

NMAA Activities Council Meeting
September 1, 2020
Zoom Meeting

Welcome and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by NMAA Activities Council Chairman Mr. Steve Perea at 9:05 a.m. Roll call was conducted by Mrs. Alissa Wesbrook and the following members were present via Zoom:

Don Thompson, Bowling
Christine Phipps, CTLP
Steve Perea, Chess
Gael Natal, Drama/One-Act
Michael Mascone, Esports
Jarrod Smith, FFA
Lt. Col. Ralph Ingles, JROTC
Neil Swapp, Music
Kristen Leeds, NM Mock Trial
Rebeca Zimmermann, Scholastic Publications
Joseph Romero, Science Fair/Olympiad
Natalie Donnelly, SkillsUSA
Mary Hahn, Student Council
Clara Graham, TSA

Members absent:

David Maldonado, Athletic Training Challenge
Crystal Chavez, Educators Rising
Dianna Valdez, English Expo
Jory Mirabal, Rodeo
Jose Samora, Speech & Debate

Election of Chairperson

Mr. Perea asked for nominations for chairperson of the NMAA Activities Council. Ms. Phipps nominated Ms. Mary Hahn as the new chairperson of the Activities Council. Mr. Swapp seconded. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Perea asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Pappas requested to move the Western New Mexico discussion item to after the approval of the minutes. Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to accept the agenda, with the movement of the WNMU discussion, with a second by Mr. Perea. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Perea asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting. Mr. Swapp made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, with a second by Ms. Zimmerman. A vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Debra Reyes discussed the WNMU scholarships and noted that all scholarships have been awarded for the 2019-2020 school year. Nominations for the 2020-2021 school year are due by December 1st. It

was stated there are two scholarships given, one covers tuition, fees and housing and the second covers tuition and fees.

Activity Reports

NMAA Staff Reports-

Ms. Sally Marquez, Executive Director, commended the committee for continuing their activities virtually and staying involved with their students. She informed the committee Rodeo will no longer be an activity that is sanctioned by the NMAA. The Commission and Board of Directors will vote on this action item at their next meeting. Additionally, the STEM challenge will no longer be sanctioned by the NMAA, but the NMAA is still in support of this activity.

Mr. JP Murrieta stated the NMAA has launched a Mental Health Awareness initiative. This is an opportunity to bring awareness and promote Mental Health throughout the New Mexico community. This initiative will launch this week and will continue on all NMAA social media platforms as "Wellness Wednesdays." Ms. Pappas thanked the committee for all of their hard work and service to the students of New Mexico.

Council Members' Reports-

Athletic Training Challenge- no report was given.

Bowling – Mr. Thompson reported that the state tournament took place in February with 25 High Schools participating. They are currently working on next season, which will more than likely not start until January. Mr. Thompson also informed the committee that the NM Bowling Association gave out \$26,000 in scholarships to students this past year.

CTLP – Ms. Phipps presented that the New Mexico CTSO's membership included 29 chapters with 15 new chapters this year. The state conferences were held from February to March and included 1600 students competing in 177 different events. FCCLA and the National Conference were canceled due to COVID, however they had three national officer candidates run for office. She also stated there were several opportunities for professional development, including the CTSO Advisor Academy held on September 14th, the State Officer Training, and the Fall Leadership Rallies held on October 21-23rd at various locations. All events through December of this year will be held virtually. For the 2020-2021 school year, events scheduled include the State Officer Training on June 6-10, 2021; Advisor Academy on September 14, 2020 and the Fall Leadership Rallies scheduled for October 19-21, 2020. State Conference dates for this year include BPA scheduled for February 15-17th at the Marriot Pyramid; DECA scheduled for February 22-24th at Hotel Albuquerque; HOSA scheduled for February 25-27th at the Sheraton Hotel and FCCLA scheduled for March 15-17th at the Marriot Pyramid.

Chess – Mr. Perea noted that the championships were held in February and they were a great success. Due to the COVID pandemic they have decided to move this year's championships to April. He reported that the New Mexico Chess Organization received national recognition from the National Chess Federation last year for the first time in history.

Drama/One-Act Productions – Ms. Natal stated the state competition was held, along with their annual festival, in January and both went very well. This year they are working on a virtual One Act Festival but are waiting to see if the Education Theatre Association will be hosting it this year instead.

Educators Rising- No report was given.

English Expo- No report was given.

E-Sports- Mr. Mascone presented that 129 teams participated from various schools across the state in 2019-2020. The 2020 Championships were canceled, however, they are working on having a 14-week virtual season this year from January-April/May, with the hopes the state competition can be in person.

FFA – Mr. Smith stated the state convention was virtually this year. He reported that the summer camp has been moved virtually, with trainings taking place September-October. The 2021 Leadership Conference will be held in January.

JROTC – Lt. Col Ingles presented that this year the JROTC Activity events were very restricted and some canceled due to the pandemic. Several cadets during these times achieved and were recognized as distinguished units to include 10 students receiving scholarships from Western New Mexico University. He reported West Mesa High School Navy JROTC, along with Garfield Middle School and LBJ Middle School made over 3000 face shields and acrylic COVID barriers and distributed them to medical teams and first responders in New Mexico. In October, they will hold a Virtual Veterans Memorial to include Elementary through High Schools.

Music – Mr. Swapp presented the music report. He stated the 76th Annual All-State Music Festival was held in January, where over 1,000 students participated. They did have to cancel the 2020 state contests for concert band and choir due to the pandemic. The NMMEA Executive Committee met virtually on July 16-17th for their annual summer meeting. He informed the committee the NFHS is conducting a study in regards the amount of aerosols disbursed when an individual is singing and/or playing instruments. He reported that all Fall events will be virtual, to include the All-State Auditions for the All-State Festival held in January 2021. Lastly, NMMEA collaborated with Art, Dance and Theatre Educators and administrators to create a New Mexico Fine Arts Return to School document.

NM Mock Trial – Ms. Leeds presented that the state and national competitions were canceled due to COVID. For the 2020-2021 school year. the state competition will be held virtually, with registration beginning the day of the meeting and the case dropping on October 1st.

Rodeo- No report was given.

Scholastic Publications – Ms. Zimmermann presented that their state competition took place with 120 students participating in 17 different categories on January 25, 2020. Robertson High School participated for first time, with Centennial High School again taking home the blue trophy. Lastly, she reported that the state competition is set to take place virtually in January with Eastern New Mexico expressing interest in hosting this year.

Science Fair/Olympiad –Mr. Romero presented that the State Science Olympiad State Tournament included 800 to 850 Middle and High School students on the NM Tech campus. ABQ Homeschoolers took home the blue trophy, qualifying them for nationals. Due to the pandemic they were, however, unable to compete. The 2020 State Science Fair State Competition was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Competitions for the 2020-2021 school year will be virtual.

Skills USA- Natalie Donnelly presented the Skills USA report. It was reported there was an 18% increase in membership this year. The State and National conferences were canceled due to COVID; however, virtual sessions were conducted to help develop professional skills. Currently, they are planning a Fall Leadership Conference virtually, in addition to the State Conference scheduled for April 7-10th. She stated she did have two students who received scholarships from Western New Mexico University and Skills USA just launched a new website www.skillsusanm.com.

Speech & Debate – No report was given.

Student Council – Ms. Hahn noted that the 2020 NMASC State Leadership Conference took place on February 13-15th at Eldorado High School with 1,325 in attendance. The 2020 Summer Leadership Workshop was canceled due to COVID-19 and the 2020 Vision Conference was held as a virtual event, hosted by Centennial High School. This virtual conference had 755 Middle and High Schools registered from 20 states. She informed the committee of upcoming events in the 2020-2021 school year, to include the Fall District Virtual Conference Day on October 21st, the NMASC's 71st State Leadership Virtual Conference on February 11-13th in Las Cruces, and the Summer Leadership Workshop scheduled for June 8-11, 2021 at NM Tech.

TSA - Ms. Graham presented there was tremendous growth in membership and the number of affiliated chapters participating during the 2019-2020 school year, however, they were unable to hold the state conference this year due to COVID. Most competitions will take place virtually in the spring to include the state competition for the 2020-2021 school year. Nationals will take place as a hybrid model both in person and virtual.

New Business

Volunteers at Activity Events- Ms. Natalie Donnelly presented concerns regarding liability coverage for event volunteers in direct contact with students. Feedback included the need for a process to ensure proper coverage for these individuals. NMAA Business Manager Shari Kessler-Schwaner stated each outside entity needs to have their own coverage. Ms. Donnelly noted that she would head an informal “committee” to discuss the issue and Ms. Marquez offered the assistance of Mrs. Kessler-Schwaner for this discussion.

Ms. Marquez mentioned there are COVID-19 guidelines posted on the nmact.org website for review.

Adjournment

Mr. Perea thanked the NMAA staff and the Council members for their attendance and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second by Ms. Hahn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.