



December 17, 2021

Shamus Bourdon  
Acting Executive Director of OFSAA  
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(416) 426-7440

RE: Request to review constitution, by-laws and operating procedures

Dear Mr. Bourdon,

On December 15, 2021, the Halton District School Board of Trustees unanimously passed the following motion:

**Be it resolved that the HDSB direct the Chair to write a letter, to be cosigned by the Director, to the Acting Executive Director of OFSAA to request that OFSAA review its constitution, by-laws and operating procedures and make any necessary revisions to ensure that a process exists to enable expedient remedies of any future errors by the organization that negatively impact student dignity and well-being, with copies to the Halton Athletic Coordinator, Golden Horseshoe Athletic Conference, and Ontario District School Boards,**

**And, that OFSAA demonstrates upholding its own Vision and Mission by providing transparency in this review process by conveying any resulting changes to member schools so that the HDSB students, staff and community can be confident that this negative experience resulted in positive change for all student athletes and those that support them.**

This motion is in response to the recent experience of the Girls' Basketball Team from T.A. Blakelock High School (TAB), specifically regarding their invitation to and subsequent exclusion from the OFSAA Basketball Championship, and the resulting negative impact to students, and the community that supports them.

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We recognize this was a mistake and we acknowledge that OFSAA issued a formal apology along with an explanation. However, the impact this had on the team and the wider school community is one we hope will never be repeated. Within the province, OFSAA holds a critical role related to excellence in student sport which is reflected in its Vision to be a "leader in the development of the student well-being", and its Mission to "foster student success and enrich education through school sport".

As an outcome of this situation, OFSAA indicated that the organization "will be reviewing our processes for assigning extra entries and confirming association commitments".

This letter is to further advocate and support this direction by requesting that OFSAA review its constitution, by-laws and operating procedures and make any necessary revisions. We also recommend development of a robust process/system that will enable verifications of team standings and entries, and expedient remedies of any errors. The goal of this is to ensure the attainment of OFSAA's Mission and Vision, and to ensure transparency and accountability, while protecting all athletes from any negative impacts on their dignity and well-being.

We kindly ask that OFSAA share and communicate any resulting changes and processes with all its member schools/associations .

Thank you for considering this request. We all have the athletes' best interests and success at heart. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Margo Shuttleworth  
Chair of the Board of Trustees  
Halton District School Board



Curtis Ennis  
Director of Education  
Halton District School Board

Cc: Matt Stewart, President HSSA  
Christine McAllan, 1st Vice-President HSSA  
Darrin Curtis, Athletic Convenor/Treasurer HSSA  
Mike Bertin, Secretary HSSA  
Paige Murphy, Transfer Representative HSSA  
Jeff Carey, GHAC/OFSAA Representative  
Jacquie Pece, HDSB Principal Representative  
Rebecca Richardson, HDSB Program Services Representative  
Krista Caron, HDSB HPE Department Head Rep

Eric Bulthuis, Independent Head Rep

Adam Baxter, Past President

Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) President

Ontario School Board Chairs (English Public, English Catholic, French Public,  
French Catholic)

