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**Subject:**Eliminating the 2-class multiplier limit

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**From:**Jim Finch <jim.finch@mcschools.org>

**To:**Robin Hines <robin.hines@ghsa.net>, Glenn White <glennwhite@floydboe.net>, Jewell, Jasper <jjewell@atlanta.k12.ga.us>, Curt Miller <cmiller@oconeeschools.org>

All--

Please see below and the struck through language in bylaw 4.23(b). I am proposing that we take out the limits to where a school can be multiplied. The reasons are:

- 1) There are few schools, if any, that are multiplied up more than two classes anyway (St. Pius and Woodward were the only two I remember).
- 2) Schools, who in the future may be multiplied up by more than two classes, can always appeal their placement to the reclassification committee.
- 3) Data from this past school year suggests the 2.0 multiplier classification limit had little to no effect for not just private schools, but also city school systems under the current constraints.
- 4) If we're considering the significant change for the private schools (either significantly up in classification or totally removed for playoffs), then I think a similar safeguard needs to be in place for city schools as well. This point was made by one of the private school members at the Sept 23 Reclassification Committee meeting. That safeguard is removing the 2-classification limit on the 2.0 multiplier.

**4.23 (b) Out-Of-Zone Multiplier:** Every student attending a school from outside that school's district-assigned attendance zone shall be counted as two (2.0) students when it comes to calculating that school's Reclassification Student Count. And that school shall be placed in the classification where the increased count falls, except that no school shall be moved up into Class 7A, or out of Class A, ~~and no school shall have to move up more than two (2) classes, by this rule.~~ (Note: Schools compelled to play at a higher classification because of this stipulation may petition the Executive Director for stadium/arena seating waivers by August 31 of each year. If granted, the waiver would allow that school to use the smaller classification's seating requirements in order to comply with playoff by-laws.)

- (1) The designated reclassification attendance zone for all GHSA public schools shall be that attendance zone assigned to the school by its respective school district.
- (2) The designated reclassification attendance zone for all GHSA non-public and charter schools shall be the public school's attendance zone in which the non-public school or charter school resides.
- (3) Children of certified teachers at the high school (grades 9-12) and military active duty dependent children will not be subject to the Out-Of-Zone Multiplier even if they live outside the school's designated attendance zone.
- (4) All member schools must submit the number of students that will be counted as Out-Of-Zone students by October 15th of the final year of the reclassification cycle.
- (5) Single-gender schools will have the Out-of-Zone Multiplier applied only to the actual number of students enrolled in the school and not to their doubled enrollment figure.

(6) If a school is found to be intentionally reporting incorrect numbers, that school will be banned from participating in the state playoffs for two (2) years and must pay a fine of \$2,500.

(7) A school shall be allowed to appeal its classification placement to the Reclassification Committee by filing a written appeal with the Executive Director not later than seven (7) days after notification of its classification placement, setting forth in detail why it contends the placement is unfair or unjustified, or why its assigned FTE number is inaccurate.

(8) The Reclassification Committee shall thereafter set a date for the hearing of such appeals. If the Reclassification Committee finds that the placement is unfair or unjustified, the school's placement may be modified by the Reclassification Committee. The decision of the Reclassification Committee may be appealed by the school to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will not consider objections from schools regarding contested classification placements unless those schools have filed timely appeals with the Reclassification Committee.

Thoughts??

Sincerely,

***Dr. Jim Finch***

Principal

Mary Persons High School