



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW COMMITTEE
APRIL 9-10, 2018, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- The committee voted and unanimously approved the nomination of Dr. Eddie Price, Deputy Superintendent Johnston County Public Schools (NC), to replace Mr. Mike Garrison as a secondary school representative on the committee. Dr. Price was selected based on his experience as a long-time teacher, administrator, coach, and adjunct faculty member at North Carolina State University.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Revisions to the Policies and Procedures. The committee reviewed its policies and procedures and recommended revisions to be formally approved via teleconference at a later date. Proposed revisions will clarify:

- a. The high school review staff (or designated representative(s)) is authorized to conduct a site visit at a high school regardless of the high school's account status. Information collected during the visit may result in a change of account status.
- b. Failure by a high school to respond to a formal Notice of Issues may result in an account status of Not Cleared.
- c. The criteria for review for nontraditional courses are not reviewed in isolation from one another, but instead are reviewed holistically to determine whether a nontraditional program's instructional model may be approved.
- d. The criteria for review for Art History courses shall be applied to history of or through any artistic medium.
- e. A high school may not appeal the determination of a staff-level decision if it has not provided the minimally required documents.
- f. The current weighted grades policy will be removed. The current policy states, "Staff shall not apply weighted grades for honors or advanced courses that do not have a regular-level equivalent." During a November 10, 2016 teleconference, the committee voted to suspend

N a t i o n a l C o l l e g i a t e A t h l e t i c A s s o c i a t i o n

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staff's application of the weighted grades policy pending the collection of additional data on the issue. Based on the data recently presented, the committee agreed to permanently remove the weighted grade policy from its policies and procedures and directed the high school review staff recognize schools' weighted grades.

- g. Identification for and criteria of review for high school accounts.** The committee determined staff may initiate a review of a high school if information indicates there may be issues related to (a) compliance with Student and Exchange Visitor Program ("SEVP") and/or (b) prospective student-athlete well-being (e.g., housing, meals). Further, the committee directed staff to incorporate questions related to (a) compliance with SEVP and (b) prospective student-athlete well-being into the customary review process. Information collected during the review process affirming a high school provided false and/or misleading information related to either of these items should be considered when determining a high school's account status.
- h. Cleared high school accounts partnering with teams and training centers.** A growing number of regionally- and nationally-competitive traveling sports teams and training facilities have begun partnering with or outsourcing their education to Cleared high schools. The committee affirmed that staff is authorized to request basic information from the Cleared high school about the arrangement and to affirm basic facts about the high school (e.g., academic programs, academic integrity policies, etc.) that may or may not already be on file with the Eligibility Center. If a high school fails to respond, or if the school's responses generate questions indicating there may be issues related to the validity of a high school as outlined in the committee's policies and procedures, staff may change the high school's account status to In Review.
- i. Attempts to circumvent the high school review process.** In recent years, high schools have attempted to evade or circumvent a Not Cleared determination by creating a new high school account seeking to be reviewed afresh. The committee affirmed staff may provide the high school a notice of issues and may subsequently render an account status of Not Cleared if it determines, based upon the information available to it, the school is clearly not new. The high school may appeal the decision to the committee pursuant to the appellate procedures for a Not Cleared determination.
- j. Computer science/coding as a foreign language.** Several state legislatures have considered or are currently considering bills that would recognize computer science courses as foreign language courses for graduation and/or college acceptance purposes. The committee determined computer science courses shall not be considered a foreign language for NCAA purposes, noting that both the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages as well as code.org, a leading non-profit organization focused on the promotion of computer science in schools, do not consider computer science courses equivalent to world language courses.

Committee Chair: Brad Rathgeber, One Schoolhouse.
Staff Liaison(s): Sarah Overpeck, Nick Sproull.

High School Review Committee April 9-10, 2018, Meeting
Attendees:
Michael Allison, Hopewell High School.
Mary Anne Butler, Stonington Public Schools.
Ann Gabriel, Ohio University.
Michael Garrison, California Interscholastic Federation – Sac Joaquin Section.
Kendra Greene, Florida A&M University.
Kedra Ishop, University of Michigan.
Alyssa Morales Kelly, Hofstra University.
Absentees:
Perry Massey, Fayetteville State University.
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Scott Bearby, Office of Legal Affairs.
Therese Joyce, Eligibility Center.
Felicia Martin, Eligibility Center.
Sarah Overpeck, Eligibility Center.
Christa Palmer, Eligibility Center.
Amy Routt, Eligibility Center.