



Board of Directors Spring Meeting, April 28-29, 2023

Meeting Location: Mesa, AZ

Call to Order/Welcome/Record of Approved Minutes

Mission Moment

This moment is designed to set the tone for the meeting and purposefully remind all present of our mission, vision, values, and goals as we deliberate and conduct business on behalf of our current and future membership. Board members and special guests will have an opportunity to share their reactions and engage in a team building activity. Day 2 of meetings will also begin with and utilize these two key practices. Additionally, during meeting sessions, an Equity Pause will be intermittently utilized to reflect on deliberations in light of our organization's ongoing commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Legal/Confidential Matters

Each Board meeting includes time allotted for relevant updates on any pending legal matters or other business that require discussion 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. This is an opportunity to briefly highlight, clarify, and or frame action items on the docket in light of these submissions.

Reports/New Business

Standing Committee Minutes and Q&A

Prior to the Board meeting, members are asked to submit questions about the prior standing committee minutes so that they can be addressed by the appropriate committee chair either before or during the meeting.

Equity and Inclusion

Director of DEI Dr. Paul Porter will provide an update on the inaugural Activating Equity Award, along with a progress report on the FY23 Equity Commitments. Board members will get the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the organization's progress.

Business Modeling

The Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director will present an update of the staff leadership team's work regarding assessment of the organization's current business model, the goals of the project, proposed timeline, process overview and potential framework revisions will be introduced and discussed.

Centennial Celebration Committee Update/Leveraging Impact of the 100th Anniversary

As the NSDA nears its 100th anniversary, the staff and Board have begun preparations to not only celebrate this moment in our history, but also lean into the milestone as a way to leverage its impact with the broader communities of speech and debate as well as the educational system as a whole. As a vehicle for achieving our "North Star Goal" of sustainable speech and debate interscholastic programming in every school, we hope that the attention generated can be maximized to drive our mission. The Board will discuss the plans generated by the NSDA's marketing department and Centennial Steering Committee and then determine ways in which this event can maximize mission impact.

Disruptors Conversation

At its winter online meeting, the Board of Directors participated in a think tank discussion to discuss the many ways in which colleges, universities, companies, governments, and organizations operate post the pandemic. As the NSDA positions itself to respond to unfamiliar challenges and to unforeseen opportunities, the NSDA Board will continue these important discussions regarding educational trends, technological challenges, and more. The Board will participate in a second think tank session.

Strategic Planning

The Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director submitted potential strategic objectives for the 2023-2024 school year for review. Some objectives from 2023 are recommended for continuation, some continuing with changes or updates to build upon prior progress, and some are potential new strategies for the FY24 plan. Each proposed objective has been tied to a Board committee, one or more key performance indicators (KPIs) if staff has enough information to project that, and broad quarterly tactics. These recommendations will be reviewed for approval by the Board. The goal is to set in motion the framework for the fiscal year 2024. The Board will discuss and offer insights on the KPIs to maximize impact on the mission. Additionally, the value of various strategies, including hosting conferences, will be considered. The Board will gauge the effectiveness and necessity of such events and/or other adapted formats to gauge whether the investment needed is warranted.

Finance Business

The Board will be provided with the Q2 financial report, FY22 990 tax return, and a pre-budget proposal for FY24, which have been reviewed and approved by the Internal Affairs Committee. The pre-budget includes both budgetary projections from last year, as well as the current FY23 budget actuals and end of year projections. The Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, and Director of Business and Finance will share highlights of questions submitted before the meeting and field any additional questions on the Q2 report, the 990, and/or the end

of year projections. The Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director, and Director of Business and Finance will then open up discussion and field questions on the proposed FY24 pre-budget, which will be subject to approval. The Internal Affairs Committee will bring forth their recommendation on the budget proposal.

Board Composition

As part of its FY23 Board Priorities, the NSDA Board has been considering various changes to the NSDA's Board and overall leadership composition. The process of restructuring NSDA leadership infrastructure began in 2016 with the addition of non-elected Board members who were appointed to serve on the Board to add additional expertise and provide a unique perspective on governing issues regarding 501(c)(3) nonprofit standards. In 2018, new term limits were implemented to ensure appropriate turnover in Board membership. Over the past year, the Board, through the work of its Governance Committee, has been considering potential adjustments and/or additions designed to enhance the overall governance system of the NSDA and, in turn, serve the diverse needs of our membership and the broader spectrum of speech and debate communities. This work led to a series of diverse focus group meetings during the spring to provide instrumental feedback on the Board's initial thoughts and concepts. The Executive Director and Board will go over the feedback that was received and develop a revised concept for further evaluation and feedback from stakeholders before a final proposal will be considered by the Board at its Fall meeting. Additionally, a status report regarding the Governance Committee's ongoing process for securing and reviewing potential appointed Board member nominations and/or renewals under the current system will be discussed. Actions needed to facilitate a successful governance transition will also be addressed.

Current and Future Nationals Overview

The Executive Director will update the Board on various logistical aspects regarding the upcoming tournament. These updates will review a range of topics including:

- The current entry count status for the middle school and high school tournaments.
- Update on health and safety protocols and procedures, including a discussion on the current standards used for determining future host sites. An opportunity to review those standards and a potential timeline for assessment, additions, or adjustments to standards for future bids will also be considered.
- An overview of any challenges faced during this year's qualifying season.
- Anticipated challenges that will be uniquely faced this year.

In addition, the Executive Director will provide a brief update on the ongoing plans for the 2023 Nationals and beyond. The Executive Director will field questions from the Board concerning the updates presented.

Hall of Fame/Legends Committee Process Assessment

Given the expanding size and scope of our organization and the evolution of our mission and vision during its extensive history, an evaluation of the purpose, processes, and standards established for these honors is worth consideration. This discussion will determine whether adjustments are needed to update, expand or adapt the process to meet the needs and priorities of our organization. An ad hoc committee may be recommended for consideration.

FY23 Calendar Planning

The Board completed a pre-assessment of a draft FY24 Board Meeting Calendar prior to the meeting. In order to best facilitate full attendance for general Board and Standing Committee meetings in 2023-2024, results including format, location, timeframes, and dates will be discussed to establish a workable framework for implementation.

Adjourn