

**Annual Report to the General Assembly and Governor of Delaware  
Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association  
January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019**

**Purpose:** The Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association (DIAA) was created under House Bill No. 475 of the 141<sup>st</sup> General Assembly. The DIAA mission is to preserve and promote the educational significance of interscholastic athletics; ensure that interscholastic sports remains compatible with the mission of the member schools; provide for fair competition between member schools; promote sportsmanship and ethical behavior; establish and enforce standards of conduct for athletes, coaches, administrators, officials and spectators; protect the physical well-being of athletes; and promote healthy adolescent lifestyles.

The General Assembly intends for the DIAA to work in consultation and cooperation with the Department of Education to implement this charge.

**Rules and Regulations:** The DIAA is responsible for developing rules and regulations relating to secondary and middle school interscholastic athletics for all Delaware public schools and such Delaware private schools that elect to become members of DIAA.

The following changes were made to the DIAA Regulations during 2019:

- Effective March 11, 2019, Section 8.0 of 14 Del. Admin. C. §§ 1008 and 1009 were amended to add the fees for officiating contests and competitions as provided in 14 *Del. C.* § 304(6). Also, subsections 2.7.3.1 to correct technical errors to the definition of hardship in the Years of Participation Rule.
- Effective August 11, 2019, constables who are appointed in accordance with 14 *Del. C.* Ch. 27 was added to subsection 1.2.1.1 of 14 Del. Admin. C. § 1007.
- Also effective August 11, 2019, subsections 4.1 of 14 Del. Admin. C. §§ 1008 and 1009 were amended to revise the practice and competition dates for the fall, winter, and spring sports seasons based on the NFHS standardized calendar.
- Effective November 11, 2019, the Board amended subsections 3.2.2.1 and 3.2.2.1.1 to change the requirement that the Board's executive director and chairperson serve as voting, ex officio members of each committee to a current Board member serves as a voting, ex officio member on each committee.

The DIAA Handbook is available on the DOE web site at: <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/Page/1670>

**Duties, Powers and Authority:** The DIAA has the authority to establish annual dues for its members, establish standing committees, monitor its rules and regulations and investigate violations to its regulations. As part of the benefits of membership, the DIAA purchases both catastrophic health insurance for its member schools and liability insurance for its tournaments and the Board of Directors. Purchasing insurance in this manner significantly reduces the cost of such insurance to member schools. Virtually all of member schools' dues paid to DIAA are applied to the cost of this insurance coverage.

**Membership & Participation:** Membership in DIAA continues to prove to be a worthwhile investment for Delaware schools. DIAA’s education-based interscholastic athletics mission is in harmony with the mission of our member schools. Since DIAA’s creation in 2002, membership has steadily increased. Membership in DIAA now stands at 121 member schools – 63 high schools and 58 middle schools. When DIAA was formed in July 2002, it had 71 members consisting of 48 high schools and 23 middle schools.

Participation in interscholastic athletics represents an important part of the educational experience of Delaware middle and high school students. During the 2018-2019 school year, 28,079 students participated in interscholastic athletics at the high school level. Interscholastic athletics represent the single largest extracurricular activity at DIAA member schools. This includes 15,980 male and 12,099 female students (does not include participation in competitive and sideline cheer). The rate of participation by female students stands at 43 percent and is consistent with the national rate of 42.9 percent. Participation in interscholastic athletics is judged by many educators to be a prime motivator for many students to stay in school, achieve academic success and learn life skills.

Boys’ and girls’ basketball are the male and female sports with the largest participation rate by school with 56 different member schools fielding a boys and/or girls team. Football remains the male sport with the greatest number of male participants at 2,843. Girls’ volleyball and soccer are the girls’ sports with the greatest number of participants at 1,526 each. The full listing of participants by sports and gender and the number of schools sponsoring at least one team in that sport is shown below:

<b>DIAA Participation Summary</b>					
<b>Males 2018-2019</b>			<b>Females 2018-2019</b>		
<b>Sport</b>	<b>Athletes</b>	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Athletes</b>	<b>Schools</b>
Cross Country	1,060	51	Cross Country	775	51
Football	2,843	45	Football	8	6
Field Hockey	n/a	n/a	Field Hockey	1,483	50
Soccer	2,062	54	Volleyball	1,526	54
Unified Flag Football	111	12	Unified Flag Football	37	12
Bowling	9	1	Bowling	2	1
Ice Hockey	116	11	Ice Hockey	2	2
Basketball	1,604	56	Basketball	1,058	56
Unified Basketball	100	13	Unified Basketball	47	12
Wrestling	872	44	Wrestling	11	7
Indoor Track	892	41	Indoor Track	843	42
Swimming/Diving	670	39	Swimming/Diving	736	39
Baseball	1,411	50	Softball	1,022	46
Crew	92	3	Crew	137	5
Golf	334	44	Golf	161	32
Lacrosse	1,545	44	Lacrosse	981	37
Outdoor Track	1,399	43	Outdoor Track	1,110	44
Unified Track	56	11	Unified Track	51	11
Tennis	485	34	Tennis	552	36
Volleyball	184	11	Soccer	1,526	48
	<b>15,980</b>			<b>12,099</b>	

**National Federation of State High School Association (NFHS) Membership:** DIAA has been a member of the NFHS since January 1945. The NFHS serves its member associations, related professional organizations, and students by providing leadership for the administration of education-based interscholastic activities that support academic achievement, good citizenship and equitable opportunities. NFHS is the nationally recognized expert in the area of writing the playing rules for most interscholastic sports and is recognized as the leader in research and policy advocacy in the area of sport safety for interscholastic athletes.

**Meetings of the Association:** The DIAA Board of Directors meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month. The one exception is the annual meeting of the entire DIAA, which is held on the third Thursday of January. Meeting notes and agendas of all board meetings are posted on the State of Delaware Public Meeting Calendar (<https://publicmeetings.delaware.gov/>) and the DIAA web page (<https://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/350>) in accordance with Delaware law. They are also on file in the DIAA office and are reviewed by the State Board of Education monthly.

**Composition of the DIAA Board/Staff:** The DIAA Board consists of 19 voting members and one non-voting member as follows:

- 1) Two school district superintendents / assistant superintendents who shall be residents of different counties.
- 2) Three representatives of school district boards of education who shall be residents of different counties.
- 3) Three public school principals/assistant principals, one of which shall be from each county.
- 4) Two public school athletic directors/ coaches who shall be from different counties.
- 5) Two non-public representatives of which one shall be a secondary school administrator and one shall either be a secondary school athletic director or coach.
- 6) One Department of Education representative, who shall be a nonvoting member.
- 7) Six public members of which two shall be from each county
- 8) One DE-certified physician who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoints all voting members.

The DIAA Board of Directors served for the entire calendar year. In 2019 Chuck Little replaced Leroy Mann as a Sussex County public member. Ted Laws and Mike Breeding were renewed and will serve a second three-year term. Dr. Mervin Daugherty left the board in October 2018 due to resigning as the superintendent of the Red Clay Consolidated School District, and the position on the board remains vacant. In April 2019, Mr. Gary Cimaglia was elected chair of the board to replace Dr. Bradley Layfield, to be effective when Dr. Layfield is replaced on the board by the Governor. Mr. Matt Donovan was elected as vice chair to be effective when Mr. Cimaglia assumes the chair position. In September 2019, Mr. Cimaglia was hired as the DIAA executive director. Mr. Donovan then assumed the vice chair position in September 2019. Dr. Layfield continues to serve as chair.

The DIAA staff from January 2019 until July 2019 consisted of Mr. Thomas E. Neubauer, DIAA executive director; Ms. Donna Polk, coordinator of interscholastic athletics; and Ms. Tina Bates, administrative secretary. Ms. Bates accepted a promotion within DOE in July 2019 after serving 25 years with DSSAA/DIAA. She is the longest tenured employee in the history of the organization. She was replaced by Mrs. Amoscita Rodriquez in September 2019. Mr. Neubauer retired from the DIAA in

August 2019 after serving 39 years in education, 13 with DIAA and 3 as executive director. He was replaced by Mr. Gary Cimaglia in September 2019. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, Mr. Cimaglia resigned. His position remains vacant as of December 31, 2019. The board and DOE hired Kevin Charles, former DIAA executive director, as a consultant to serve until the position is filled. DOE Associate Secretary of Student Support Mr. Michael Rodriguez provides administrative oversight on behalf of the Department of Education. Laura Makransky, Esq., deputy attorney general, provides legal counsel to the board.

The current DIAA Board of Directors:

### DIAA Board of Directors, 2019-20 School Year

#### DIAA STAFF

Vacant, Executive Director / Donna Polk, Coordinator Interscholastic Athletics, Amoscita Rodriguez, Secretary

#### OFFICERS

Chairperson – Dr. Bradley Layfield/ Vice Chairperson – Matthew Donovan

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL MEMBERS

<i>NEW CASTLE COUNTY</i>		<u>Term Expires</u>
Dr. Matthew Donovan	Principal, Middletown High School	2019
J.T. [Ted] Laws	School Board Member, Colonial School District	2021
<i>Vacant</i>	Superintendent,	2020
Jeremy Jeanne	Athletic Director, Delaware Military Academy	2019
<i>KENT COUNTY</i>		
Dr. Evelyn Edney	Principal, Early College High School at DSU	2020
Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald	Superintendent, Caesar Rodney School District	2018
Vetra Evans-Gunter	School Board Member, Smyrna School District	2019
<i>SUSSEX COUNTY</i>		
Michael Breeding	School Board Member, Woodbridge School District	2021
Dr. Bradley Layfield	Principal, Sussex Central High School	2019
Bob Cilento	Athletic Director, Cape Henlopen High School	2019

#### NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL MEMBERS

Stanley Waterman	Dean, Sanford School	2019
Mike Hart	Athletic Director, Salesianum School	2020

#### PUBLIC MEMBERS

<u><i>New Castle County</i></u>	<u><i>Kent County</i></u>	<u><i>Sussex County</i></u>
Douglas Thompson (2019)	Bruce Harris (2020)	Dr. Kathy Andrus (2021)
Robert Watson, Jr. (2019)	<i>Vacant</i> (2020)	Chuck Little (2021)

#### MEDICAL MEMBER

Dr. Bradley Bley (Indefinite)

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Michael Rodriguez	Associate Secretary (Non-Voting Member)	(Indefinite)
<i>Vacant</i>	Executive Director ( <i>Ex Officio</i> , Non-Voting)	(Indefinite)

**DIAA Office Location:** The DIAA office is located at the John W. Collette Education Resource Center in Enterprise Business Park, 35 Commerce Way, Suite 1 Dover, DE 19904. The DIAA main office phone number is (302) 857-3365.

**Standing Committees:** The DIAA has a total of 22 standing committees, which are staffed by about 250 member volunteers, without whom DIAA could not accomplish its mission. In addition, there are standing committees for Rules and Regulations, Sportsmanship, Officials, Unified Sports and Sports Medicine as well as 17 sport specific committees. These standing committees operate under the Freedom of Information Act. The committees and their chairs are as follows:

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- Sports Medicine Advisory Committee- Dr. Michael Axe
  - Rules and Regulations Committee-Matt Donovan
  - Sportsmanship Committee- Heath Chasanov
  - Officials Committee- Chris Muscara
  - Unified Sports – Kylie Frazer
  - Cross Country Committee- George Pepper
  - Field Hockey Committee- Sharyn Wingate
  - Football Committee- James Comegys
  - Boys’ Soccer Committee- Bob Bussiere
  - Girls’ Volleyball Committee- Nancy Griskowitz
  - Boys’ Basketball Committee- Brian Fahey
  - Girls’ Basketball Committee- Ruth Lajoie
  - Swimming and Diving Committee- Mike Hart
  - Track & Field Committee- Charlie Pollard
  - Wrestling Committee- Buddy Lloyd
  - Baseball Committee- Mike Hart
  - Softball Committee- Greg Shivery
  - Tennis Committee- John Taylor
  - Golf Committee – Kathy Franklin
  - Boys’ Lacrosse Committee- Dave Oswinkle
  - Girls’ Lacrosse Committee- Debbie Windett
  - Girls’ Soccer Committee- Paul Booton

The major function of the sport-specific committees is the management of the DIAA state tournaments that resulted in 36 state championship titles awarded in 13 boys’, 12 girls’ and 3 unified sports. Other functions include advising the DIAA Board of Directors on issues affecting each sport.

**Rules Interpreters:** DIAA appoints rules interpreters to assist member schools, coaches and officials in the proper interpretation and application of playing rules. DIAA Baseball Rules Interpreter Dave Ferone passed away in 2019 after 10 years of service as interpreter and more than 30 as an umpire. The 2019 DIAA rules interpreters were:

- Baseball- *vacant*
- Basketball- Layne Drexel
- Cheer/Spirit- *vacant*

- Field Hockey- Vicki Rhodes
- Football- Andy Bero
- Golf- DSGA Staff
- Lacrosse, Boys' - JP Bennett
- Lacrosse, Girls' – Jill Fitzcharles
- Soccer- John Brady
- Softball- Diane Carden
- Swimming/Diving- Fred Killian
- Tennis- *vacant*
- Track and Field/Cross Country- Ralph Heiss
- Volleyball- Kelly Callahan
- Wrestling- Joe Lobo

**Secondary Interscholastic Athletic Fund:** The primary source of revenue used to support DIAA is derived through ticket sales at DIAA state championship events (~85 percent). A special fund was created at the Department of Education to receive and track the revenue of the organization. All membership dues, sponsorship funds and revenues from DIAA championships are deposited into this account. The account is administered under the State of Delaware Accounting System (FSF) in cooperation with the DOE Finance Office.

**Waiver Requests:** During calendar year 2019, the DIAA Board of Directors heard 44 requests for waivers of DIAA regulations. The board approved 41 of these requests, denying three.

### **Significant Initiatives and Events in 2019**

**Recognizing Academic Achievement** – DIAA partnered with Crown Trophy of Glasgow, a local company, to sponsor plaques recognizing the academic accomplishments of student athletes during fall state championships. Before the start of each game, in every round of all tournaments, a student athlete from each team was honored. Based on feedback from school administrators, student athletes, parents and fans, this initiative was a success.

**Unified Sports-** DIAA continued its relationship with Special Olympics Delaware (SODE) for the fifth year. Dover High School won its first Unified Flag Football State Championship by defeating McKean High School. Delaware is the first state in the nation to feature Unified Flag Football. Caesar Rodney High School and William Penn High School won Unified Track State Championships. Glasgow High School was crowned the first Unified Basketball Champion during the 2018-2019 winter season.

**Legislative Action** - House Concurrent Resolution 4 recognizes the importance of the health and safety of student athletes, drawing special attention to the Athletes Bill of Rights created by the Youth Sports Safety Alliance. Participation in athletics by youth promotes continued participation in school and excellence in academics. Therefore, it is important to protect these student athletes while they participate in these extracurricular activities.

DIAA has been scheduled for Sunset Review during the 2020 General Assembly. Required documentation was submitted in October 2019.

## Student Leadership Conferences

The NFHS sponsored a **National Student Leadership Summit** in Indianapolis, IN, from July 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>. The NFHS and DIAA paid all expenses for six students and two adult leaders. The student ambassadors were Patrick Campbell (Brandywine High School), Monroe Hite, IV (Caesar Rodney High School), Ondrea Boyer (Glasgow High School), Jessica Tyndall (Lake Forest High School), Katie Zabel (Sanford School) and Emma Evan (Sussex Central High School). The adult leaders were Donna Polk (DIAA) and Ed Smith (Glasgow High School). The goal of the summit was to employ a “train the trainers” model to train DIAA representatives on topics such as leadership, team unity, sportsmanship, character and responsible use of social media. The DIAA team was then tasked to share what they learned at the DIAA State Student Leadership Conference.

The **DIAA Student Leadership Conference [SLC]** is an initiative that began in 2004 and continued in 2019. The SLC brings together top student athletes from around the state to learn the same leadership and character skills that are taught at the NFHS Conference. These student leaders are then charged with teaching these skills to student athletes at their schools and in their conferences. For the 16th straight year the SLC was held at the University of Delaware’s Virden Center in Lewes from August 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>. The agenda included speakers on a variety of topics, participation in community service programs, workshops on current issues, leadership and sportsmanship, and a little fun as well. Linda Ogden, college counseling administrator of Tower Hill, and Jeff Ransom, athletic director at Wilmington Friends School, served as the conference directors. Other adult staff members included Ed Smith, Glasgow High School, and Donna Polk and Tommie Neubauer, DIAA. Special Olympics of Delaware (SODE) athletes and the DIAA student leaders participated together in games, social activities, arts and crafts, athletic competitions, and dinner and ended the day with a rousing sing along by the campfire. This was the seventh year in a row that SODE and DIAA collaborated on the joint service project. The following students attended the 2019 conference:

- AI DuPont High School – Chloe Garcia and Jared Witte
- Brandywine High School – Moira Dinkins and Patrick Campbell
- Caesar Rodney High School – Monroe Hite IV
- Caravel Academy – Sydney Bedwell and Josh Morrow
- Charter School of Wilmington – Ashley Steiner
- Concord High School – Lindsey Wagner
- Conrad School – Ja’Nylah Whittlesey
- Delaware Military Academy – Madeline Kuennen
- Glasgow High School – Ondrea Boyer
- Hodgson Vo-Tech High School – CJ Henry
- Lake Forest High School – Jessica Tyndall
- Middletown High School – Emma Fisher
- Newark Charter School – Manakamana Olivia Upreti and Will Dubecq
- Sanford School – Katie Zabel and Jason Lamey
- St. Elizabeth High School – Arianna Henry
- Sussex Academy – Bridget Cosgrove
- Sussex Central High School – Emma Evan and Tyler Sosnoski
- Tower Hill School – Jennifer Cleary and Sean Beberman

- Ursuline Academy – Corinne Furey
- William Penn High School – Elizabeth Waguespack
- Wilmington Christian School – Michaela Elliott
- Wilmington Friends School – Ava Cottone and Anthony Dixon
- Woodbridge High School – Xavier Jayden Hayes

**Scholarship-** The winners of the 2019 DIAA/Harry Roberts Senior Scholar-Athlete awards are listed below. The Award is named in recognition and memory of Dr. Harry Roberts, former Superintendent of the Caesar Rodney School District who served DIAA on several committees, most notably as Chair of the DIAA Sportsmanship Committee for many years. The awards are presented annually by the DIAA based on a student’s academic, athletic and leadership achievements.

Females

First	(\$2,000)	Alia Marshall, Cape Henlopen High School
Second	(\$1,500)	Katherine Hally, Padua Academy
Third	(\$1,000)	Gabriella Hunt, Sanford School

Males

First	(\$2,000)	Brendan Malone, Wilmington Christian
Second	(\$1,500)	Conor Nisbet, Wilmington Friends School
Third	(\$1,000)	Beau Neff, Tatnall School

**Sportsmanship-** DIAA offers an annual statewide competition in sportsmanship. The member schools compete against a set of 10 standards, not against other schools. Member schools submit an extensive portfolio that is judged by the Sportsmanship Committee to determine if each school has successfully met the standards. The Award is named in honor of former DSSAA Executive Director Dale Famer. The 16 winning schools are listed below. Thirty-five different member schools have now won this Award at least once in the 23-year history of the Award.

School	Times Won	School	Times Won
William Penn HS	22	Charter Sch. Of Wilm.	6
Sussex Tech HS	13	Tatnall School	5
Caravel Academy	11	Newark Charter	4
McKean HS	10	Brandywine HS	3
Conrad Sch. Of Science	10	Middletown HS	3
Caesar Rodney HS	9	Mt. Pleasant HS	3
Lake Forest HS	9	Springer Middle	3
Sanford School	8	Caravel Acad. Middle	1

**Girls Golf** – In 2019 for the first time in DIAA history individual male and female golf champions were recognized. In the past only a single champion, either male or female, has been honored.



**State Championships-** During calendar year 2019 the following schools won DIAA state championships in the sports as listed:

**Winter**

Indoor Track and Field	Boys	Dover High School
	Girls	Padua Academy
Dual Team Wrestling	Division I	Smyrna High School
	Division II	Milford High School
Swimming and Diving	Boys	Salesianum School
	Girls	Newark Charter School
Basketball	Boys	Sanford School
	Girls	Sanford School
	Unified	Glasgow High School

**Spring**

Baseball		Appoquinimink High School
Softball		Smyrna High School
Lacrosse	Boys	Cape Henlopen High School
	Girls	Cape Henlopen High School
Girls' Soccer	Division I	Padua Academy
	Division II	Caravel Academy
Tennis	Boys	Tower Hill School
	Girls	Dover High School
Track	Division I Boys	Salesianum School
	Division I Girls	Padua Academy
	Division II Boys	AI DuPont High School
	Division II Girls	Tatnall School
	Unified Boys	William Penn High School
	Unified Girls	Caesar Rodney High School
Golf		Tower Hill School

**Fall**

Cross Country:	Division I Boys	Wilmington Charter School
	Division I Girls	Padua Academy
	Division II Boys	Wilmington Friends School
	Division II Girls	Ursuline Academy
Boys' Soccer	Division I	Salesianum
	Division II	Archmere Academy
Field Hockey	Division I	Cape Henlopen High School
	Division II	Delmar High School
Volleyball	Girls	Padua Academy
Football	Division I	Hodgson Vo-Tech
	Division II	Howard Vo-Tech
	Unified	Dover High School

Individual champions were crowned in indoor track, wrestling, swimming and diving, tennis, outdoor track and field, golf and cross-country. Thirty -six team titles were awarded by DIAA in 2019. Twenty-three different schools won at least one team state championship. The Henlopen Athletic Conference won the most team titles at 11. Padua Academy won five team titles, the most of any school. A complete listing of team champions can be found at <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/> selecting "DIAA," then "Sports."

**Partnerships and Outreach:**

DIAA continued to offer the option of online ticket purchases for the volleyball and football finals during the 2019 state tournaments. DIAA contracted with University of Delaware to provide this service.

In 2019, the DIAA partnered with Delaware -based Marketing Special Promotions (MSP) to provide championship apparel for students and spectators at DIAA State Championship events. As part of the MSP agreement, t-shirts for the Student Leadership Conference are donated by MSP.

In 2019, the DIAA collaborated with the Delaware Chapter of the American Lung Association in a \$5,000 grant to promote a message of anti- tobacco use and healthy adolescent lifestyles. The message was delivered via public service announcements, program ads and scoreboard messages at all DIAA State Championship tournaments.

In 2019, DIAA had sponsorship agreements with Wilson (football, basketball, baseball, soccer, and tennis) and Spalding/Dudley (volleyball and softball) to provide game balls at no expense to DIAA for DIAA state championship events.

In 2019, DIAA had a sponsorship agreement with Delaware-based Crown Trophy to provide partial sponsorship of state tournament medals and trophies.

In 2019, Crown Trophy of Glasgow sponsored the purchase of heavy plastic sideline passes for identification at state tournament events.

In 2019, DIAA partnered with the Mid-Atlantic Milk Marketing Agency via its “REFUEL, got Chocolate Milk” campaign.

In 2019, DIAA worked in cooperation with the University of Delaware to host DIAA state championship tournament games. The University hosted Division I and II football, Unified Flag football, girls’ volleyball, one field hockey semi-finals game, boys’ and girls’ basketball semi-finals and championship rounds and swimming & diving championships.

Cripple Creek Country Club hosted the golf tournament, Killens Pond State Park hosted the cross-country championship meet, the Lower Sussex County Little League complex hosted the softball championship game, and Frawley Stadium hosted the semi-final and final rounds of the baseball tournament. All other events were held at member school facilities.

**Fiscal Concerns-** the DIAA staff and board are aware of rising security and venue rental costs for state tournament events that have compelled DIAA to ask for an increased spending limit beginning in FY20. Additionally, state tournament attendance has declined the last two years. State tournament revenue is the primary source of income for DIAA.

**Budget-** the DIAA Board of Directors established a FY19 budget of \$850,000. DIAA does not receive appropriations from the General Fund so DIAA is authorized to carry over revenues. Because the organization does not receive startup funds it must rely on carry over funds for operational expenses in the next fiscal year. DIAA ended FY19 with a loss of \$6,588. The board has established a goal to have 50 percent of the annual budget to be kept in reserve for carry-over funds. The FY19 carry-over balance exceeded that goal.

**Representation on National Committees-** DIAA and its member schools continue to support and provide expertise to NFHS national committees. With the exception of the Football Rules Committee, all associated expenses for participation on these committees are paid by the NFHS.

The following Delawareans served on NFHS Committees in 2019:

- James Connor (St. Georges), National Coaches Advisory
- Layne Drexel (IAABO #11), NFHS Basketball Rules
- Robert Gilmore (Polytech), NFHS Boys Lacrosse Rules
- Tommie Neubauer (DIAA retired), NFHS Football Rules
- Donna Polk (DIAA), NFHS Technology Committee

In 2019 Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, Caesar Rodney School District superintendent, concluded his service on the NFHS Board of Directors as an at-large member representing Sections 2 and 6. Dr. Fitzgerald was the third Delawarean to serve on the NFHS Board of Directors (Dale C. Farmer, 1984-87 and Kevin Charles, 2009-2013, President 2012-13).

If there are any questions regarding this report or any other interest in the business of DIAA, please contact me during business hours at 302-934-3166.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bradley Layfield, Ed.D //*

Bradley Layfield, Ed.D  
Chair, DIAA Board of Directors  
Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association

