

Ron Laird – Commissioner of the WHSAA – 38 years in education all in Wyoming – Teacher, coach, activities director and administrator.

Trevor – Associate Commissioner – 11 years – Administrator in Cody – Powell

Scott – Tech Coordinator – 12 years – Website – storing today’s info on our website

Sherri – School Correspondence & Board – 12 years – emails & well organized

Lana – Officials – 3 years – great people skills

Dianne – books & fine arts – 27 years

This is an exciting day from the standpoint of it being the

First Meeting of its kind that I am aware of – bringing all groups/stakeholders together to look at solutions.

This is as serious a budget crunch as I have seen in my 38 years in Wyoming. We need to be working toward solutions we can all contribute to.

We certainly have a lot of great minds in this room and I am convinced we can make this a productive day.

One of the things that Wyoming has been dealing with the past three or four years, is the amount of turnover we have seen in the administrative positions.

2013-14            12 supts., 13 prin. & 10 AD's

2014-15            12 – 14 – 16

2015-16            13 – 18 – 9

2016-17            3 – 11 – 9

40 – 56 – 44

With that type of turnover, there will be several questions as to why we do what we do in Wyoming and also there will be new ideas and suggestions as to how we can improve.

As with any of these types of meetings – all our attitudes are going to be the key.

We are all in this together – we need to present a unified front.

I cannot emphasize that enough.

I am convinced this is just the beginning of showing how we respect each other and that all of us working together can produce a positive result.

I would like to outline the day for you and set the goals that have been established for the day.

Ultimate Goal – to discuss best practices and formulate strategies to maintain the 100% travel reimbursement.

Although we know that Activities – 10 – 11% of transportation budget

Easy target – don't have to deal with parents – to and from

I am sure you are already looking at, the to and from, so today we are focusing on the activities portion.

I realize that I am preaching to the choir – but if we lose the 100%, you will be put into a position to start eliminating programs

Your budgets are already going to start to become competitive – we know unless you start eliminating personnel or programs there is not a lot of other areas to trim your budgets.

So we are going to Start the day with breakout sessions Sharing ideas that have worked and obstacles that you have encountered with your past and current practices

Basically a think tank for solutions – may or may not work for your district

We have split the groups to have representation from each level of administration as well as making sure your district representatives are in different groups so you will hear more ideas throughout the day.

We will then move into Formulating common goals of what we want to do together

They will be general in nature – narrow them to around 3

School Districts will be specific – we want you to maintain local control – we are not here to mandate – collaborative effort

Important that today does not turn into a finger pointing session – we can all justify why we are doing what we are doing

Once we establish those common goals;

What message do we want to send to the following groups:

WHSAA

WASA

WIAAA

WDE

WSBA

We need to come out of today with a unified front to present to the Legislators

Our plan is to put together a presentation to the legislative committees showing the results of today's efforts and future plans.

We are also planning on posting all the information that has already been sent to us concerning what you have already been doing, on our website.

Clearing House

School Action Plans

Wrap-up – review what we have accomplished and formulate a game plan to move forward.

So that is a Rundown of how we will proceed during the day.

We will also serve you lunch!!

Any questions on the day??

Because of the amount of turnover in the previously mentioned administrative positions

I wanted to spend a little time explaining the WHSAA Rules Making Process

Handbook – our member schools have written all the rules

Four Administrative Districts – meet four times a year – 4 board meetings

September – Sept 1 – end of Sept

October – Oct 1 – first week of Nov

January – Jan 1 - first week of Feb

April - Mar 1 – end of April

Use District meetings to present pertinent information and to vote on proposals sent to us by you – our member schools.

We send those proposals to all of you to be able to discuss them with your coaches or activities sponsors and then each school gets a vote at their District Meeting

If a proposal passes in any District – it moves on to the Board – must pass two readings at Board level

19 member Board – 1A – 4A rep from each District – 2 WSBA – 1 WDE

Who can vote – enrollment form

History – school vs. District – Each school gets one vote.

Thank you for the support you give our students

We currently have quality activities – both, in the number we are able to offer students and our culminating events

The WHSAA certainly wants to be a part of the solution as we progress through the day

We believe we can have more of an overall impact on travel and lost school time by looking at our regular season rules and evaluate each sport and activity vs. culminating events.

We are certainly open to evaluate each of those as well, but by looking at the regular season, we now have all of you benefitting from those decisions – which would have a much larger savings

Example – Some sports/activities that do not have a current limits

BB – we reduced from 20-18

Look at VB, BB & WR tournaments – we reduce the number by one, still keep their contest limit, it should increase everyone's home contests, plus reduce lost school time



We have been very fortunate with the way activities and travel has been funded

Sometimes we can be our own worst enemy.

Small school reimbursement – mid to early 90's

Again, preaching to the choir, but we really need to keep the benefits of activities in front of the Legislature.

We have had a couple of school districts share some information with us on some statistics they have been keeping.

One is a smaller school – the other is a large district

Lusk

Natrona

I would encourage you to begin keeping some type of similar data to be able to present when needed.

In my opinion – Message we need to keep presenting is this:

Activities are the #1 Dropout prevention program.

Questions??

At this time I would like to introduce David Koskelowski from the Wyoming Department of Education

As most of you know, He is in charge of pupil transportation for the state

Even though we have talked and corresponded for several years, today is the first time we have actually met.

David is going to cover a few of the more common questions asked about transportation to set the stage for our first breakout session.