

September 8, 2000

Mr. Hughes, Commissioner
FHSAA
P.O. Box 1173
Gainesville, FL 32602

Florida Legislature
Commissioner of Education

PUBLIC LIAISON ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Florida High School Activities Association's Public Liaison Advisory Committee would like to thank the Florida Legislature, Commissioner of Education and the FHSAA for the opportunity to work in conjunction with the State of Florida Superintendents, School Board Members, FACA, FCIS, Senior High School principals, Athletic Directors and other involved parties in helping bring about the change in the state Statute regarding the state mandated cumulative GPA for participation in interscholastic athletics. The change from cum to semester for ninth grade students will greatly increase the participation of a student athlete who had a difficult adjustment to high school. Whereas the requirements still will place a student on track to graduate with the required 2.0 cumulative GPA by their junior year in high school.

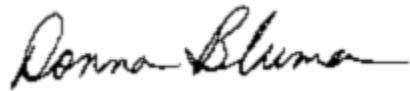
The FHSAA Public Liaison Advisory Committee commends the FHSAA in the following issues:

- The handling of all recruiting issues that occurred during the 1999-2000 school year, most notably the Berkshire School in Miami-Dade County. They were found in February 2000 to be guilty of major recruiting violations for both the boys and girls basketball teams. This resulted in not being allowed to participate in the FHSAA State Basketball Series for both teams and the final cumulating of the school's expulsion as a member of the FHSAA.
- Adoption of new policies in regard to international students, boarding schools and financial aid programs.
- Procedure of Representative Assembly meeting as to members who vote having the materials in plenty of time for review and discussion with other colleagues as pertaining to the voting process.
- Sectional Appeals Committee's are functioning in a positive manner. The meetings are positive and explained fully to the students and parents on how the meeting will run and the procedures that take place.
- Advisory Committee's are working well. This increases communication between the coaches and the FHSAA and helps them to work together in a bond to do what is best for the high school athletes in the state of Florida.
- Modification of the Football season starting in 2001. It is in the best interest of all involved to move the FHSAA Florida Football Finals away from the Christmas holidays by one week. The procedure has not been voted on at this time, but will be at the November FHSAA Board meeting.
- Continue with the recognition of the student/athletes through the FHSAA Academic All-State Team, Fred Rozelle Sportsmanship Award and the FHSAA Floyd E. Lay All-Sports Awards. These are highly prestigious awards that recognize the student/athletes and teams in the state of Florida.

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The FHSAA Public Liaison Advisory Committee would like to continue to work with the FHSAA Board in being a support group for the Association. All issues that were brought to the FHSAA Board were dealt with in a timely manner and all decisions made were in the best interest for the student-athletes in the state of Florida. We hope that the FHSAA will continue in its positive strides in making interscholastic athletics in the state of Florida the best for all of our student-athletes that we work with everyday.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Blumer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donna Blumer, C.A.A.

PLAC, Chairman

Cc: FHSAA Board
PLAC Members