



**SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SDHSAA OFFICE – TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

August 12, 2015

3:00 PM

Pierre, South Dakota

The Board of Directors held a Special Meeting via teleconference on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at the SDHSAA Office building in Pierre, SD.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Dr. Jason Uttermark at 3:00 p.m.

On roll call, Board members present via teleconference were:

Dr. Jason Uttermark; Steve Morford; Linda Whitney; David Planteen; Sandy Klatt; Moe Ruesink; Bud Postma; and Dr. Roger Bordeaux

Executive Staff Member present included:

Jo Auch; John Krogstrand, and Brooks Bowman. Wayne Carney was excused.

Dr. Uttermark opened the meeting by stating the purpose of this meeting was to consider an emergency declaration by the Highmore-Harrold School District and request for a football cooperative for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 seasons.

Assistant Executive Director John Krogstrand gave background information on the Highmore-Harrold emergency situation. Mr. Krogstrand reported that 11 student athletes were planning on participating in football for the 2015 season for Highmore-Harrold. Mr. Ring and Mr. Cermak requested information from the SDHSAA regarding what options might exist to allow Highmore-Harrold to play its 2015 and 2016 football seasons, including potential options with a cooperative agreement. Mr. Krogstrand explained the options that were explored by the Highmore-Harrold School District.

The floor was opened to questions by the Board of Directors.

Mr. Ring, Athletic Director for Highmore-Harrold, gave an explanation of the history of last year's roster numbers (16) compared to this year's numbers (10). The Highmore-Harrold school administration felt that this was an unsafe playing environment for the student athletes and thus, the Highmore-Harrold School Board voted to dissolve the football program for the 2015-16 & 2016-17 school years and seek other cooperative opportunities.

The floor was opened to the audience for comments.

Mr. Ring gave reasons as to why they felt this should be considered an "emergency situation".

According to the Cooperative Section of the *SDHSAA Athletic Handbook: Cooperatives* ([link](#)), the deadline for the SDHSAA Board of Directors consideration for football cooperatives for the 2015 season was January 14, 2015. However, the last sentence on the first page of this section also reads that "A *waiver of this policy may be considered in emergency situations (i.e.: discontinuance of a program, school closing, etc.)*."

Mr. Krogstrand gave several precedents comparable to this situation.

After Board discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Roger Bordeaux, seconded by Mr. Steve Morford, to declare that an emergency situation exists for Highmore-Harrold football.

On roll call, the vote passed unanimously, 8-0.

The floor was opened for discussion over the emergency situation.

Mr. Krogstrand explained how the combination of ADMs for the various co-ops is higher than the allotted number of 56 that is considered to be 9-man football. Highmore-Harrold's request was to co-op with Miller High School for the 2015-16 & 2016-17 school year.

Based on the decision made by the Highmore-Harrold School Board at their regularly scheduled August Board meeting, a motion was made by Mr. Steve Morford, seconded by Moe Ruesink, to waive the current policy due to this emergency situation, and approve a co-op between Miller High School and Highmore-Harrold High School placing them in a 2 year transition period.

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-2. Those voting aye were: Linda Whitney; Steve Morford; Dr. Jason Uttermark; David Planteen; Sandy Klatt; and Moe Ruesink. Those voting nay were: Bud Postma and Dr. Roger Bordeaux.

Mr. Steve Morford made a motion, seconded by Linda Whitney, to adjourn at 4:25 p.m.

The motion passed 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Carney  
Executive Director