BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Henry Karnofski (District 4), Vice President Joe Feist (District 7), Harlan Kredit (District 1), Craig Olson (District 2), Chris Bigelow (Region A), Ed Ploof (District 3), Wendy Malich (Region B), Rich Rouleau (District 5), Loren Sandhop (District 6), Al Falkner (District 8), Ken Lindgren (District 9), George Juarez (Region C), and Michele Webb (At Large).

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS: Ross Hjelseth (WFIS), Terry Densley (WSSDA), Ed Laulainen (WSCA), Dave Tikker (WSSAAA), Mark Venn (WASA), Beth VanderVeen (AWSP), Cherie Carroll (AMLPA), and Russ Brown (District Directors).

WIAA STAFF: Mike Colbrese, Executive Director; Cindy Adsit, Andy Barnes, Teresa Fisher, Jim Meyerhoff and John Miller, Assistant Executive Directors; Leah Francis, Director of Finance and Operations; Andy Knapp, Director of Marketing, Promotions and Corporate Relations; Sarah Cooper, Manager of Information and Communications; John Olson, WIAA Legal Counsel; and Judi Badgley, Assistant to the Director.

Call to Order
WIAA Executive Board President Karnofski opened the Executive Board meeting at 8 AM on Wednesday, March 25, 2009. Mr. Karnofski welcomed the members of the Board and thanked them for attending.

District Reports: Each Board member gave a summary report of recent activities or issues in his/her respective district.

District 9: Ken Lindgren shared that budget is a focus. Revenue for winter tournaments was up. The district board is reviewing the potential for a family ticket. He shared that in the past some middle level schools eliminated programs as a cost-cutting measure, but based on increased disciplinary issues and lack of school involvement, the programs were reinstated the following year. Rather than dropping programs, schools are looking at creative scheduling as well as other ways to reduce costs – pay to play, more tournament play; double duels, two games in a day for subvarsity teams. Due to low turnout among students, and even though several schools have combined their programs, a number of schools have applied to utilize eighth graders as a means to salvage baseball and softball teams. There are no 1B track teams in the District.

District 8: Al Falkner explained the principals will meet after this meeting, anticipating that finances will be the major focus. Revenue from the basketball playoffs was up from last year. Schools are committed to maintaining all levels of programs, including freshmen level teams.

District 7: Joe Feist shared that schools will strive to maintain programs as much as possible. There is considerable opposition to the track and field officials proposal. Schools in district 7 support the 16-team format for the state
basketball tournaments and do not support a change. The district has surveyed schools about “pay-to-play”.

District 6: Michele Webb shared that the superintendents, principals and athletic directors of the 1B, 2B and 1A schools held a joint meeting to look at budgetary issues, with travel being a primary focus. There was discussion to continue with varsity programs at 100% (of the number of allowable contests), JV at 80%, and C squad at 75%, and potentially have teams travel together to reduce costs. Even though the number of contests will be reduced, the length of seasons will remain the same. There is concern regarding the additional travel required when two districts “glue” for the purpose of the potential to secure an additional allocation. Loren Sandhop added that District 6 may request the WIAA Executive Board to eliminate that policy. He added that the Big 9 League is reviewing the league divisions, even though in the middle of the cycle, may change the division alignments for the 2009-10 school year to reduce costs.

District 5: Rich Rouleau reported that the District 5 spring meeting was held. He reported that the involvement of the WIAA staff was missed. Staff travel has been reduced as a cost saving measure. The winter tournaments generated the highest revenue ever in the history of District 5. The financial picture for schools in District 5 is similar to other areas of the state. The superintendents in ESD 105 are considering a joint meeting similar to the one recently held in Districts 1 and 6. George Juarez added that among superintendents in ESD 125 the focus has been on legal responsibilities, but there has been no discussion whatsoever regarding athletics.

District 4: Henry Karnofski reported that budget is the primary issue of concern, focusing on ways to save money. Teams from different schools may ride in the same buses. District 4 does not support an increase in officials’ fees. Middle schools may withdraw from WIAA as a cost-saving measure. Contests will be scheduled to minimize travel. He reported that a new 1B/2B league of six private schools and one public school will be formed next year. Mr. Karnofski was asked for an interpretation of the status of three-person mechanics in basketball and, in referencing WIAA Handbook Article 24.3.0. (The WIAA Executive Board supports the number of officials required by the National Federation Rulebook for that sport.) The WIAA has an agreement with the WIA that stipulates that all varsity basketball games must utilize three-person mechanics. Mr. Colbrese shared that the WIAA/WOA agreement regarding the number of basketball officials to be used was negotiated by those two governing bodies, and individual officials’ associations or boards do not have the authority to overturn that agreement. District 3: Ed Ploof reported that the elimination of athletic director positions is becoming apparent as schools look to reduce costs. A primary focus has been not to reduce opportunities for students. Schools are hoping to maintain subvarsity schedules and will regionalize competition as much as possible. He shared that the Kent School District held public meetings to determine future cost cutting measures. That community refused to cut any programs and will look for other means to reduce costs. League realignment has begun, with the focus now on reducing travel costs rather than access to state tournaments which has been a primary driver in previous classification cycles. He shared that 48 schools attended a recent meeting involving potential league alignments.
District 2: Chris Bigelow shared that budget concerns are the major focus, with anticipated cuts in middle school sports, school athletic directors and coaches.

District 1: Harlan Kredit reported that there is concern among the schools, and particularly in the Northwest League, about school funding. The Bellingham Herald reported that the athletic directors positions in each of the Bellingham schools may be eliminated, which generated a great deal of public discussion about budget. The athletic directors, principals and superintendents in the district held a joint meeting to discuss budgetary issues. Saturday contests may be eliminated, subvarsity contests have already been reduced, more middle level schools may potentially withdraw from WIAA, and some coaching positions will most likely be eliminated. Mark Venn and Beth VanderVeen attended that meeting, and shared their perceptions. Mr. Venn reiterated that the value of interscholastic programs makes them worthwhile to maintain, although with cuts across the board, those programs will also be impacted. There is a belief among the Northwest League schools that the WIAA does not recognize and acknowledge the hardships faced by the schools, both in the state tournament formats and sites, but also through the rules themselves. Mr. Venn suggested that the WIAA Executive Board publicly recognize the concerns. Ms. VanderVeen added that the 14 public schools in the Northwest League were represented at the meeting. She shared that the concerns may be heightened due to declining enrollment of the schools in that area.

Mr. Karnofski summarized the reports with the reminder that there are a lot of positive and proactive actions in each of the districts. Mr. Ploof added that the number one goal of the WIAA Executive Board to insure the financial stability of the WIAA and to support the financial stability of the member schools. It has been incorporated into every discussion and action of the WIAA Executive Board. Ross Hjelseth suggested that the WIAA Executive Board take a position on each of the guiding principals established by the Superintendents Advisory Council, and requested that each district share the means by which costs are being reduced. Communication is the key. Mr. Colbrese encouraged attendees to call him at any time if questions arise where additional information or validation is needed. Mr. Falkner cautioned the board about making quick decisions, and reminded the attendees that the legislative and executive branches of the WIAA have worked well through the course of time.

CONSENSUS ISSUES
Mr. Falkner requested to make a change in the District 8 report in the January 25, 2009, minutes. The recognition awards are not presented by the Spokesman Review, but by the City of Spokane.

Feist/Falkner moved to approve the agenda, the January 25, 2009, minutes with the correction, and the consensus issues. MOTION PASSED.

AFFILIATE GROUP REPORTS
WSSAAA REPORT
Dave Tikker shared that the focus of WSSAAA has been mentoring, educating, and retaining athletic directors. He indicated that registration for the state athletic directors conference is significantly reduced from last year. As a result of the anticipation of reduced costs paid by school districts for athletic directors to attend the conference, the future format, site, and date of the conference may be quite different.
Fine Arts REPORT
No report.

State Superintendents Association (WASA) REPORT
Mark Venn reported registration for the annual WASA spring conferences is substantially down, but he is hopeful that the Superintendents Advisory Council will continue to meet to address areas of mutual concern. He suggested that the WIAA Executive Board and the staff need to make the decisions regarding budget more visible, as a means to demonstrate support to the membership. Mr. Feist reminded the group that a list of cost-cutting items approved by the WIAA Executive Board was provided during the Winter Coalition.

State Principal’s Association (AWSP)
High School Principals (WASSP)
Ms. VanderVeen was unable to attend the recent AWSP Council although Mr. Colbrese was there. There was discussion on reducing the number of contests, but there was no consensus from the principals in that meeting. While there was a request for assistance, no clear direction was provided. Mr. Colbrese added that some of the requests would require a suspension of the WIAA rules by the WIAA Executive Board (if decisions typically made by the Representative Assembly were to be made by the Board instead). She shared that in many schools, the ASB secretaries salaries will be picked up in the future by ASB funds rather than by the school district.

Mr. Colbrese shared that the WIAA staff has been informed that there will be no raises to the base salary and that executive staff travel has been reduced. He has met individually with each of the state tournament sites to reduce expenses and has made himself available to attend any meeting to discuss concerns. Mr. Juarez added that the list of cost-cutting measures developed by the staff that was presented during the Winter Coalition should be sent to the superintendents.

Middle School Principals (AWMLP)
Cherie Carroll reported that middle level principals are struggling with funding decisions regarding after-school support (means to raise academic scores, etc) versus interscholastic programs. Following a public meeting debating pay-to-play, a mother shared that some families would choose to pay the fee rather than make a car payment.

Washington Officials Association (WOA)
No report.

WFIS REPORT
Ross Hjelseth reported that the funding concerns of the public schools are shared by the private schools. He reported that the “pay to play” has been in place for years so that cannot be seen as a “fix.” He shared that predicting enrollment is especially difficult in the private sector.

WSCA REPORT
Ed Lauleinen reported that the WSCA board and sports reps attended a meeting at the WIAA office on March 22, 2009. He complimented Mr. Colbrese for attending that meeting to cover the proposed amendments and answer their questions. Mr. Lauleinen reported that budgetary concerns are shared by the coaches.
State School Directors Association (WSSDA) REPORT
Terry Densley reported the focus has been on the progress of the state legislature, particularly with the levy equalization, and how school funding may be affected.

District Directors
Russ Brown reported that as a means to reduce costs for post season events, the district directors are debating assigning home site officials for all post season events.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS
Finance Committee: Joe Feist reported that the subcommittee discussed further ideas for possible expense reductions including: hosting the WIAA Representative Assembly at the WIAA office, working with facilities to decrease expenses, implementing the ideas generated at the January meeting into the budget, etc. The committee also recommended tabling the proposed addition of participant fees for State Solo and Ensemble and revisiting the proposal after the 2009-10 fiscal year.

Calendar/Culminating Events Committee: Wendy Malich presented a summary of the recommendations of the committee:
1) The following schedule for state basketball tournaments will remain for the 2009-10 school year: Week 1: 1B; Week 2: 2B, 1A, 4A; Week 3: 2A, 3A. The 3A would move to week 2 and the 4A tournaments would move to week 3 beginning with the 2010-12 classification/ allocation cycle.
2) The committee agreed to review the potential to begin each season one week later. They explained that coaches’ contracts could be negotiated for one less week; that the overlap from one season to the next would be reduced by one week (or eliminated altogether); the WIAA current facility contracts would not need to be changed; and that hosting contests during inclement weather common during the first weeks of the current spring season could be avoided.
3) The district directors will be required to submit to the WIAA office for the subcommittee to review and consolidate the site selection criteria in football and soccer by April 1, 2009. Each district will need to submit the list of approved sites by October 1, 2009, or potentially lose the opportunity to host a first or second round contest. That requirement and date are already listed in the Bound for State Football and Soccer Site Selection Criteria.
4) The 2009 fall allocations and draws have been approved, the subcommittee felt there was no urgency in reviewing the current draw criteria for soccer and football, this item will be added to the subcommittee agenda for both April and July.
5) Because the WIAA Executive Board approves every school combination agreement, there was discussion that the Board should also approve the combination agreements between districts for post season qualifying events. Plouf/Kredit moved on first reading that the executive board should approve all agreements between districts for post season qualifying events. MOTION PASSED. Staff was directed to develop appropriate timelines.
6) The committee directed staff to review state tournament schedules for potential modifications to minimize school expenses where possible.
7) Review 2008-09 approved calendar and proposed 2009-2010 calendar, and in particular, the July Board meeting date, which will be moved to Monday, July 27, 2009.
Handbook Committee: Rich Rouleau reported that the subcommittee reviewed potential editorial changes, interpretations and future amendments. The full list of the approved editorial changes will be presented to the Representative Assembly on April 24, 2009.

FINANCIAL REPORT
Year to date Financial Summary
Director of Finance and Operations Leah Francis presented the year to date financial summary. The variance from year to year has to do with the timing of the settlements from the facilities. Ms. Francis indicated that the report will focus on comparing the current year’s actual revenues and expenses to the current year’s budget. Attendance at state cheerleading, 2A and 3A state basketball was less than last year, but was up in all other sports. Ms. Francis provided a five-year attendance report for basketball, which demonstrates a significant decline in the 2A and 3A tournaments. Ms. Francis also stated that revenues for winter events came in below targets/projections. A full winter report with revenue, expenses and net income for all winter events, will be presented during the April meeting.

Falkner/Feist moved to accept the year to date financial summary. MOTION PASSED.

Ms. Francis presented the 2009-2010 WIAA budget for first reading. The finance subcommittee again recommended tabling the proposed addition of participant fees for State Solo and Ensemble and revisiting the proposal after the 2009-10 fiscal year. Such fee would be deleted from the 2009-10 WIAA budget.

Feist/Ploof moved to accept the 2009-2010 WIAA budget on first reading with the elimination of the proposed fee for the State Solo and Ensemble participants. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Colbrese reported that he will meet with the Tacoma Dome personnel in an attempt to divert intended increases proposed by that facility.

REQUESTS FOR ACTION
PLAN FOR USE OF STATE TRACK AND FIELD OFFICIALS
Olsen/Sandhop moved to take the plan for use of state track officials off the table. MOTION PASSED.

Ms. Fisher presented and clarified the proposal regarding certified track officials for third and final reading. As an alternative, Harlan Kredit shared information regarding a two-and-one-half hour class for track officials provided by Daunte Gauge, track and field coach at King’s High School and current president of the Washington State Track and Field Coaches. This program would not certify officials through the Washington Officials Association, but would have them certified through the Pacific Northwest Track and Field Association and registered with the WIAA. The program is free and there would be no fees mandated by either the WIAA or WOA.

Olsen/Ploof moved to amend the plan for use of state track and field officials beginning in 2010-11 with the proposal as submitted by Harlan Kredit. MOTION FAILED.

SITE SELECTION FOR FIRST AND SECOND ROUND FOOTBALL AND SOCCER
Mr. Miller emphasized that with the first and second rounds of soccer being held on consecutive Saturdays beginning in the fall of 2009, the sites selected need to meet the
established site selection criteria. He added that schools could mutually agree to play on a Friday.

**SPRING ALLOCATIONS**
Mr. Barnes presented the 2009 and 2010 spring allocations, based upon information provided and then reviewed by the District Directors, for WIAA executive board approval. **Lindgren/Olsen moved** to approve the allocations as presented. MOTION PASSED.

**NOTE:** The draws for baseball, boys soccer, softball and tennis will be posted directly onto the WIAA Web site by April 3, 2009.

**REQUEST TO UTILIZE EIGHTH GRADERS TO SALVAGE 1B JUNIOR VARSITY SPRING PROGRAMS**
Mr. Colbrese shared a letter from Jim Evans, principal at Almira/Coulee-Hartline, requesting that the WIAA Executive Board extend the approved experiment allowing 1B schools to utilize eighth graders to salvage junior varsity programs in baseball and softball.

**Feist/ Falkner moved** to approve the request. MOTION APPROVED. **NOTE:** Any other 1B school with a similar request and league approval could use eighth graders to salvage a junior varsity baseball or softball team.

**Feist/Ploof moved** to approve the request of Bush to allow eighth graders to salvage a junior varsity baseball program (no varsity program is offered). MOTION PASSED. **NOTE:** The eighth graders must attend a WIAA member middle school.

**WIAA/WOA AGREEMENT REVIEW**
Mr. Colbrese indicated that the WIAA/WOA agreement review committee has not yet reached consensus regarding a master agreement.

**STATE EVENTS**

**WINTER SEASON EVENT REVIEW**
Andy Barnes summarized the state bowling championships at the Narrows Bowl went very well and that site personnel committed to the event through the next classification/allocation cycle. Mr. Barnes reported that both the boys and girl state swim and dive meets now have the same schedule. As is typical for the state swim and dive management, the boys meet was very well run. Ms. Fisher reported that gymnastics went extremely well, with an increase in attendance at the combined wrestling/gymnastics event. She added that 1400 participants will compete in the upcoming state dance/drill championships. Mr. Miller complimented the tournament managers for their coordination efforts in managing a phenomenal wrestling event in which 1200 wrestlers, boys and girls combined, participated. Mr. Meyerhoff reported that Ed Aliverti, who has been announcing the state wrestling championships for the past 40 years, plans to retire. He also reported that the number of girls participating in wrestling continues to increase. Ms. Adsit added that the basketball tournaments went well and complimented the management and staff at all sites for their efforts to provide outstanding events.

**SPRING SEASON EVENTS UPDATES**
Ms. Fisher reported that there has been little feedback on the track and field state meet schedules since they were posted on the WIAA Web site. Mr. Barnes reported that one parent has complained that the 1B/2B boys and girls golf site will be inadequate. He
reported that the course has been used in previous years with no complaints. Mr. Miller reported that sites and managers are confirmed for soccer. Mr. Barnes shared that the sites and managers are secured for the tennis events to be held in Vancouver, Kennewick and Yakima, but that staff is still in search of a manager for Seattle. Ms. Adsit reported that the regional and state baseball managers will meet with all other spring managers on April 16 at the WIAA office.

PLANNING
CURT AND CHEE CHEE BRUSKLAND AWARD
Mr. Colbrese presented the staff recommendation of Dr. Warren Howe for the 2009 Curt and Chee Chee Bruskland Award. Dr. Howe has been a long standing member of the WIAA Medical Aspects of Sports Committee, and while he served as the recruiter and organizer of the doctors and athletic trainers at the Mat Classic for 19 years, he provided medical assistance for several years prior to the first Mat Classic. Even now, he continues as a member of the athletic training staff at that event. The award will be presented during the 2009 WIAA Coaches School on Saturday, August 1, at the Yakima Convention Center.

Ploof/Rouleau moved to approve Dr. Warren for the 2009 Curt and Chee Chee Bruskland Award. MOTION APPROVED.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Emerald City Volleyball Invitational/ Emerald City Kickoff Classic
Mr. Barnes reported that there are four confirmed games that will be played at Qwest Field on Saturday, September 2, 2009. He hopes to have the fifth matchup finalized by the end of March. Eastlake High School is, once again, available to host the ECVI.

AMENDMENTS FOR 2009
Mr. Colbrese reviewed the Winter Coalition agenda and procedures.

Mr. Colbrese shared the Representative Assembly agenda, set for Friday, April 24, 2009. In addition to voting on the proposed amendments, the Representative Assembly members will welcome Karst Brandsma as the 2009 Gareth Giles inductee.

EDUCATION BASED ATHLETIC ROUNDTABLE
Mr. Colbrese reported on the February 9, 2009, meeting held at the WIAA office involving the athletic directors and athletic trainers from the secondary institutions in Washington.

Just Play Fair!
Mr. Barnes provided the winter 2008-09 ejection report comparing the number of ejections to the number of ejections last year at this time. Mr. Barnes also reported that he and Mr. Colbrese will meet with representatives of the “Star” program, which has been adopted by other state associations, to promote sportsmanship. Mr. Miller added that, as a result of 20 ejections in boys' soccer within the first two weeks of the season, he sent a notification to all athletic directors to be proactive and emphasize sportsmanship, appropriate levels of play, and to cultivate good relations with the officials. Mr. Barnes will provide an update during the April meeting on the status of the Seamount schools that presented sportsmanship plans during the September board meeting.
LEGISLATIVE and LEGAL REPORT
John Olson reported that the Association has been working with the Brain Injury Association of Washington, a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing traumatic head injuries. He reported that the organization proposed legislation that continues to work through the appropriate Senate and legislative committees regarding return to play policy whereby any student who exhibits signs of a concussion could return to play only after being released by a licensed physician within their scope of practice. Mr. Olson is waiting for the notification for a court date regarding the out-of-season challenge.

ELIGIBILITY UPDATE
Ms. Fisher reported that the number of cases held at both the district and state level was approximately the same as compared to 2008, with several hearings now being scheduled for spring sports participants.

HALL OF FAME UPDATE
Mr. Barnes announced that the 2009 Hall of Fame induction will be on April 15, 2009, at the Spirit of Washington Events Center in Renton. He reported that a news release about the event and the 2009 inductees was recently sent to the statewide media. Mr. Barnes indicated that he may recommend the Board contract with some individuals to assist schools in submitting nominations in the future.

MEDIA, MARKETING, PROMOTIONS AND CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP
Sarah Cooper reported that the winter tournaments went well. Several WIAA programs, from the fall state championships, to the LEAP program, to corporate partner agreements, were highlighted during the FSN broadcasts. The LEAP students raised more than $1200 for Special Olympics during the 3A state basketball tournament. Mr. Knapp added that the LEAP students conducted a food drive at the 1A tournament in Yakima, although it was not as successful as the coin drive. The food and cash (some fans contributed cash rather than food) were distributed to the Salvation Army in Yakima.

Mr. Knapp presented a short summary of marketing strategies utilized during the winter events, and continues to develop additional plans for the spring events. Mr. Knapp is also working on developing a tiered corporate partner agreement package.

NFHS
Mr. Colbrese shared the brochures for the NFHS summer conference to the board members. As a member of the NFHS Executive Committee, he will be attending the next meeting of that group on April 15, 2009, and will miss the Hall of Fame ceremony.

FEATURES AND ARTICLES
Mr. Colbrese submitted a series of articles and features of interest to the Board.

REVIEW OF BOARD MEETING ACTION
Andy Barnes reviewed action by the Board taken during this meeting.

Sandhop/Ploof moved to go into executive session at 11:45 AM. MOTION PASSED.

Rouleau/Feist moved to bring the Board out of executive session at 12:30 PM. MOTION PASSED.
ADJOURNMENT
Lopez/Lindgren moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 PM.

Submitted by:
Henry Karnofski, WIAA Board President
Mike Colbrese, WIAA Executive Director
Cindy Adsit, Recorder

Next Meeting:       April 22-23, 2009
                    WIAA office

                    April 24, 2009, Representative Assembly
                    Spirit of Washington Events Center, Renton

                    July 27, 2009
                    WIAA office