

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**MAINE PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION**  
**UNIFIED SPORTS COMMITTEE**

**FEBRUARY 5, 2018**

A meeting of the Unified Sports Committee was held on Monday, February 5, 2018 and called to order at 1:04 p.m. by committee chair David Shapiro.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chad Bell (GoToMeeting), Chris Moreau, David Shapiro (Chair).

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eben Shaw

**LIAISONS PRESENT:** Ed Baehr and Ian Frank.

**LIAISONS ABSENT:** Jody Benson

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michael Bisson and Michael Burnham.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** On a MOTION by Moreau/Bell, the minutes of the December 19, 2017 meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The following correspondence was shared with the committee:

- A phone call from David Shapiro from Greely HS for a 5<sup>th</sup> year student that could not be added to the MPA roster due to the eligibility system.
- An email from Jeff Ramich at Brunswick HS asking for a waiver to allow his cheering squad to extend the season and some Unified Cheerleaders. The request was granted, but unnecessary, as this is allowed and listed in the bulletin.
- An email from David Packard at Lawrence HS notifying the MPA that Lawrence was unable to field a Unified Basketball team this season.
- An email from Tommy Hill at Messalonskee HS asking for clarification of Unified Athletes.
- An email from Al MacGregor at Maranacook HS asking if students in wheelchairs are able to participate in Unified Basketball. Unfortunately they are not, due to liability concerns for the athlete and the others participants.

**UNIFIED BASKETBALL:** The committee discussed the following issues:

- Review of Thomas College Pre-Season Festival: Cassie reported that they had 9 teams and just under \$2,000 was raised. She had everything donated, so everything was profit for the Special Olympics. The State Championship game was offered to Thomas College, which was confirmed by Cassie. A check presentation will take place at that event for the funds raised at the Festival.

- Festival sites: Falmouth, Mt. View, and Winslow have offered. The MPA will send out an email blast to all participating schools to inquire as to interest in hosting a festival or the state championship game.
- A concern that a team had Unified Partners shoot the last four possessions of a game to get a win. The team was still within the 25% threshold. The committee was questioning the intent of having the game decided by Unified Athletes.

**UNIFIED TRACK & FIELD:** The bulletin was updated, and the committee discussed the following issue:

- Mike Burnham and Ian Frank attended the Track and Field committee meeting and shared the vision of blending Unified Track and Field into the regular season interscholastic meets. There will be a festival at the end of the season for Unified Athletes and Unified Partners. Schools should try to match up consistent Unified Athletes and Unified Partners.

**UNIFIED VOLLEYBALL:** The bulletin was updated, and the committee discussed the following issues:

- Information will be sent to schools about starting Unified Volleyball in the fall of 2018. Special Olympics of Maine will have funding available to start a program. Funding applications will be due by June 1, 2018.
- Ian will invite a representative from a state that has Unified Volleyball to attend the next Unified Sports committee meeting through GoToMeeting.

**OTHER:**

- The Spread the Word Campaign will begin March 7, 2018. Ian requested that schools with Unified Basketball incorporate this into a game near that time.
- The Cool School Plunge has been rescheduled for April 8 at Snow Pond. Funds raised will go to the Unified Champions schools program and back to the schools.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** The next meeting of the Unified Sports Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the MPA office.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a MOTION by Moreau/Shapiro, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY, the meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Bisson  
Assistant Executive Director