

Interscholastic

Notes and Updates



Eligibility Committee Meetings

Eligibility Committee meetings will be held on:

- September 11, 2019

- November 4, 2019; and
- March 9, 2020

SATs, Other Activities May Conflict

The MPA asks administrators, counselors, and coaches to plan ahead and advise students of possible conflicts they may encounter among the following ACT, PSAT, and SAT testing dates, graduation dates, athletic tournaments, and other activities. Students may want to schedule their tests on alternate dates to avoid missing participation in a valued activity.

PSAT/NMSQT

October 19, 2019	No MPA Conflicts
October 30, 2019	No MPA Conflicts

SAT/Achievements

October 5, 2019	No MPA Conflicts
November 2, 2019	Soccer Boys' and Girls' Class B and D Semi Finals
December 7, 2019	No MPA Conflicts
March 14, 2020	No MPA Conflicts
May 2, 2020	(Required for Juniors) No MPA Conflicts
June 6, 2020	Outdoor Track State Championship Meets and Team Tennis Quarterfinals

ACT Test/National Test Dates

September 14, 2019	No MPA Conflicts
October 26, 2019	Cross Country State Championships, Volleyball State Championships, and Soccer Girls' and Boys' Class B & A Semi Finals
December 14, 2019	No MPA Conflicts
February 8, 2020	Cheerleading State Competitions and Wrestling Regional Meets
April 4, 2020	No MPA Conflicts
June 13, 2020	Baseball and Softball Regional Semifinal Games, Outdoor Track NE Championships, and Lacrosse Regional Semifinals

Spring tournament sites and schedules have been set. **If you schedule graduation or senior activities on June 6, please be prepared for a major conflict.**

MPA Awards—The official supplier of MPA awards is Dinn Bros., Inc. of West Springfield, MA. To order replacement or replica awards please contact Mike Dinn at 1-800-628-9657 or by e-mail mkdinn@dinntrophy.com.

Mileage Rate—The mileage rate for the 2019-2020 school year will remain at \$.44/mile.

Bona Fide Team Rule—Starting in the fall of 2019, schools may now grant TWO waivers of the MPA Bona Fide Team Rule.

Golf Tournaments—The 2019 Team Championships will be held on October 5, 2019 and the Individuals Championships on October 12, 2019. Each league's tournament director is responsible for submitting the qualifying teams and individuals online.

Transfer Waiver Form—A reminder that when a student transfers without a corresponding change of address by the student and parent, a transfer waiver form must be completed. Students of divorced or separated parents are not permitted to move between households without an approved waiver form. Students attending the school with a superintendent's agreement or commissioner's overrule must also complete a transfer waiver form.

Starting in the fall of 2019, there is a new MPA Transfer Waiver form. The new electronic form should be submitted by the receiving school after there has been communication between the two schools and all of the worksheets have been completed. It is recommended that the communication between the schools be in writing in case a question arises. Please click [HERE](#) to access the form.

Underage Sideline Personnel —Athletic administrators and coaches are reminded that only high school students and adults should be allowed on the playing field or in the team area during high school competitions. Due to liability issues, this policy will be enforced at all tournament sites and we encourage schools to check their individual liability policies with regards to this issue.

Varsity Timers—It is recommended that adults be used as timers at all varsity contests.

Ejected Coach— Any coach ejected from a contest must complete the NFHS video *Teaching and Modeling Behavior* prior to returning to the sideline. The video is available at www.nfhslearn.com.

Sport Season Waiver

Schools may request a waiver of the MPA Sports Season Policy to allow coaches to continue to work with athletes that have qualified for prestigious post-season events (i.e. Foot Locker Invitational, Nike Invitational, etc.)

Officials Needed

Athletic administrators and coaches are asked to encourage high school seniors to consider becoming a sport official. All officials groups in Maine are in need of new officials and it is a great opportunity for those students going off to college to stay involved in sports, to earn some spending money, and find a way to stay active and fit while working with kids and schools at the same time. For more information, please contact the MPA office to obtain information on how to become an official.

Soccer Cumulative Card Policy

This season the sport of soccer will again be following this Cumulative Card Policy. Schools will receive email notification from MASO (Maine Association of Soccer Officials) but are reminded that they should also track cards through their coach. There are at times errors in the card reporting system and schools are ultimately responsible for tracking cards. All teams should keep a score book and officials will be verifying cards with each coach following the game.

This year the Soccer Committee made an adjustment for the additional games played by teams in the playoffs. Beginning in the 2019 season, all players and coaches will have their cumulative card total reduced by one card at the beginning of the first round of the playoffs. For example, if a player or coach had received a third yellow card in the second to last game of the season, they would sit out the last game for receiving a third card and then would begin the playoffs with a cumulative total of two cards.

Notes and Updates . . . (Continued from Page 1)

Pre-Participation Physical Exam (PPE)—The MPA Sports Medicine Committee recommends that all athletes be examined every other year beginning in the sixth grade. Prior to participating in a team practice they should have a current form on file. To view the PPE Form, please click [HERE](#).

Cooperative Individuals—It is still permissible for schools with students wishing to participate as individuals with another school in the sports of cross country, golf, ski, swim, tennis, track (indoor or outdoor), or wrestling to do so as "Cooperative Individuals." A school must submit a Cooperative Individual Application prior to the first countable contest. Click [HERE](#) for an application.

Middle School Students Practicing with High School Teams—Middle school students are NOT allowed to practice with a high school team without risking the loss of one year of eligibility. Those schools with 60 or fewer students in a particular gender are exempt from this rule for 8th graders.

Cooperative Teams: Team Sports—Schools must submit an application for a cooperative team three months prior to the start of the sport season. Click [HERE](#) for an application.

Emergency Action Plans (EAP)—A reminder going into the fall season with many teams practicing and playing at facilities that may be off school grounds that it is crucial that each site have an Emergency Action Plan in place. The MPA Sports Medicine Committee urges every school to use the "Save-A-Life Program" that was developed in Minnesota and has been endorsed by the NFHS Sports Medicine Committee. For a sample, please Click [HERE](#).

If your school needs assistance in developing Emergency Action Plans, please contact Tammy McNear at tmcnear@mpa.cc.

Uniform Waiver—The MPA has a "Uniform Waiver Form" for schools to use when requesting a waiver of an existing NFHS Uniform Rule. Please click [HERE](#) to access the form. All MPA sport committees support schools in their efforts to raise awareness to the many worthwhile causes that they may identify.

Football Crab Tree Points—Football standings will be compiled using Crab

Tree Points rather than Heal Points. Heal Points will be kept to be used as a tie breaker.

Coaches' Eligibility—A reminder that prior to working with athletes, new coaches, paid and volunteer, must have completed all coaching eligibility requirements, except for Coaching Principles, Sport First Aid, and certification in CPR/AED, in which they have one calendar year from the date of hire to complete. Schools should be maintaining a portfolio for all coaches on staff and copies of their certificates should be provided should a coach leave the school.

Goggle Update—A reminder to all field hockey schools effective January 1, 2020, all eye protection shall be permanently labeled with the ASTM 2713 standard for field hockey at the time of manufacture. To see a list of legal goggles, please refer to the MPA Field Hockey Bulletin.

Required Safety Equipment—The MPA Sports Medicine Committee reminds all schools that required safety equipment should be worn at all practices, during pregame warm-ups and throughout the contest. This includes items like soccer mouthguards, field hockey mouthguards and goggles, wrestling headgear, and batting helmets in baseball and softball. Failure to wear required safety equipment puts the school, the coaches, and the administration at a liability risk.

Sudden Cardiac—A reminder that all coaches, including volunteers, must have viewed the NFHS "Sudden Cardiac Arrest" video that is available at nfhslearn.com.

NFHS "Concussion" Video—The NFHS has revised the "Concussion" video that coaches were required to view. All coaches must now view the updated version. (www.nfhslearn.com)

Protecting Students from Abuse—The NFHS, in partnership with the US Center for SafeSport, has developed a new course designed to give the tools and understanding necessary to protect students at the interscholastic level from abuse of all kinds. This course is available for **FREE** at www.NFHSLearn.com.

Cross Country Safety

All schools and leagues must have a “sweeper” at all cross country meets. This should be a part of each school’s Emergency Plan. For the safety and security of all participants, coaches should alert officials immediately if a student athlete doesn’t complete the race and the next race should not start until all competitors are accounted for. There should also be an AED on site at all cross country meets.

Congratulations . . .

Congratulations to the following Maine people who serve on the National Federation of State High School Associations Committees:

- * Technology—Mike Bisson
- * Football—Ralph Damren
- * Ice Hockey—Mike Burnham
- * Ice Hockey (Coaches’ Representative)
—Jamie Belleau
- * Boys’ Lacrosse —Eric Klein
- * NFHS Board of Directors—
Mike Burnham
- * Speech, Debate and Drama—
Holly Couturier

Spectator Parking for Cross Country

In addressing a parking and scheduling issue at Twin Brook in Cumberland for the Cross Country South Regional on Saturday, October 26 and the State Championship on Saturday, November 2 parking for spectators will be at Greely Middle and High School. We will have a shuttle bus service that will start delivering spectators to the course beginning at 9:30 a.m. from the Greely parking lots. Handicapped parking, team bus drop-off, and event workers only will be allowed in the Twin Brook parking area. Please inform team and family members at your school of this arrangement.

Maine Cheering Game Day

Welcome to Game Day! Game Day is being held on Saturday, September 21, 2019, at the Waterhouse Field in Biddeford, and is the fastest growing cheerleading competition in the USA for a good reason. It's a great experience for your team, fans, administration, sports' teams, and your student body. Yes, Game Day is a competition that celebrates your sideline presence and school traditions. Game Day can also be your inspiration to positively affect the experience for many others as ambassadors of your school!

We are very excited to provide your teams this fantastic opportunity. What better way to kick off Game Day than hosting it outdoors in an amazing stadium at the Biddeford Waterhouse Field? Imagine hearing your fight song playing proudly and loudly through giant speakers and hearing your fans in the stands yelling back with your cheer?

We provide you with a lot of information over the next few weeks, here's a quick summary for you on the Game Day format. Your total Game Day routine can be up to 3 minutes long. Each Game Day routine follows the exact same format in this order:

- * **Band Chant** (up to one minute)
- * **Situational Sideline & Time-Out Cheer** (up to one minute)
- * **Fight Song** (up to one minute)

All four pieces need to involve crowd leadership. You can do this through words, use of props, and creative visuals such as ripples, level changes, and motions.

We consider "skills" to be stunts/pyramids, jumps, and tumbling. High kicks are NOT considered skills. You're required to incorporate skills into your Situational Sideline & Time-Out Cheer and your Fight Song. Your Band Chant does not allow skills (you can still use words, props, high kicks, etc. but you are NOT allowed to incorporate stunts/pyramids, jumps, or tumbling.) There's NO DIFFICULTY rewarded on the scoresheet. There are also restrictions on what skills are allowed. For example, there is no running tumbling, stunt inversions, etc. allowed in Game Day.

MAINE Game Day Facebook Group Page - Be sure to join our official FB page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MaineGameDay/> where we'll share everything you need to know about Game Day. We'll share copies of the score sheets, rules, tips, videos, and a lot more. Get quick answers to your questions, network with other coaches, and share your posts relating to Game Day. Be sure to look out for the first POLL QUESTION being posted tomorrow. You don't want to miss your first chance to give us your feedback! Note: This is a private group to ensure we're prioritizing Game Day coaches in Maine.

This is a new endeavor for you, but it doesn't have to be a scary one. You are providing your team an incredibly fun, positive, and rewarding experience! This will be a learning experience for all those that participate. Any questions, please e-mail Denise Gelinias, Game Day Site Director, at dhgelinas@gmail.com.

Approved Game Balls

The following balls have been approved for 2018-2023:

Fall: Soccer - Select Numero 10; Field Hockey—Penn Monto White Field Turf Ball; Football—Wilson GST; and Volleyball—Molton IV58L

Winter: Boys' Basketball—Spalding TF1000 Legacy; Girls' Basketball—Spalding TF1000 Legacy 28.5

Spring: Baseball—Rawlings R100NF; Softball—Dudley SB12 YFP (Red Stitch); Lacrosse—Onyx White Turf (boys) and Yellow Turf (girls); and Tennis—Wilson Championship Ball

School Based Broadcast Program

Play-On Sports/NFHS Network are encouraging schools interested in developing a school based broadcast program to contact them at sbp@nfhsnetwork.com to start a program. Membership allows schools to produce and broadcast any game or event being held at the school. The program could also be developed by a league with as many, or as few games, being broadcasted.

CALL THE MPA HELP LINE

207-622-0217

We are here to help you and answer questions!

Extensions:	122 = Tammy McNear
125 = Mike Burnham	127 = Diane Patnaude
126 = Holly Couturier	130 = Patty Newman
141 = Mike Bisson	

2019 Fall MPA Championship Sites

Cross Country

North Regional	10/26/19	Troy Howard Middle School, Belfast
South Regional	10/26/19	Twin Brook, Cumberland
State	11/2/19	Twin Brook, Cumberland
New England	11/9/19	Wickham Park, Manchester, CT

Field Hockey

North Regional	10/30/19	Hampden Academy
South Regional	10/30/19	Sanford High School
State	11/2/19	Messalonskee High School

Football

State 8-Man	11/16/19	Fitzpatrick Stadium, Portland
State Class C	11/22/19	University of Maine, Orono
State Class A, B, D	11/23/19	Fitzpatrick Stadium, Portland

Golf

State A, B, C Team	10/5/19	Natanis Golf Club, Vassalboro
State Individual	10/12/19	Natanis Golf Club, Vassalboro

Soccer

North A Regional	11/5/19	McMann Field, Bath
South A Regional	11/5/19	Waterhouse Field, Biddeford
North C Regional	11/5/19	Gehrig T. Johnson Field, Presque Isle
South C Regional	11/5/19	Lewiston High School
North B Regional	11/6/19	Hampden Academy
South B Regional	11/6/19	Waterhouse Field, Biddeford
North D Regional	11/6/19	Gehrig T. Johnson Field, Presque Isle
South D Regional	11/6/19	Lewiston High School
State A, D	11/9/19	Hampden Academy
State B, C	11/9/19	Falmouth High School

Volleyball

State A	11/1/19	University of Southern Maine
State B	11/1/19	University of Southern Maine
State C	11/2/19	Hampden Academy

MPA Hall of Excellence

The MPA is pleased to enter the seventh year of the "MPA Hall of Excellence" sponsored by Lifetouch Photography. The 2019-2020 nominations are now being accepted for individuals that have exemplified the highest standards of educational leadership, citizenship, ethical conduct, and moral character. The "Hall of Excellence" will honor the contributions and accomplishments of those individuals that have made significant contributions in the State of Maine. There will be five categories under which nominations may be submitted: 1) School Administrators—principal, assistant principal, athletic administrator, or superintendent; 2) Athletes/Activity Participants—former student participants that have had significant achievement in any MPA-sponsored educational-based activity; 3) Coaches/Advisors—coaches, advisors, and directors that have made significant and lasting contributions in MPA-sponsored high school activities; 4) Officials—game officials, judges, and adjudicators who have made significant and lasting contributions to school-based activities; and 5) Contributor—those individuals that have made contributions in some capacity other than those previously mentioned (example: may include media [print or electronic], sports medicine [athletic trainer, school nurse, school physician], state association staff or community person [booster, board member] that have had a statewide impact on educationally based activities.

Nomination forms, as well as a description of the "MPA Hall of Excellence," will be available at a later date.

The MPA is proud to announce, once again, that

AAA Northern New England
Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Northern New England **Lifetouch Photography**
Maine Bureau of Highway Safety
NFHS Network / PlayOnSports

are valued corporate sponsors.

MPA Mission Statement

To assure a quality education for all students, the Maine Principals' Association will:

- (1) promote the principalship;
- (2) support principals as educational leaders; and
- (3) promote and administer interscholastic activities in grades 9-12.

Anonymous Calls and Letters

The MPA staff has no authority to act upon anonymous calls or letters. The school in question will be notified by MPA staff with no further action to be taken unless a violation is self-reported by that school.

Officials' Timeouts

With the start of the fall season there remains the risk of hot weather and heat illness. Each school should have an Emergency Action Plan in place to deal with the hot temperatures and game officials should be aware that "officials' timeouts" may be needed throughout the contest to give the athletes a chance to rehydrate.

Post-Season Clinics

High school students may assist their coaches in providing instructions to middle level or elementary schools for a three-week period, designated by the high

school principal, outside of a given sport season. This clinic may not occur during the two-week hands-off period.

2019 Spring Sportsmanship Banner Winners

Baseball

A North	Bangor
A South	Biddeford
B North	John Bapst
B South	Poland
C North	Dexter & George Stevens (Tie)
C South	Dirigo
D North	Woodland
D South	Wiscasset

Lacrosse

A North Boys	Oxford Hills
A North Girls	Edward Little
A South Boys	Sanford
A South Girls	Gorham
B Boys	Brunswick
B Girls	Morse
C Boys	Freeport
C Girls	Nokomis

Softball

A North	Camden Hills
A South	Falmouth
B North	MCI
B South	Freeport
C North	Lee
C South	Dirigo
D North	Machias
D South	Wiscasset

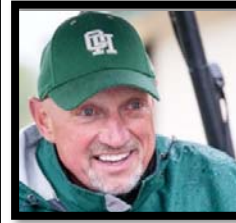
Tennis

A North Boys	Mt. Blue
A North Girls	Brunswick
A South Boys	Sanford
A South Girls	Biddeford & Sanford (Tie)
B North Boys	Erskine
B North Girls	Hermon
B South Boys	Morse
B South Girls	Lake Region
C North Boys	Dexter
C North Girls	Deer Isle-Stonington
C South Boys	Maranacook & Waynflete (Tie)
C South Girls	Hall-Dale

Outdoor Track

A North Boys	Lewiston
A North Girls	Lewiston
A South Boys	Noble
A South Girls	Bonny Eagle
B North Boys	MCI
B North Girls	MCI
B South Boys	Greely
B South Girls	Greely
C North Boys	Central
C North Girls	Central
C South Boys	Telstar
C South Girls	Telstar

MPA Commissioner of Officials



The MPA is pleased to announce that Mr. Jeff Benson, former athletic administrator at Edward Little High School and Ox-

ford Hills Comprehensive High School, and a three-sport official, has been hired as the new MPA Commissioner of Officials.

With the retirement of long-time Basketball Commissioner, Peter Webb, the decision was made to redefine the position and allow the person to work with all MPA activities.

Jeff's new e-mail at the MPA office is jbenson@mpa.cc.

"Top Ten Sports Law Issues" Impacting School Athletic Programs

1. Concussion Management and Return-To-Play Protocols
2. Liability for Sports Injuries and the Duties of Athletics Personnel
3. Social Media Issues and School Authority to Sanction Student-Athletes
4. Constitutional Rights of Student-Athletes
5. Hazing in Athletics Programs
6. Sexual Harassment in Athletics Programs
7. Transgender Policies for Athletics Program
8. Disabilities Law Applied to Athletics Program
9. Title IX & Gender Equity in Athletic Programs
10. Retaliation Against Complainants

—By: Lee Green
High School Today

NFHS Statement on Medical Appliances and/or Medical Devices

The use of medical appliances and/or medical devices by student-athletes with health conditions has become more commonplace. With the wider use of insulin pumps, as well as other medical devices such as heart monitoring equipment and prosthetics, concerns have been raised regarding the safety of the athlete wearing the device, the safety of teammates and opponents, and the risk of damages to the device itself.

The NFHS SMAC has discussed these issues and recommends the following: When it is necessary for a student-athlete to wear a medical appliance and/or a medical device (such as an insulin pump, heart monitoring equipment, etc.) during athletic competitions, the device shall be padded and securely attached to the player's body, underneath the uniform. Devices attached to the head (such as hearing aids and cochlear implants) do not need to be padded but shall be firmly secured to the body. Prosthetics may be padded as needed. No medical appliance and/or medical device shall pose any risk of injury or hazard to the student-athlete, teammates, and/or opponents. The official has jurisdiction to disallow any medical appliance and/or medical device deemed unsafe for athletic competition. The head coach, or team personnel designated by the head coach, shall notify the official of the presence of the medical appliance and/or medical device prior to each contest. In addition, State Association approval may be required prior to a student-athlete wearing a medical appliance and/or medical device in athletic competition.

~ National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS)
Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC)

Charter School Eligibility

Students that attend a state approved charter school are eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities not offered by that charter school at the non-charter public school within the attendance boundaries of which the custodial parent resides as long as the school adding the charter students has the "capacity" to provide the student with the opportunity.

Schools may not impose additional requirements on charter school students that are not imposed on regularly enrolled students and any fees that are charged must also be assessed to regularly enrolled students. Public charter schools must pay a reasonable share of the non-charter school's cost for the activity as determined through negotiations between the schools involved. If approval for participation is withheld by the superintendent of the school administrative unit, the superintendent must provide a written explanation to the student or the student's parents or guardian stating the reason or reasons for the decision.

Click [HERE](#) for a sample Charter School participation application.

MPA Congratulates Spring Sports Champs

Class	Champion	Runner-up	Class	Champion	Runner-up
Baseball			Softball		
A	Scarborough	Oxford Hills	A	Scarborough	Skowhegan
B	Ellsworth	Freeport	B	Brewer	York
C	Lisbon	Orono	C	Madison	Dexter
D	Searsport	Central Aroostook	D	Penobscot	Greenville
Lacrosse			Tennis		
A Boys	Thornton	Falmouth	A Boys	Falmouth	Camden Hills
A Girls	Falmouth	Kennebunk	A Girls	Lewiston	Scarborough
B Boys	Yarmouth	Greely	B Boys	Yarmouth	Belfast
B Girls	Cape Elizabeth	Yarmouth	B Girls	Lincoln	Erskine
C Boys	NYA	Maranacook/ Winthrop/Spruce Mountain	C Boys	Waynflete	Orono
C Girls	St. Dominic	Lake Region	C Girls	Mattanawcook	Carrabec
Outdoor Track			Girls' Singles		
A Boys	Scarborough	Thornton	1. Grace Campanella, Kennebunk/Wells		
A Girls	Cheverus	Gorham	2. Elene Imnaishvili, Bangor		
B Boys	York	Greely	Boys' Singles		
B Girls	Brewer	York	1. Nick Forester, Falmouth		
C Boys	Sacopee	Hall-Dale	2. Dariy Vykholdtsev, Thornton		
C Girls	Orono	Maranacook			

Officials' Fee Schedule

2019-20 ~ Basic

Sports	V	JV
Baseball	67.50	47.50
Basketball	76.50	54.00
Cheerleading	76.50	54.00
Field Hockey	69.50	49.00
Football	76.50	54.00
Ice Hockey	76.50	54.00
Lacrosse	76.50	54.00
Soccer	76.50	54.00
Softball	64.50	45.50
Swim	57.50	---
Volleyball	67.00	47.00
Wrestling	73.00	---

The fee for all regional tournament games, in all sports, is to be one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the regular season basic fee. The fee for all state championship games, in all sports, is to be one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the regular season basic fee.

NFHS Network

The MPA is pleased to announce that again this fall, the NFHS Network, an all-digital network provided by Play-On Sports, devoted to the coverage of high school sports, performing arts, and other activities will be providing live stream coverage for the volleyball and soccer championships. Football champion-ship coverage is currently being negotiated.

First Responders Recognition

Please consider holding a recognition of our local police and first responders and their families at an event at your school. Keeping the students and staff safe at all Maine schools is at the top of their priority list. Let's make sure they know how much their hard work is appreciated.

NFHS Coach of the Year

Each year the NFHS and the MPA join together to recognize coaches from Maine. This is a great opportunity for us to recognize outstanding coaches from across Maine from across our entire state. If you have a coach you would like to nominate, please e-mail Tammy McNear at tmcnear@mpa.cc.

Selective Service System

The Selective Service System keeps a list of people who might be called on to serve our country in a national emergency. It is the law that young men must register within 30-days of their 18th birthday. Registering with the Selective service allows students to qualify for federal student aid and grant programs, federal job training programs, federal jobs, and United States citizenship. For more information click on the links below:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Background Fast Facts | HS Registrar Kit-Email |
| HS Registrar Flyers | Information for Registrars |
| Registrar Program FAQs | SSS Teachers Guide |
| Recruiting Registrars | |
| SSS402 Form Fillable March 2017 | |

Unified Volleyball

The MPA Unified Sports Committee, and Special Olympics Maine, are pleased to announce the introduction of Unified Volleyball for the Fall of 2019.

Click [HERE](#) for a copy of the 2019 Unified Volleyball Bulletin. Included in the bulletin, you will find a link for a [Letter of Intent](#) and [Application for Funding](#) if you are interested in participating this fall.

Maine Delegation to the 2019 New England Student Leadership Conference

9th Annual Leadership Conference



Thirty-nine students from across Maine attended the New England Student Leadership Conference held July 16 -19, 2019 at Worcester State University. Mike Bisson (Assistant Executive Director, MPA) and Mike Archer

(Athletic Administrator, Orono High School) were the adult delegates.

Students attended three days of conference sessions. The sessions were broken down into: General Sessions (speakers), Breakout Sessions, Elective Sessions, State Meetings, and Community Service Projects. The breakout sessions included Work with Positive Values, Perspective, Sportsmanship, Respect, Teamwork, and Healthy Lifestyles. All students received a spiral bound booklet to keep notes on each topic. Students could record their respective ideas as well as do self-assessments in all of the content areas. In the sessions, our state students had the opportunity to work with students from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

On Thursday all delegates rotated through three of the nine activities put on by Adapted Sports New England. The students were able to simulate what it is like to participate in athletics as a Unified Athlete. The activities included wheelchair basketball, blindfolded basketball shooting, seated volleyball, blindfolded running with a guide, etc.

During the State Meeting times, the Maine student delegates brainstormed ways to take an active leadership role in their school and state. The students worked on and advocated for the MPA to develop an app that will allow schools to add news from their school onto one site that can be linked to the MPA website. The students feel that they do not have a great way to follow what is going on in other high schools, unless someone from another school is active on social media. The students felt that this would be a great way to find out who won sportsmanship awards, special school awards and achievements, and other school related news for every school in Maine. The students would also like to expand and build upon last year's initiative to have an MPA Student Leadership Advisory to represent each of the eight leagues in Maine in conjunction with the AD Advisory meetings.

Overall the Maine students represented themselves, their schools, communities, and us exceptionally well! They were involved and had great ideas. We encourage all schools that did not have a delegate to consider sending a student in 2020.