as a role model for his/her players, their parents and the spectators. The coach must always be in control, practice sound values and ethics and always pursue victor with honor.”

In addition, the Committee discussed Article 6, Section 12., Non-School Athletic Programs and Transgender Rule. The matters were tabled to the August 19th meeting.

SCHOOL REQUESTS

The Committee received requests from Barrington, East Providence and Ponaganset High School and Prout School to move divisions in the current alignment. According to the RIIL alignment guidelines, the PCOA will not consider any appeals between realignment years. However, the requests have been tabled until the August meeting since the RIIAAA's realignment committee will attempt to address similar alignment concerns. Also, the Committee received a request from La Salle Academy to move from the Eastern Division to the Central Division in Outdoor Track and Field. This request was referred to the Outdoor Track and Field Sport Committee.

In another matter, the Committee received a request from the Juanita Sanchez/Wheeler/PCD Co-op football team to move down in the alignment. Based on the information they provided (safety concerns) for their football team playing in the RIIL Division II, on a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved their team's reassignment from Division II to Division III for the 2019 season only. As a result, their games against Division III opponents and against any other team will not count in the standings. In addition, the Juanita Sanchez/Wheeler/PCD co-op football team will not be eligible for post-season play for the 2019 season.

RIIAAA REPORT – CHRIS COBAIN

Mr. Cobain, President of the RIIAAA, provided updates as to issues, concerns and recommendations on behalf of the RIIAAA including reviewing the current alignment guidelines.

WINTER SPORTS

Mr. Lunney reported Cheer Game Day is on October 27, 2018. In addition, it's recommended that cheer and gymnastics coaches and athletic directors take the NFHS Understanding Copyright and Compliance online course

SPRING SPORTS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS

On a motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously (13-0) approved the 2019 Boys' and Girls' Outdoor Track, Boys' and Girls' Lacrosse, Boys' Tennis, Golf, Baseball, Freshman Baseball, Softball and Boys' Volleyball Spring Championships.

PCOA HEARING COMMITTEE APPEAL

Rocky Hill School – Article 2, Section 1, Membership

The Committee met with Diane Rich, Principal and Megan Williams, Athletic Director of Rocky Hill School to discuss the League's revision of Article 2, Section 1, Membership. The Committee listened and discussed concerns and the implications this revision may cause the Rocky Hill School athletic department. On a motion made and seconded, the Principals' Committee on Athletics unanimously (13-0) denied their appeal of Article 2, Section 1. The revision of this rule does not take place until August 1, 2020.

PCOA HEARING

The Hope High School hearing was tabled until the August meeting due to Hope not being able to attend.

The Committee then adopted the following closing motion: THAT ANY AND ALL MOTIONS, AMENDMENTS AND ACTIONS BY THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE PRINCIPALS' COMMITTEE ON ATHLETICS TO THIS DATE BE REAFFIRMED AND RATIFIED.

The June meeting of the Principals' Committee on Athletics was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Signed:

Susana Borges, RIIL Board Secretary

Date: _____