



Board of Directors March Meeting, March 17-18, 2021

Meeting Location: Online

Wednesday, March 17 (6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. CT)

Call to Order/Record of Approved Board and Standing Committee Minutes

The December 16-17, 2020, Board Meeting Minutes will be read into the record. All Board standing committee minutes (Governance, Internal Affairs, External Affairs, and Rules Revision and Evaluation) are available for discussion, as requested by Board members.

Internal Affairs Committee Business

FY20 990 and Tax Return

The annual 990 and Tax return, prepared by Denman & Company, LLP and reviewed and approved by the Internal Affairs Committee, will be presented for the record to the Board.

FY21 Quarter 2 Financial Report and Internal Affairs Committee Recommendations

The quarterly Financial Report, reviewed and accepted by the Internal Affairs Committee, will be presented for questions and comments prior to consideration for formal acceptance by the Board. The Executive Director and the Director of Business and Finance will field questions from the Board. In executive session, the Board will review recommendations related to staffing as well as a proposal for an Executive Director contract extension.

External Affairs Committee Business

FY21 Quarter 2 Development Report

The quarterly Development Report, reviewed by the External Affairs Committee, will be presented for questions and comments prior to consideration for formal acceptance by the Board. The Executive Director and Director of Development and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will field questions.

External Affairs Proposals

The Board will finalize several naming opportunities proposed by the External Affairs Committee. These are designed to recognize individuals who have made a profound impact on our society and/or the activity of speech and debate and, in being named, further advance the NSDA's commitment to its core values of equity, integrity, respect, leadership, and service. The discussion of potential naming opportunities will occur in executive session to ensure all considerations remain confidential until officially announced.

Marketing/Branding Recommendations

Over the past several months, the Office of the Executive Director and the Development Department have engaged Jackson Spalding, a marketing/communications agency, to prepare recommendations to NSDA staff leadership on foundational branding improvements to our value proposition to better engage our alumni as well as our current and potential membership, sponsors, and donors. These recommendations will be shared with the Board prior to the meeting, and time will be allotted for members to ask questions and share feedback.

Governance Committee Business

FY21 Quarter 2 Strategic Plan Report

The Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, and staff leadership team will field questions from the Board regarding the Quarter 2 Strategic Plan Report. The staff leadership team will also highlight some of the specific operational work being done this year to meet our committed objectives and will point out any current or anticipated challenges moving forward. The Strategic Plan includes five priorities: 1) Reach More Students, 2) Support More Schools, 3) Drive Inclusive Participation, 4) Earn Loyalty, and 5) Strive for Stability.

District and National Tournament Plans

The Executive Director will speak to ongoing plans and preparations for the District Tournament series and the 2021 online National Tournament.

Legal Matters

Each Board meeting includes time allotted for relevant updates on any pending legal matters, issues, or concerns. If there are matters to discuss, they will be addressed in executive session.

Review Membership Correspondence

In accordance with our goal of increased membership engagement, letters submitted to the Board will be included in our meeting materials to inform the Board of ideas, requests, and concerns that have been submitted for consideration.

Recess for Evening

Thursday, March 18 (7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. CT)

Reconvene

Competition Rules

Discussion of Rules Revision and Evaluation Committee Minutes

Upon request, time will be allotted for questions and comments regarding topics discussed in the meeting minutes.

2021-2022 Competition Rules Planning and Processes

Elected Board members will examine a recommendation by the Executive Director to review its current pilot rule process and procedures for competition rules assessment for further clarification. This includes reviewing the rules change submission process, decision making timelines, ad hoc committee development, avenues for community transparency and input, a timeline for publication of rules in the Unified Manual for the coming year, etc. Additionally, the current system of bringing forward Rules Revision and Evaluation Committee recommendations and the role of the full Competition Rules Board will be explored in an effort to continually improve and streamline this process. The goal of these initial discussions is to reaffirm and/or adjust these processes for implementation during the 2021-2022 school year.

Adjourn