

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

RECLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE November 18, 2021

The Reclassification Committee of the Georgia High School Association was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on November 18, 2021, at the GHSA office in Thomaston, Georgia, by Glenn White, President, to hear appeals about classification placements.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Curt Miller. The invocation was given by Associate Director Carror Wright. Present - 19; Absent - 0 (shown by "A" below)

Kirk Barton	Jody Dean	Jim Finch	Donnie Drew	Ricky Turner - sub
Randy McPherson	Bobby Brewington	James Jackson	Jesse Crews	Glenn White
Matt Huntley - sub	Jasper Jewell	Davis Russell	Julie Jones	Curt Miller
Steven Craft	Scott Miller - sub	Myron Newton	Chris Hanson	

APPOINTMENTS

Central Gwinnett - Jason Carrera, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 7 in class 7A

Motion by Crews, second by Finch, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-0-1 (Barton abstained)

Discovery - Marci Sledge, Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 7 in class 7A

Motion by Jewell, second by White, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed 16-2-1 (Finch & McPherson voted "no" and Barton abstained)

Osborne - Ron Boggs, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 2 to Region 5 in class 7A

Motion by Finch, second by Miller, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

South Cobb - Donnie Griggers, retired educator, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 5 in class 6A

Motion by Turner, second by Russell, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-1 (Jackson voting "no")

Heritage-Conyers - Edward Senter, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 2 in class 5A

Motion by Finch, second by Jewell, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed (unanimous)

Villa Rica - Seth Rogers, Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 7 to Region 5 in class 5A

Motion by Finch, second by Crews, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

Hapeville Charter - Winston Gordon, Assistant Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 6 in class 4A

Motion by Miller, second by White, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed 17-0-2 (Craft & Hanson abstained)

North Clayton - Cap Burnett, Football Coach, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 5 in class 4A

Motion by White, second by Russell, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-0-1 (Hanson abstained)

Riverdale - Amy Harris, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 5 in class 4A

Motion by Finch, second by Brewington, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-0-1 (Hanson abstained)

Fayette County - Bill Stikes, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 5 in class 4A

Motion by Craft, second by Finch, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-0-1 (Hanson abstained)

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Seckinger - Kelly Poff, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 6 to Region 8 in class 4A

Motion by Jackson, second by Barton, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

Oconee County - Curt Miller, Athletic director, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 7 in class 3A

Motion by Craft, second by Finch, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed 17-0-1 (Miller abstained)

Pickens HS - Chris Wallace, Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 7 to Region 6 in class 3A

Motion by Craft, second by Finch, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed 13-4-2 (White, Jones, Turner & Hanson voted “no”; Miller & Russell abstained)

Jackson HS - Will Rustin, Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 5 to Region 2 in class 3A

Motion by Craft, second by Crews, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 17-1-1 (Jackson voted “no”)

Gilmer HS - Paul Standard, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 7 to Region 6 in class 3A

Motion by Craft, second by Finch, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed 17-0-2 (Miller & Russell abstained)

Liberty County - Brandon Whitmore, Coach, presented the appeal to move from Region 3 to Region 4 in class 3A

Motion by Crews, second by Barton, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

Fannin County - Shannon York, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 7 in class 2A

Motion by Finch, second by Barton, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed 17-1-1 (Crews voted “no” & White abstained)

Oglethorpe County - Kris Patel, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 3 in class 2A

Motion by White, second by Craft, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

Social Circle - Craig Hargrove, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 8 in class 2A

Motion by Russell, second by Craft, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

Jefferson County - John McAfee, Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 3 in class 2A

Motion by Huntley, second by Dean, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-1 (Jewell voted “no”)

Thomson HS - Trevor Robertson, Principal, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 3 in class 2A

Motion by Crews, second by Newton, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 18-1 (Jewell voted “no”)

Dooly County - Phillip Hale, Athletic Director, presented the appeal to move from Region 4 to Region 7 in class A Public

Motion by Finch, second by Crews, to **deny** the appeal

MOTION to deny Passed 11-8 (Barton, Brewington, Jackson, Newton, Hanson, Turner, Russell & Jones voted “no”)

Warren County - Steven Simpson, AD, presented the appeal to move from Region 8 to Region 7 in class A Public

Motion by Craft, second by Barton, to **approve** the appeal

MOTION to approve Passed (unanimous)

NEW BUSINESS

Steven Craft and Jasper Jewell spoke about their proposal to merge the Class A public and private schools and then split them into a large division and a small division leading to two state championships.

Jesse Crews followed with an alternative proposal to combine all the Class A schools into 8 regions, allowing the public and private
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schools to play each other during the regular season, but then splitting them into two separate divisions for the playoffs.

A spirited discussion ensued with members of the reclassification committee and members of the large audience voicing several different ideas and opinions.

Many of the larger Class A school representatives in the audience spoke against both proposals, while a few of the smaller Class A school reps spoke in support of the proposal made by Craft and Jewell.

Davis Russell spoke up and said that the multiplier should be applied to ALL schools including those in Class A and then let the schools fall where they fell. This prompted a spirited discussion with much support, but with several committee members pointing out that this would impact not only Class A, but Classes AA and AAA also as some of the private schools were forced up into those classes because of the multiplier.

Several people pointed out that doing that would basically mean starting over with the reclassification process since schools would change classes and regions and would then get to appeal their new positions.

After another lengthy discussion, Glenn White (who had earlier announced to the committee that this would be his final year serving as president of the GHSA) said that his take was that the committee was not ready to pass any proposal that had been brought up at this meeting.

Committee chair Curt Miller picked up on White's statement and made a formal **motion** to table the Class A discussion until such time as public and private school reps could meet with Dr. Hines and the GHSA staff to try to come up with an equitable solution.

Jewell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Miller then made a **motion** to adjourn, Crews seconded, and it also passed unanimously.