

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION (OSSE)  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (DCSAA)

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

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FALL MEETING

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TUESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

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The Commission met in the Eleanor Holmes Norton Room II, 1050 1st Street, NE, Washington, D.C., at 6:30 p.m., Rosalyn Gonzalez-Overstreet, Chairwoman, presiding.

PRESENT

ROSALYN GONZALEZ-OVERSTREET, Chairwoman  
DWIGHT FRANKLIN, Commissioner  
MICHEAL HUNTER, Commissioner  
JOHN KOCZELA, Commissioner  
TERRANCE LYNCH, Commissioner  
BENJAMIN WATKINS, Commissioner  
KEVIN WILLS, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT

CLARK RAY, Executive Director, DCSAA  
WES ANITON, ESQ., General Counsel, DCSAA  
TIA BRUMSTEAD, OSSE Ex Officio Representative

DWAYNE FOSTER, Deputy Director of Athletics, DCPS  
SHAWN STOVER, Chief of Secondary Schools, DCPS  
NATALIE RANDOLPH, DCSAA Title IX Coordinator  
JOHN WEBSTER, OSSE

**CALL TO ORDER:** Rosalyn Gonzalez-Overstreet, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Commissioners present stated their names for the record.

**ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM:** Chairwoman Gonzalez-Overstreet determined the presence of a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 18, 2018:** Member Lynch moved to approve the minutes for the June 18, 2018 Board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW DCSAA STAFF:** Executive Director Clark Ray introduced two new staff members. Alan Lord was hired from OSSE to replace the retiring Michael Williams as budget manager. On October 1, Wes Aniton will officially take up the role of DCSAA general counsel. Mr. Ray also introduced Tia Brumstead, OSSE's ex officio representative to the Commission.

**BUDGET UPDATE:** Executive Director Ray summarized the status of DCSAA's budget. The association's annual budget for FY18 was \$1,081,077. The budget covered 5 FTE employees at the time. To date, DCSAA has spent \$988,964 from that budget. Mr. Ray discussed the remaining funds, some of which is classified as O-Type funds, which are earned through DCSAA activities throughout the year. DCSAA is limited to spending \$100,000 of O-Type funds. DCSAA currently has about \$50,000 in O-Type funds. This money can be rolled over from year to year, but is subject to re-appropriation by the D.C. government at any time. Mr. Ray anticipates a budget of approximately \$1,281,000 for FY19. The FY20 budget planning process will begin soon and Mr. Ray encouraged any Commission members who wish to participate in the process to reach out to him. DCSAA will be exploring moving its offices as it transitions to a fully independent agency.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Director Ray gave an update on recent DCSAA activities.

DCSAA has been working to develop a student release form that can be used when students transfer schools.

There have not been many disciplinary panels convened lately, which is good. Mr. Ray discussed a case where a public charter school coach was charged with knowingly playing an ineligible player. DCSAA sent the school a letter asking the school to either suspend the coach for the remainder of the year or be placed on the not approved to play

list. The school ultimately chose to suspend the coach for a year from the date of the offense.

DCSAA recently offered school athletic trainers one-on-one consultation sessions on the DCSAA rules.

Mr. Ray also discussed his efforts to update and fill the ex officio places on the Commission.

The agency is currently focused on preparing for the upcoming fall championship season.

Member Lynch asked about rules training for fall and winter sports coaches. Mr. Ray said the rules training for fall coaches and officials is currently underway, and they will be offered for the winter as well.

The Commission concluded the In-Camera Session and returned to Public Session to conduct its vote on the Athletic Rules and draft Handbook.

Thereupon, on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission unanimously on a vote of 7-0,

**VOTED To approve the amended Athletic Rules and approve the draft Handbook as the operating rules until such time as a permanent 2018/2019 Handbook is approved.**

Member Koczela led the Commission in thanking DCSAA and OSSE staff for their hard work on drafting and publishing the new athletic rules

**TITLE IX UPDATE:** Natalie Randolph, DCSAA's Title IX Coordinator, presented to the Commission on DCSAA's efforts to comply with requirements under the Title IX Athletic Equity Act of 2015. Many of the requirements of the D.C. bill are reemphasizing things that are already required under federal Title IX laws. One of the major focus areas is data transparency. Schools and LEAs are required to designate a Title IX Coordinator and to report data annually to the D.C. Council.

DCSAA is required to track progress in the schools regarding Title IX compliance and also must develop a strategic plan to delineate how progress will be made going forward. Ms. Randolph presented the strategic plan to the Commission and walked through the objectives in the plan. Some of the objectives, passed on the requirements of the law, are to improve data collection and standardize reporting; increase outreach to improve participation, scholarship and academic support equity; and to improve grievance procedures.

Ms. Randolph presented data that DCSAA has collected so far. Overall, there are several hundred more male student athletes than females, showing continued room for

improvement in participation rates. This differential is also reflected in staffing: 44% percent of school personnel devoted to athletics are in support of female athletics. Commission members discussed other types of data collected by Ms. Randolph and DCSAA, such as experience levels among staff and scheduling discrepancies between genders. Member Lynch asked that this data be disseminated to the community, if possible, to help address frequent concerns related to these topics. Ms. Randolph said the data is published and asked for the Commission's help in thinking of ways of advertising to families.

Other projects Ms. Randolph is working on include drafting a new college readiness guide, improving guidance to schools regarding best practices, and to help increase the knowledge basis in schools on gender equity matters.

**MORE COMPETITIVE ATHLETIC LEAGUES:** Member Lynch raised a concern about the level of competitiveness and the quality of the athletic experience under the current league structure. He noted that many of the leagues were formed decades ago when the city education landscape was much different (e.g., before charter schools). Some schools now find themselves in leagues where they may not be to the level of the competition, leading to lopsided results, which in turn lead to difficulties in building a quality program or difficulties in attracting student-athletes. For the better teams, lack of competitiveness has led to more elite teams scheduling more games with teams from other regions. Member Lynch suggested the Commission create a subcommittee to explore this issue and contemplate potential recommendations or solutions. The Commission agreed to this proposal and Member Lynch was named chair of the subcommittee.

**COMMUNITY MEETINGS/INFORMATIONAL FORUMS:** Member Lynch also raised the idea of holding Commission meetings or public hearings out in the communities and/or schools that DCSAA serves in order to improve engagement and outreach. Chairwoman Gonzalez-Overstreet agreed that that was an idea worth exploring and tasked Director Ray with looking into the logistics.

**BOARD TRAINING:** Chairwoman Gonzalez-Overstreet asked Mr. Aniton to conduct a board training and strategic planning session for the Commission once he comes onboard. Chairwoman Gonzalez-Overstreet expressed her desire to see the Commission increase its public profile and activities in the coming months. Mr. Aniton said he looks forward to help in this process starting in October.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18, 2018. There being no other comments, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously

**VOTED      To adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.**