MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 14, 2026

The Board of Directors' regular fall meeting was held on September 14, 2026, at the IESA Office in Bloomington, Illinois.

President Ingold called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The following members were present: Haupt, Milem, Perillo, Yoder, Johnson, Ingold, Marquardt, Vanausdoll, Davis, and Drees. Nicole Schaefbauer, Chris Frasco, Jackie Litwiller, and Jonathan Hauter from the IESA staff were also present. Allensworth was present online. Warnke and Kerr were not present.

Motion by Davis/Drees to approve the June 2026 meeting minutes as presented. **Carried.**

President Ingold made a few remarks and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new school year.

Mr. Yoder presented the Treasurer's report. **Motion by Yoder/Johnson to approve the August 2026 financial report. Carried.** The Board received a 5-year comparison of income and expenses.

Division Reports

Division E—Mr. Yoder was contacted by a school in his Division regarding the Baseball and Softball seasons not starting at the same time. Mr. Frasco indicated that, in prior feedback from the baseball schools, there was little interest in starting the baseball season any earlier than currently scheduled.

Division N- Mr. Drees was contacted to request that the baseball state series pay be reviewed. Since the Officials Committee has already met, Mr. Frasco will add this to the Baseball Advisory agenda.

Assistant & Associate Director Reports

Matt Hawkins- Provided an update to the Board on the status of pending proposals and new partnerships. He also reviewed the end-of-year financial goals being surpassed and the social media engagement numbers.

Jonathan Hauter—Reported on the upcoming Golf State Finals. Golf participation numbers continue to grow, resulting in competitive sectional play. Updated the Board on the upcoming Bowling and Chess entry deadlines. Reviewed the IESA Recognition Programs currently in place and shared the recent updates regarding the NFHS middle school awards. With the addition of Girls Wrestling to the State Finals, a recommendation was made to increase the pay of the state final officials to $220.00 per day. **Motion by Ingold/Haupt to approve the increase in pay beginning with the 2027 tournament. Carried.**

Jackie Litwiller—Shared with the Board the final attendance numbers for the Fall AD Workshop and the general feedback on the event. Reported on the upcoming IESA softball state finals. The Board was updated on the preparation for the Cheer State Finals and the resources secured for the event. She updated the Board on the Volleyball State Finals and reminded the Board that the Libero Jersey exception begins this 26-27 season. Reviewed the status of the IESA Music S&E and Org contests. The Athletes with Disabilities resource pages have been updated. Shared information on the new Photography Internship.

Chris Frasco—Reported on the upcoming IESA state baseball finals. Shared with the Board that the partnership with AGL has been paused and will be discussed further by the Baseball Advisory Committee. The Board suggested piloting the platform with a group of schools during the 2027 season before implementing it at full scale. Reported on the current status of ejection numbers as compared to last year. Shared an update on the status and availability of the Division Meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Nicole Schaefbauer- Informed the Board of the current membership total and that activity numbers increased from the previous year. Updated the Board on the upcoming attendance of the IESA at the NFHS Middle School meeting. A review of the survey initiatives that are available this Fall: Streaming survey. This survey will be available until September 30th. The Association will use the information collected to guide the future direction of state final events. The Association has budgeted for exterior and interior work for the upcoming year. The Association shared the new student and official bag tags. Review of the Student/Team social media focus for this year. Updated the Board on the creation and implementation of state tournament logos that will be used for a more cohesive state final's look this year. Updated the Board on the work that legal counsel has been tasked with and the guidance that they have provided to date.

Old Business

The Board received a review of administrative and support staff assignments and duties.

The Board received the seniority listing of current Board members. A recap of the 2026 NFHS meeting was given by those Board members who attended. The eligibility for the 2027 summer meeting was reviewed.

The Board members up for re-election in the fall of 2026 were given a review of the election procedures and timeline.

New Business

The accounting firm of Striegel, Knobloch & Company, L.L.C., Bloomington, Illinois, prepared and presented the audit. **Motion by Drees/Johnson to accept the audit as presented. Carried.**

Motion by Yoder/Drees to approve the FY 2027 proposed budget as presented. Carried.

The Board reviewed the 403(b) Adoption Agreement. Since 2009, Admin Partners has served as the Association's third-party administrator for our 403(b). The 403(b) is currently the only employee benefit. This benefit reduces payroll tax for both staff and the Association. Over the past several years, 403(b) plans have fallen under federal scrutiny. The IRS ruled that entities like ours may participate in a 403(b). The adoption is required to acknowledge this, "restating" the plan. **Motion by Johnson/Yoder to approve the Adoption Agreement. Carried.**

The Board reviewed the Association Investment Policy. The previously adopted policy was updated to reflect current practice and increase the laddered CD investment amount by $35k, increase the CCE accounts' goal to amount of current FY budget. **Motion by Marquardt/Drees to approve the Investment Policy. Carried.**

The Board received an update on the Classification Committee's work. The Committee is set to meet again in November.

The Board received wording for inclusion on the IESA website regarding our Privacy Policy and Terms of Service. **Motion by Vanausdoll/Davis to approve the website Privacy Policy and Terms of Service. Carried.**

President Ingold recessed the meeting for lunch at 11:43 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

A discussion was held on the adoption of the IHSA Heat Policy for inclusion in the Handbook. IESA staff to research and provide wording and requirements for the January meeting.

The Board entered a closed session at 12:30 and reconvened at 12:50.

Board Committee Reports

Staff Relations- none
Finance- none

Advisory Committee Reports

Officials- The Officials Advisory Committee met in person on August 26, 2026. Motion by Marquardt/Yoder to approve recommendation #1 (increase in UIC and COO pay). **Complete Officials Advisory minutes may be found here.**

Other New Business

Activity composite for 25-26 Track and attendance figures were presented.

The dates of the future Board meetings were announced. The dates are January 29, April 9, and June 17. All future meetings will be held in person with a virtual option and will start at 10:00 a.m.

Motion by Davis/Drees to approve the expenses of the meeting. Carried.

There being no further business, **motion by Haupt/Milem to adjourn. Carried.** President Ingold adjourned the meeting at 1:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,