



**SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SDHSAA OFFICE BUILDING**

July 29, 2026

10:30 AM

Pierre, South Dakota

The Board of Directors held a strategic planning meeting on July 30, 2026, at the SDHSAA Office Building in Pierre, South Dakota with members present as follows:

Randy Hartmann	Ryan Rollinger	Jeff Kusters	Chris Long	Dr. Jeff Danielsen
Billy Clanton	Chad Allison	Jordan Bauer	Chuck Wilson	

Staff members present included Dr. Dan Swartos, Randy Soma, and Brooks Bowman.

Item #'s 1 and 2: Call the Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Randy Hartmann at 10:36 A.M., followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Item #3-Introduction of Board and Staff Members

President Hartmann asked the Board of Directors and the SDHSAA Staff Members to introduce themselves.

Item #4-Opening remarks

President Hartmann thanked the board for their service and welcomed them to a new year on the SDHSAA Board of Directors. He also reviewed board meeting protocols and procedures, which are an amended form of Roberts Rules of Order. Dr. Swartos gave an update on the SDHSAA mission statement and spoke regarding the need to continue to provide the case for education-based athletics and activities and the value of state high school activities association.

Item #5- Review 2025 Strategic Planning Minutes

President Hartmann reviewed the 2025 Strategic Planning Minutes.

Item #6- NFHS Summer Meeting Comments and Reflections

Staff who attended the NFHS Summer Meeting in Salt Lake City shared their comments and reflections on the meeting.

Item #7- Review Board Policy Manual, Constitution/By-Laws, and Yearbook

Dr. Swartos reviewed the 2026-27 SDHSAA Policy Manual and Constitution and By-Laws. SDHSAA staff detailed changes to policy for the upcoming year and the constitutional amendments that were approved by membership were updated within the Constitution and By-Laws.

Item #8- Review the FY 25 Audit

Dr. Swartos reviewed the FY25 financial audit with the Board. The audit was completed by the South Dakota Department of Legislative Audit. It was an unmodified audit with one finding in regards to separation of duties.

President Hartmann declared the Board in recess at 12:05 PM and out of recess at 12:35 PM.

Item #9- Review the FY26 and 27 Budgets

Dr. Swartos reviewed the FY 26 budget and detailed proposed adjustments to the FY 27 budget from the first reading. The Board will have a second reading of the FY 27 budget at the July 30th regular meeting of the SDHSAA Board of Directors.

Item #10- Updated Procedure for Selection of State Basketball Officials

Dr. Swartos updated the Board on some changes to the process by which state basketball officials will be selected, to include regional representation.

Item #11- Legislative Considerations/GOAC

Dr. Swartos reviewed the 2026 Legislative Session, previewed the 2027 session, and reviewed his presentation to GOAC that occurred July 21, 2026.

Item #12- Review Site Selection Committee for 26-27

Dr. Swartos reviewed the structure of the Site Selection committee. President Hartmann will appoint members to the 2026-27 committee (considering sites for 2030-31) at the July 30th meeting of the SDHSAA Board of Directors.

Item #13- Review SDHSAA Constitutional Revisions for 2025-26 and 2026-27

Dr. Swartos visited with the Board about Constitutional Revisions for 2025-26 and potential recommendations for 2026-27. The membership passed amendments to language regarding transfers and eligibility. Looking towards 2026-27, we will be looking at clarifying language pertaining to division breakdown of the Board of Directors, a clarification regarding semi-pro participation, and potential amendments that may come from ad hoc committees.

Item #14- Sub-Committee Updates

Dr. Swartos updated the Board on the progress of the success factor task force. The recommendation with feedback from member schools is to wrap up the study with no recommendations for constitutional amendment proposals.

Item #15- Discuss Superintendent Group Priorities

Dr. Jeff Danielsen, Jeff Kosters, and Chris Long reported that the Superintendents group feels comfortable with where the SDHSAA is at, but have concerns regarding the advisory committee process. The Superintendents encourage the SDHSAA to continue to work on public communications and showing the value of education-based activities.

Item #16- Discuss Secondary Principal Priorities

Chad Allison and Ryan Rollinger shared feedback from secondary principals, with the primary feedback revolving around being cognizant of time out of school.

Item #17- Discuss Athletic/Activities Director Priorities

Chuck Wilson and Jordan Bauer shared feedback from the athletic/activity directors. Feedback included questions regarding the advisory process, clarifying cyber school vs homeschool enrollments, classification questions, region representation at state events, officials shortages, and the summer moratorium differences in urban vs rural areas.

Item #18- Discuss School Board Priorities

Randy Hartmann and Billy Clanton shared feedback from school boards. They share the message of remaining cognizant of time out of school. They want to make sure we continue to highlight the perception and role of activities in the culture of the school/community. There continue to be concerns regarding funding and the impact that added activities have on school budgets.

Item #19- Executive Staff and Board Member Comments, Concerns, and Suggestions

SDHSAA Staff and Board had a wide-ranging discussion regarding the following topics:

- Scheduling/travel
- Communications/sharing our story with the public and noting what separates us from private, pay to play leagues.

President Hartmann declared the Board in recess at 2:01pm and out at 2:11 pm.

Item #20- Review 2025-26 Goals

Dr. Swartos reviewed progress on the 2025-26 goals.

- 25-26 Goal 1- Sportsmanship initiatives. Recommended to eliminate but continue informal focus.
- 25-26 Goal 2- Coach recruitment/retention- Recommend to carry over.
- 25-26 Goal 3- Success Factor Study- Recommend to eliminate based on membership feedback.
- 25-26 Goal 4- Value of state associations- Recommend to carry over with focus on communication strategies
- 25-26 Goal 5- AD recruitment/retention- Recommend to carry over and combine with goal 2.

Item #21- Set goals for 2026-27

The following goals were developed by staff and board for the 2026-27 school year:

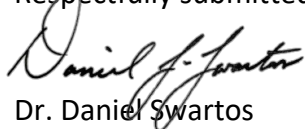
1. Develop initiatives concerning AD and Coach recruitment and retention.
2. Develop initiatives concerning communicating the story of our association, member schools, member school athletes, and the value of the SDHSAA.
3. Develop initiatives concerning officials recruitment and retention, with a focus on sub-varsity contests.
4. Conduct a review and study of the classification appeals process, with a focus on consistency.
5. Conduct a review and study of the advisory committee process to look for areas of improvement.

Item #22- Adjourn

It was moved by Kusters, second by Clanton, to adjourn. Motion carried 9-0.

President Hartmann declared the Board adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Swartos". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Daniel Swartos

SDHSAA Executive Director