

## THSSDL Fall Board Meeting Minutes

August 23, 2024

In attendance: Dr. Mike Gotcher, Danielle Smallwood, Kevin Rogers, Jeff Robbins, Linda Starnes, Meghann Shoulders, Josh Wilson, Doug James, Peggy Russell, Gabby Wexler

- 1) Meeting called to order: 6:17pm
- 2) Approval of minutes from Spring 2024 board meeting
  - a. Motion to accept minutes: Linda Starnes
  - b. Second: Jeff Robbins
  - c. Motion Passed: 6/0
- 3) Executive Director's Report: Dr. Mike Gotcher
- 4) Financial Report: Dr. Mike Gotcher
- 5) THSSDL Board Changes: Dr. Mike Gotcher
  - a. District IV does not have two board members
  - b. There are only three schools in District IV
  - c. Motion to move Hamblen County to District IV: Doug James
  - d. Seconded: Peggy Russell
  - e. Motion Passed: 8/0
- 6) Duet Improvisational Acting Rules: Peggy Russell
  - a. Purpose of improv is to construct a scene in real time
  - b. Specify the type of prompt per round
  - c. Can offer improv as supplemental event and allow doubling
  - d. Would want to limit the number of entries per school
  - e. Each school can bring two entries to State
  - f. Motion to table until end of meeting: Jeff Robbins
  - g. Seconded: Kevin Rogers
  - h. Motion to untable: Jeff Robbins
  - i. Seconded: Linda Starnes
  - j. Motion to pilot improv as doubling event with two per school: Doug James
  - k. Seconded: Peggy Russell
  - l. Motion Passed: 3/2/3

7) Standardize Extemp questions for State: Jeff Robbins

- a. Outweighted impact on quality of questions
- b. Would like to purchase questions from NSDA or name a committee to write questions
- c. Instead of drawing slips of paper, competitor pulls card with three randomized questions and selects number of question
- d. Would ensure high quality, varied questions and a variety of questions each competitor receives
- e. Jeff will figure out questions with NSDA
- f. Will adopt on two-year pilot basis

8) District Event Offerings:

- a. Adding Improv
- b. Restoring solo/duet
- c. Costs money to order awards for events that won't have entries
- d. Can set limit on if we don't have certain number of entries, event doesn't have to be offered
- e. Unfair for children to decide not to offer event despite competing in it all year
- f. Some schools have to choose to put students in events they haven't competed in because of numbers
- g. Districts will purchase trophies and THSSDL can cover the disparity between trophy costs and revenue

9) State Championship Sweepstakes: Danielle Smallwood

- a. Sweepstakes has been approved on a pilot basis
- b. Will use Speechease to tabulate
- c. Dr. Gotcher will work with Speechease to figure out tabulation

10) Theatre Festival: Jeff Robbins

- a. Some schools have rejected speech and debate
- b. People who want more theatre are reasonable
- c. Can create theatre based open entry categories
- d. Would recognize theatre state champion
- e. Would increase competition numbers
- f. State doesn't feel as important
- g. Could get people who don't do speech and debate tournaments to attend
- h. Interp theatre cannot double in another theatre event

- i. Is there a way to allow entry in both?
- j. Motion to approve theatre festival: Jeff Robbins
- k. Second: Linda Starnes
- l. Motion fails: 4/4

11) Best Actor/Actress Committee Report: Peggy Russell

- a. There is no perfect solution
- b. Option 1: coach designates
- c. Option 2: judges determine
- d. Option 3: designate top three performers
- e. Options 1 and 2 requires judges to determine leading and supporting
- f. Change wording to best performer instead of actor
- g. Top two performers in a one-act play
- h. Motion to change wording to two performers in a one-act play: Peggy Russell
- i. Seconded: Doug James
- j. Motion Passed: 8/0

12) State Tournament Assignments: Danielle Smallwood

- a. T-shirt sales: Laura Humphrey, Doug James, Meg Foster
- b. T-shirt design: Shane Cunningham and Josh Wilson
- c. One- Act Play: Rick Marshall
- d. Interp Theatre Prelims: Peggy Russell and Gabby Wexler
- e. Interp Theatre Finals: Doug James
- f. Extemp Draw: Hunter Graybeal
- g. Extemp Questions: Jeff Robbins
- h. TV Draw: Mickey Hutson
- i. TV Packets: Mickey Hutson
- j. Congress: Alicia Archuleta, Christina Crutcher, Roy Buchanan
- k. Impromptu Topics: Shane Cunningham
- l. Improv Topics: Doug James
- m. Debate: Matt Wilson and Hunter Graybeal
- n. Judge Check-in: Kevin Rogers and Linda Starnes
- o. Debate Registration: Danielle Smallwood
- p. Saturday Registration: Daneille Smallwood and Kevin Rogers
- q. Ballot Table: Doug James
- r. Ballot Distribution: Kevin Rogers and Linda Starnes
- s. Poster Creation and Removal: Jackie Zigelsky
- t. T-shirt Auction: Mickey Hutson, Linda Starnes, Josh Wilson

13) Play Choices for Technical Theatre:

- a. Beetlejuice Jr.
- b. The Good Woman of Setzuan
- c. Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

14) Adjournment:

- a. Motion to adjourn: Gabby Wexler
- b. Seconded: Josh Wilson
- c. Motion passes: 8/0

Adjourned: 9:33pm