



## Oregon School Activities Association

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January 11, 2026

TO: Superintendents, Principals, Athletic Directors, and Football Coaches

FROM: Kris Welch, Assistant Executive Director

SUBJECT: OSAA Football Ad Hoc Advisory Committee Update – January 9 Meeting

The Football Ad Hoc Advisory conducted its third public meeting of this school year in a hybrid model with most committee members in-person at the OSAA Office and three attending via Zoom. The goal of this group is to review football data for schools, along with any proposals, and make recommendations to the Executive Board for their February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

OSAA staff provided a summary of 18 pieces of correspondence received prior to the meeting. During the meeting the Committee received testimony from 28 individuals, either in-person or online, representing 21 different schools. At the completion of the testimony, the Committee convened into a work session to discuss a variety of topics, review testimony, and develop this update. Topics discussed include:

### **2026 Special Districts 2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT**

The Committee discussed all the testimony and correspondence submitted and has created its second draft of Football Special Districts for 2026 (see attached). This draft incorporates changes from all the correspondence and testimony heard. Please note this is a DRAFT proposal and not the final recommendation.

***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding these placements prior to its January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.***

- This draft began with minor “ tweaks ” to the Special Districts so that the Football Special Districts more closely aligned with the Regular Districts for the upcoming 4-year time block. At the 3A Classification, that meant moving Amity, Dayton, and Santiam Christian into Special District 1; and Harrisburg to Special District 2. At the 2A Classification that meant moving Corbett to Special District 1 where the other two schools playing down are all from the same Regular District.
- The three schools who met the criteria to enter the pool for discussion to play down and were denied at the previous ad hoc meeting presented new information to the Committee for consideration. Of those three schools, the Committee is now recommending that La Pine High School be moved from 3A to 2A.
- The two schools who had been playing down met the criteria to enter the pool for discussion and were moved back up to their original classification at the previous ad hoc meeting presented new information to the Committee for consideration. Of those two schools, the Committee is now recommending that Gresham High School be moved back to 5A.
- The Committee also heard testimony from four of the schools who were moved up a classification in the final adopted Regular Classification and Districting placements. After discussion, the Committee is recommending two of the schools (Elmira and Illinois Valley) be moved back down to the Classification they played at last year; Elmira to 3A and Illinois Valley to 2A.
- The Committee also made changes at the 4A and 5A classification. The Committee has heard from these schools of the desire to try and have more even number of teams in each special district where possible, and to have smaller league sizes to allow for more non-league evenly matched contests. 4A has SD1 with 7 schools, SD2 with 8 schools, SD3 with 7 schools, SD4 with 7 schools and SD5 with 5 schools. 5A, in trying to keep schools in their

regular districts and smaller leagues, created a new Special District. 5A now has SD1 with 5 schools, SD2 with 5 schools, SD3 with 7 schools, SD4 with 7 schools, SD5 with 8 schools, and the IMC with 7 schools.

- The Committee also made tweaks at the 6A classification, creating another Special District and separating the Salem schools from the southern Oregon schools. This leaves 6A with four leagues of five schools which will allow them to align for non-league scheduling in order to complete schedules.

### **Enrollment Zone for 1A 8-Player and 1A 6-Player**

The Committee once again discussed the cutoff for an enrollment zone for both the 8-player and 6-player divisions. The Committee remains dedicated to keeping both 6-player and 8-player football viable in the state of Oregon. After listening to testimony and reviewing correspondence, the Committee is currently supporting moving the 6-player football enrollment zone from 49 to 51, which moves two schools (Elkton and Triangle Lake) from 1A-8 to 1A-6. The Committee is also recommending moving the 8-player football enrollment zone from 77 to 76, which moves Bonanza from 1A-8 to 2A. In the current draft that led to four special districts for 30 teams for 8-player football and three special districts of 24 teams for 6-player football.

***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding these enrollment zone numbers.***

### **Roster Cap for 1A 6-player football**

There was more discussion on the concept of a roster cap for 6-player football. The Committee believes that 6-player teams with large rosters should be playing 8-player football. Currently the Committee is supporting an increase from 15 to 18 rostered players over a 3-year average.

***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding creation of a roster cap for 6-player football.***

### **Potential Timeline for Schools Playing Down a Classification for Multiple Years**

The Committee spent most of their time with the second draft, so this concept was tabled until the next meeting. The Committee is still interested in discussing those schools who have been playing down a classification for multiple years (i.e., four or more, etc.) and the pathway for them to get back to their original classification.

***The Committee is interested in receiving feedback from schools regarding putting a timeline on how long a school is allowed to play down a classification.***

### **Two-Year Review for Schools Petitioning to Play Down**

After hearing from the OADA about the challenges created by moving so many schools down every year, the Committee spent time discussing a two-year review timeline for schools that meet the criteria to enter the pool for consideration for discussion to play down. The Committee plans to review annually only those schools that qualify to enter the pool for consideration to be moved back up to their original classification.

### **Playoff Allocations and Bracket Size Recommendations**

The Committee thought it would be better to table this discussion to the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting as the State Championship Committee is meeting publicly for the first time on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, and may have initial thoughts on approximate bracket sizes for all team sports based on the percentage of schools at each classification.

***The Committee is interested in receiving recommendations from schools regarding playoff allocations and bracket sizes.***

**Final Meeting:** The final ad hoc meeting will be hybrid format with both in-person and via Zoom. This will include public testimony sessions for schools.

**Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00am (OSAA Office and Zoom)**

The OSAA staff will provide a committee update, like this one, to all superintendents, principals, athletic directors, and football coaches following each meeting. The Committee roster, charge, and any additional committee information is available at <http://www.osaa.org/governance/committees>.

Written suggestions and proposals should be emailed to the OSAA at [krisw@osaa.org](mailto:krisw@osaa.org). Any communication received by the OSAA will be shared with all committee members for review and discussion. Please contact Kris Welch ([krisw@osaa.org](mailto:krisw@osaa.org)) at the OSAA if you have any questions.

**Football Ad Hoc Committee Proposal**  
Second DRAFT - January 9, 2026

<b>6A</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5A</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4A</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3A</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2A</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1A (8-Player)</b>	<b>30</b>
1026+		1025-581		580-281		280-141		140-77		76-52	
<b>6A-1 - Portland Interscholastic League</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5A-SD1 - Special District 1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4A-SD1 - Special District 1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3A-SD1 - Special District 1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2A-SD1 - Special District 1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1A(8)-SD1 - Special District 1</b>	<b>6</b>
Benson Astros*	575	Centennial Eagles	954	Astoria Fishermen	414	Amity Warriors	185	Clatskanie Tigers	118	Camas Valley Hornets	36
Cleveland Warriors	1057	David Douglas Scots <sup>AA</sup>	1434	Banks Braves	281	Dayton Pirates	164	Corbett Cardinals <sup>AA</sup>	238	Chiloquin Panthers	64
Franklin Lightning	1278	Gresham Gophers <sup>AA</sup>	1120	Scappoose Indians	526	Horizon Christian Hawks	150	Gaston Greyhounds	114	Crosspoint Christian Warriors	49
Grant Generals	1588	Hood River Valley Eagles	764	Seaside Seaulls	299	North Marion Huskies <sup>AA</sup>	349	Knappa Loggers	90	Glendale Pirates	53
Ida B. Wells Guardians	1176	Sandy Pioneers	977	Tillamook Cheesemakers	462	Santiam Christian Eagles	187	Neah-Kah-Nie Pirates <sup>AA</sup>	151	Prospect Cougars / Butte Falls Loggers	62
Jefferson Democrats	303			Valley Catholic Valiants	297	Warrenton Warriors	200	Nestucca Bobcats	92	Riddle Irish	61
Lincoln Cardinals	1157			Woodburn Bulldogs <sup>AA</sup>	989	Yamhill-Carlton Tigers	192	Rainier Columbians <sup>AA</sup>	156		
McDaniel Mountain Lions*	1001										
Roosevelt Roughriders*	843										
<b>6A-2 - Metro League</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5A-SD2 - Special District 2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4A-SD2 - Special District 2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3A-SD2 - Special District 2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2A-SD2 - Special District 2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1A(8)-SD2 - Special District 2</b>	<b>7</b>
Beaverton Beavers	955	Parkrose Broncos*	544	Cascade Cougars	577	Blanchet Catholic Cavaliers	165	Colton Vikings	130	Chemawa Braves**	74
Jesuit Crusaders*	966	Putnam Kingsmen	792	Central Panthers/Kings Valley Charter Eagle	550	Gervais Cougars	177	Jefferson Lions <sup>AA</sup>	141	C.S. Lewis Watchmen	53
Mountainside Mavericks	1445	St. Helens Lions	620	Estacada Rangers	401	Harrisburg Eagles	146	Regis Rams	85	Mohawk Mustangs	61
Southridge Skyhawks	1079	McKav Scots <sup>AA</sup>	1245	Gladstone Gladiators/Riverdale Mavericks	524	Kennedy Trojans*	132	Santiam Wolverines	98	North Douglas Warriors	70
Sunset Apollos	1468			Molalla Indians	533	Newport Cubs <sup>AA</sup>	420	Sheridan Spartans	137	Perrydale Pirates	65
Westview Wildcats	1931			Philomath Warriors	363	Salem Academy Crusaders	168	St. Paul Buckaroos	71	Reedsport Brave <sup>AA</sup>	111
				Stayton Eagles	488	Scio Loggers	156	Willamina Bulldogs	153	Verona Loggers <sup>AA</sup>	122
<b>6A-3 - Pacific Conference</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5A-SD3 - Special District 3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4A-SD3 - Special District 3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3A-SD3 - Special District 3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2A-SD3 - Special District 3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1A(8)-SD3 - Special District 3</b>	<b>9</b>
Century Jaquars	1069	Aloha Warriors**	1112	Cottage Grove Lions	525	Creswell Bulldogs	243	Central Linn Cobras	118	Dufur Rangers	57
Glencoe Crimson Tide	1047	Canby Cougars	877	Junction City Tigers	340	Elmira Falcons <sup>AA</sup>	299	Echo Cougars	63		
McMinnville Grizzlies	1348	Forest Grove Vikings <sup>AA</sup>	1180	Marist Catholic Spartans	319	Klamath Union Pelicans <sup>AA</sup>	461	Elgin Huskies	67		
Newberg Tigers	945	Hillsboro Spartans	834	Marshfield Pirates	550	Pleasant Hill Billies	216	Imbler Panthers	76		
Sherwood Bowmen	1218	La Salle Prep Falcons*	507	North Bend Bulldogs	460	Sisters Outlaws	280	Ione Cardinals/Arlington Honkers	59		
		Liberty Falcons	981	South Umpqua Lancers	290	Madras White Buffaloes <sup>AA</sup>	404	Joseph Eagles	62		
<b>6A-4 - Mt. Hood Conference</b>	<b>5</b>	Wilsonville Wildcats	878	Sweet Home Huskies*	401			Lyle Cougars/Wishram/Klickitat/Glenwood	78		
Barlow Bruins	1324							Pilot Rock Rockets / Ukiah Cougars	69		
Central Catholic Rams*	655	<b>5A-SD4 - Special District 4</b>	<b>7</b>					Sherman Huskies	53		
Clackamas Cavaliers*	968	Corvallis Spartans	836								
Nelson Hawks	1131	Crescent Valley Raiders	610					<b>1A(8)-SD4 - Special District 4</b>	<b>8</b>		
Reynolds Raiders	1291	Dallas Dragons	628					Adrian Antelopes	50		
		Lebanon Warriors	685					Cove Leopards	74		
<b>6A-5 - Three Rivers League</b>	<b>6</b>	Silverton Foxes	848					Crane Mustangs	67		
Lake Oswego Lakers*	947	South Albany Red Hawks	877					Harper Hornets	67		
Lakeridge Pacers*	914	West Albany Bulldogs	889					Pine Eagle Spartans	37		
Oregon City Pioneers	1519							Powder Valley Badgers	54		
Tigard Tigers	1302	<b>5A-SD4 - Special District 5</b>	<b>8</b>					Prairie City Panthers/Burnt River Bulls	57		
Tualatin Timberwolves	1271	Roseburg Indians <sup>AA</sup>	1072					Union Bobcats	72		
West Linn Lions	1347	Springfield Millers	808								
		Thurston Colts	935					<b>1A (6-Player)</b>	<b>24</b>		
<b>6A-SD-1 Special District 1</b>	<b>5</b>	South Eugene Axe <sup>AA</sup>	1047					51-			
McNary Celtics	1256							<b>1A(6)-SD1 - Special District 1</b>	<b>8</b>		
North Salem Vikings	1130	<b>5A-4 - Intermountain Conference</b>	<b>7</b>					Condon Blue Devils	32		
South Salem Saxons	1456	Bend Lava Bears	865					Dayville Tigers/Monument/Long Creek	29		
Sprague Olympians	1237	Caldera Wolfpack	902					Griswold Grizzlies	39		
West Salem Titans	1173	Crook County Cowboys	658					Huntington Locomotives	19		
		Mountain View Cougars	841					Jordan Valley Mustangs	11		
<b>6A-SD-1 Special District 2</b>	<b>5</b>	Redmond Panthers	759					South Wasco County Redsites	42		
Grants Pass Cavemen	1160	Ridgeview Ravens	670					Spray Eagles/Mitchell Loggers/Wheeler Falcons	49		
North Medford Black Tornado	1065	Summit Storm	979					Wallowa Cougars	41		
Sheldon Irish	1039										
South Medford Panthers	1168							<b>1A(6)-SD2 - Special District 2</b>	<b>8</b>		
Willamette Wolverines*	935							Alsea Wolverines	29		
								Country Christian Cougars <sup>AA</sup>	68		
								Eddyville Charter Eagles	32		
								Falls City Mountaineers	27		
								Jewell Blue Jays	14		
								Mapleton Sailors	22		
								Siletz Valley Warriors	38		
								Triangle Lake Lakers	51		
								<b>1A(6)-SD3 - Special District 3</b>	<b>8</b>		
								Crow Cougars	47		
								Days Creek Wolves	39		
								Elkton Elks	51		
								Gilchrist Grizzlies	46		
								McKenzie Eagles	26		
								North Lake Cowboys	43		
								Powers Cruisers	20		
								Yoncalla Eagles	45		

\* Confirmed Play Up Requests  
\*\* Approved Petition to Play Down (C&D Crmte.)  
^^ Approved Petition to Play Down (FB Ad Hoc)