

ADmission

WINTER 2022

VIRGINIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER





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VIAAA Partnerships



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President's Message

Christopher D. Felton, CMAA
President, VIAAA

"Be Where Your Feet Are"

"I'm so tired!" "I'm just trying to get back in the groove of things, still." "What day is it?" "I'm going to be caught up after this week." These are all phrases I have heard over the past month or so from students and fellow Athletic Administrators. Some may have even crossed my mind a few times as the Principal called me in 4th block and asked for an SOL/Credits Report on all Seniors and Juniors by midday tomorrow while I still had to get pieces in place for Senior Night and our Military Appreciation Game.

All of us, together, right now, let's take a collective deep breath and remember to JUST BE and Be Where Your Feet Are! We are not alone and we need to always remember this fact, no matter how dire it gets or how bogged down it seems; we have each other and as long as we are continuing to do good work and creating opportunities for the right reasons, our students, then we've gotta be doing something right!

Take time for yourself! Take time to better yourself! Take time to JUST BE! Take a Leadership Training Course to better yourself and your program. Attend the National Conference. Register for and attend the State Conference. You need that time with your colleagues and that time to simply JUST BE! The new year is approaching, each year I subscribe to

the ONE WORD philosophy, where you pick one word to guide you and inspire you through the year. I challenge you to be there for yourself and choose one word that will help carry you through this next year. By doing this it reminds us to "Be Where Your Feet Are" and to live by our theme for this year, "Better Today Than Yesterday". We can only tackle what is in front of us today, in this moment, in this place.

I continue to challenge each of you to better yourselves and go up one level in Certification and take at least two courses (one in-person and one webinar/online). Please be sure you have logged into your Final Forms account and your VIAAA/NIAAA membership is current. Please remember to allow at least 30 days for Membership payments to process.

THANK YOU for the opportunity to serve this organization and all its tremendous members. Thank you for all you do for your students and communities, while always remembering to take some time for you and to JUST BE! #BTYY

www.viaaa.org / Twitter: @VIAAA95 / IG: @VIAAA1995 / Podcast: On The

Road With the VIAAA - <https://viaaa.org/highlights/on-the-road-with-the-viaaa-spotify-podcast> ■



TIDBITS TO ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATION

Bob Stratton, CAA
VIAAA Executive Director
NIAAA Liaison

We hope all is well as you finish up your fall season and begin your winter season. In a time in our country when we forget to stop and tell someone "THANKS", I personally want to Thank Each Of You for what you do everyday for the Student Athletes, Coaches, and Parents you serve. The School and Community in which you work is Better Because Of Each Of You! As we approach the holiday season I wish each of you and your families Peace, and a time for each of you to Pause and Reflect! Please take some time to relax and catch your breath before beginning the new year 2023!

This newsletter contains lots of important information and resources, here are just a few highlights:

VIAAA STATE CONFERENCE - CELEBRATING 50 YEARS - RICHMOND SHORT PUMP HILTON HOTEL APRIL 25- 28, 2023

April 25- LTI Classes 8:30- 12:30 and 1:00- 5:00

Officers Meeting 3:00

Board of Directors Meeting 5:00

Hospitality Room 9:00- 11:00

April 26- Registration 8:00

Sessions 9:00 - 6:00

CAA Exam 12:30

Vendor Hall 12:00 - 9:00

Vendor Gala 6:00- 9:00

Hospitality Room 9:00- 11 :00

Past Presidents Luncheon 12:30- 2:00

***Sessions will include Opening general session, Independent Schools, Middle Schools

April 27 - Registration 8:00

Sessions 9:00 - 4:00

Retirees Breakfast 8:00

Awards Luncheon 12:30

VIAAA Business Meeting/Closing General Session 2:30-4:00

Social 4:30

Hospitality Room

April 28 - Board of Directors Meeting 8:00

LTI Classes 9:00 - 1 :00

In closing THANK YOU and please let us know how the VIAAA can help you in anyway!

With Much Respect!

Bob Stratton

VIAAA Executive Director - NIAAA Liaison ■



NIAAA Section II Update

Lisa Corprew, CMAA
Student Activities Coordinator
Bayside High School

Greetings Section II,

Can you believe that we are almost to Thanksgiving Break? They say that time flies when you are having fun. As we move into the month of thanks and reflect on our time in athletic administration, I just would like to thank the people who put me in a position to lead. Every day we get an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the people that we serve. We are in the one profession that what we say or do for people may last a lifetime. We all have that teacher or coach that has impacted us in some way and I just want to say thank you to those people for the experience and now, the opportunity to serve Section II.

NIAAA Board Updates:

The NIAAA will hold its 46th annual meetings in conjunction with the conference. The conference registration fee is set at \$295 for current NIAAA members. Registration is \$390 for non-members who register prior to November 18, 2022. Payment for registration is by credit card only. Over 50 NIAAA educational and business meetings will be held in Nashville. The certification exams will be given on Tuesday, December 13, 2022 and the Delegate Assembly will meet on Monday, December 12, 2022.

Join me in congratulating Tom Dolan, who will receive the NFHS Citation Award, at the Conference Luncheon on Monday, December 12th at 11:45 a.m. Please make plans to join us at the VIAAA table to celebrate Mr. Dolan.

We are still looking for a team of two to represent Virginia in the NIAAA Baggo Tournament. If you are interested in participating, please let me or Mr. Stratton know.

At-Large Elections for regions A and B will be conducted during the National Conference. Tina Queen, Maryland, will represent Section II in the region B election.

Leadership Training Courses:

The NIAAA is launching three new courses at the National Athletic Directors Conference in Nashville.

- LTC 638 Creating Awareness of Diverse Groups within Athletic Programs
- LTC 704 Recruit/Hire, Mentor, and Retain Coaches
- LTC 910 Current Issues in the International Education-Based Community

As a reminder that all nominations for the State Award of Merit are due to the NIAAA by October 1, 2022. Nominations are based on the calendar year and not the school year.

Repeat Announcements:

National Athletic Directors Conference Schedule

City, State	Location	Dates
Nashville, Tennessee	Gaylord Opryland	December 9-13, 2022
Orlando, Florida	Marriott World Center	December 16-19, 2023
Austin, Texas	JW Marriott/Austin Marriott	December 13-17, 2024
Tampa, Florida	Marriott/Embassy/Conv. Cntr	December 12-16, 2025

NIAAA Committees

Anyone interested in participating on one of the NIAAA committees, please complete the interest application which can be found here. Completed applications should be sent to the NIAAA Secretary, Lauren Otero <lauren.oter@hcps.net>

Section 2 Committee Representation

Accreditation	Holly Farnese, CMAA - Pennsylvania
Awards	Jamie Tallman, CAA - West Virginia
Scott Morris, CMAA - Virginia	
Certification	Carol Callway, CMAA - Virginia; Tony Butler, CMAA - Kentucky
Coaches Education	Jeannie Prevosto, CMAA - Maryland
Conference Advisory	
Credentials	Mike Wagner, CAA - Delaware; Brad Criss, CMAA - Maryland
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Kevin Adams, CAA - Virginia
Endowment	Serena Henry, RAA - Pennsylvania
Hall of Fame	Tom Nerf, CMAA - Ohio
Membership	Paul Powers, CAA - Ohio
Mentoring	Tim Leach, CAA - Virginia
National Initiative and Assistance	
Network (NIAN)	Brian Geyer, CAA - Pennsylvania
Professional Development	
Publications	Danielle Turner, CAA - Pennsylvania; Dennis Ziegler, CAA - Ohio
Resolutions	Marianne Shultz, CMAA - Maryland
Retired	David Bell, CMAA - Ohio
Sports Facilities	Greg Whitley, CAA - Maryland; Jonathan Vincent, CAA - Kentucky

NIAAA Make-A-Wish Fundraiser

The NIAAA is raising money for Make-A-Wish to help grant wished for children with critical illnesses. It's truly amazing what wishes can do. A wish renews hope, uplifts spirit, and encourages the belief in the impossible. Make-A-Wish grants thousands of unique wishes each year. A wish begins with hope. And hope begins with you. Together, we can grant more wishes. Please donate today. Donation page link: <https://casci.ac/7593>. ■



VISAA” Kemper’s Korner”

Richard H. Kemper, Jr., CMAA
VISAA

The VISAA transition is moving along smoothly since the appointment of Adam Brick as the end Executive Director in September 2022. Jeremy Eubank has been working with Final Forms and the VIAAA in seeing that our VISAA paid memberships for our athletic administrations in the VIAAA are current and profiles updated. Jeremy has also been working on keeping our new athletic administrators that attended the new Ad’s workshop have mentors and that they are being contact on a regular bases to see what help they need in their current roles. The VISAA also purchased for each of the new Ad’s the book, “The Athletic Director’s Toolbox- 2nd Edition” by Jacob von Scherrer, CMAA.

The Officers continue to work on the goals set form 2022-2023 and are currently working on an innovative approach to region representation to the Executive Committee based on Conference representation from the regions. The Officers and financial committee are looking at the current dues and fee’s structure to establish a revised dues/fees structure for the next two-year cycle starting in the fall of 2024.

About VISAA: The Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association provides accredited member schools with the resources and competitive environment in support of education-based athletic programs that establish a foundation for excellence founded on integrity, sportsmanship, and leadership. The Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association

will develop athletic programs that are nationally recognized and provide student-athletes with quality opportunities for participation, competition, achievement, and the development of character.

VISAA officers’ goals for 2022-2023:

- Complete the transition and realign staff and infrastructure
- Strengthen the relationship between the Executive Committee and sport committees
- Create and implement tournament structure using the new divisional alignment
- Cultivate a new and diverse group of candidates for the Executive Committee and sport committees
- Add additional sport championships (Mountain Biking, Competitive cheering, 8-player football)
- Strengthen the relationship between VISAA and VCPE, VHSL, VIAAA, and VAIS

VISAA Mission Statement:

The VISAA will provide accredited member schools the resources and competitive environment in education-based programs that establish a foundation for excellence founded on integrity, sportsmanship, and leadership. ■

LTI Update

Derek Farrey, CAA

*Assistant Director of Athletics and Extracurriculars
Loudoun County Public Schools*

The professional development courses are offered online and throughout the year in person, so there are many opportunities to fit any schedule. Leadership Training Institute (LTI) classes are listed on the NIAAA website under the learning catalog.

The VIAAA offers classes during the year at the VIAAA State Conference, Summer Institute, New AD's workshop and Fall Seminar. A list of upcoming LTI classes being offered can be found on the VIAAA website.

The VIAAA has a great incentive for anyone that obtains a certification; they are willing to reimburse 50% of the certification application fee for NIAAA / VIAAA members after required paperwork.

VIAAA OutTeach Grant

VIAAA OutTeach Grant is an opportunity to bring professional development to your district, region, or geographical location. The VIAAA provides this grant as an incentive to our members to continue their professional development and maximum participation in LTI classes. The grant covers the cost of all course materials. A VIAAA member may make this request to the Board of Directors. The request should include the following information.

- LTI class being offered
- Location
- Date
- Time
- Number of members enrolling in the course

VIAAA State Conference

Course Offerings and Schedule

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

8:30-12:30pm LTI 511, 638, 704, 706

1-5pm LTI 506, 510, 620, 640

Friday, April 28, 2023

9-1pm LTI 608, 610, 611, 633

2023 VIAAA Summer Institute

The VIAAA offers a wonderful workshop each summer for new athletic administrators or for anyone that would like some refresher information. During the professional development three-day seminar the LTI 501, 502 & 503 classes are offered to get you on your way to the RAA certification. For summer 2020 the VIAAA is offering the New AD's workshop, Summer Institute and CAA exam in the same week. This is a great opportunity for athletic administrators to take advantage of other LTI classes being offered (504, 508, 612, 614, 627, 723, 799).

These will all be held July 17-18, please see the VIAAA website for registration.

VIAAA Summer Institute: <https://viaaa.org/professional-dev-t/summer-institute>

Online Course Offerings

Now available in the Classroom is an interactive online course option you can take on your own time, at your own pace, and wherever you would like. These four-hour courses include a digital manual, an

interactive teaching style, instructional videos, an acknowledgment of course completion, and more to help make the learning process easy and convenient for you. Check back regularly as we release more courses in this new format. Each online course is \$125 for our members and \$210 for non-members.

Link: <https://members.niaaa.org/page/LeadershipTraining>

Available Courses Include:

- LTC 501: Guiding Foundations & Philosophies
- LTC 502: Strategies for Organizational Management
- LTC 503: Enhancing Organization Management
- LTC 504: Legal Issues I (Liability for Sports Injuries & Risk Management)
- LTC 506: Legal Issues II (Title IX & Sexual Harassment)
- LTC 508: Athletic Administration: Legal Issues III (Hazing, Constitutional Law, Disabilities Law, & Employment & Labor Law)
- LTC 510: Athletic Administration: Legal Issues IV (Social Media, Transgender Participation, Event Management & Security, Pregnant & Parenting Student-Athletes, & Intellectual Property)
- LTC 901: Introduction to International School Athletic Program Administration
- LTC 902: Principles, Strategies & Methods for Athletic Programs in International Schools
- LTC 903: Concepts of Program Philosophy
- LTC 904: Child Protection Overview for the International School Athletic Administration

LTI CLASSES VIA WEBINAR:

In an effort to meet the needs of individuals who desire to enhance their knowledge of interscholastic

athletic administration and cannot attend the national conference or state conference, the NIAAA offers selected courses utilizing the internet through webinars. This offers the opportunity to take Leadership Training courses from the comforts of the office or home and receive the same quality instruction, and the ability to ask questions and interact with peers as is provided in the classroom setting. Click here for more information.

Additional Resources:

[VIAAA Professional Development](#)

[NIAAA Leadership Training Institute](#) ■



Supporting Coaches with a Simple Strategy

Kyle Geck
Director of Student Activities
Woodbridge Senior High School

In my first year as an athletic administrator, I quickly learned that my coaching staff, while being seasoned coaches, were new to either our school and/or our county. I wanted to find a way that I could support them without completely disrupting the systems that they knew or had in place.

After a meeting with other new administrators and receiving checklists to help me in my new role, I realized that my coaches could benefit from a checklist as well. I met with a handful of coaches and created the Coaches Checklist. As we hired coaches throughout the year, I wanted to give them a physical document they could reference at any point in the season. We broke down the list into three parts; preseason, in season, and post season. I have already received feedback from two of our new, first-year, coaches that found the list beneficial. Throughout all the emails, texts, and announcements, they appreciated the simple document they could reference.

Although this is not groundbreaking technology or a new concept, I reflected on the impact of the checklists I received from veteran athletic administrators and hoped to have that same impact on my coaches. ■

COACH CHECKLIST

PRESEASON	
Have you completed your coaching requirements?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o COA 605 o First Aid o Concussion o Child Abuse o Rules Clinic 	
Have you held an interest meeting?	
Have you organized and scheduled your plan for out-of-season conditioning?	
Do you have what you need for the season?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Equipment o Uniforms 	
Have you completed the fundraiser form?	
Have you finalized your schedule for the upcoming season?	
Have you submitted travel/trip requests for any special trips? (Overnight, out-of-state, trips outside of NOVA)	
Have you signed out your keys for the season?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Keys for all access points o Have your assistant coaches signed out keys? 	
Have you sent the Athletics Office your preferred practice schedule? Times, days of the week, location.	
IN-SEASON	
Have you ensured all your athletes have completed paperwork?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Physical o Concussion Training o Blue Card 	
Have you compared your roster to the official MEL roster?	
Have your athletes completed Impact testing?	
Have you secured parents for the following, if applicable:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Announcer o Clock Operator o Chain Gang 	
Have you held a parent meeting?	
Have you set up a spirit wear store?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Many of our teams use Athletes Mark 	
Have you held a fundraiser?	
Have you secured parents for concessions during your games?	
END OF SEASON	
Have you planned your Senior Night?	
Do you have your statistics ready for District and Region voting?	
Have you planned an end-of-season banquet?	
Have you collected and inventoried all equipment and uniforms?	



The GFPS Star Award

Dr. Mark Rerick, CMAA

*Assistant Professor - Kinesiology Department
University of North Dakota*

Like most school districts across the nation, Grand Forks (North Dakota) Public Schools is battling declining participation rates in several programs as a result of early specialization in our more popular sports and students' general interest in activities other than sports. While we continue to address department philosophy and expectations of our programs in order to create more interest in athletics programs, we needed a more specific attempt to slow the rate of specialization in our schools.

Borrowing an idea from my previous school, Dickinson High School, we implemented the 12 Star Award at both of our high schools beginning in 2015. Athletes earn the 12 Star Knight at Central High School or 12 Star Roughrider at Red River High School through the following criteria:

1. Athlete must have participated in three sports during each of his or her four years of high school. The athlete does not have to participate in the same three sports for all four years, but must participate in three sports during each year.
2. Athlete must have started each sport on the first day of practice and remained on the team until the last day of team scheduled activities.
3. Participation can only come from state-association sponsored athletics: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, soccer, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, volleyball, and wrestling.

4. Participation in a full season of bantam or 14U ice hockey as a freshman will count towards the participation requirement for this award.
5. Any state-association violation for alcohol, tobacco or controlled substances during the athlete's high school career immediately disqualifies the athlete for this award. This includes any violation that occurs during a non-participation time.
6. Any school administered extracurricular suspension for conduct as a fan will immediately disqualify the athlete for this award.
7. Student managers are eligible for this award based on the same criteria as athletes.

In order to put more weight to the award, it is now the last award given during the all-athlete assembly. Each student receives an individual plaque, and we've created an award board in the trophy case where each year's winners are annually added to the previous winner list.

Since beginning the 12 Star Award, we've seen some of our better athletes delaying specialization until college, and we have increased participation rates in many sports, particularly cross country and track and field. While we still have some work to do, this has been one small measure that has helped slow the rate of sport specialization in our area. ■



Education based athletics is needed now more than ever

Christopher Smith, Athletic Director
William Campbell H.S.

In today's post-pandemic world, the benefits of education-based activities can get our students motivated and moving again.

Education-based athletics is an important activity that our schools provide to benefit a large portion of our students. We have a different mission than the pay-to-play travel or showcase organizations. We are charged as coaches, athletic directors, and educators with providing an opportunity for all students to get out and enjoy the benefits that organized activities offer. However, sometimes this is lost in a "win at all cost" mentality that permeates athletic programs.

This is not to say that winning is not important! My personal philosophy as a coach is that sports at the high school level should be "fun". No one is getting paid to play. The players are donating their time to me as much as I am donating my time to them. Having said that, I believe the most fun you can have is winning! With that expectation, we are going to work hard to be the best we can be no matter what our skill level...and have fun!

Studies over the past two years have shown that student activity level has decreased by a large percentage compared to pre Covid-19 shutdowns. We have seen this play out in our numbers as schools who once had thriving programs at all levels are struggling to fill teams.

What can we do as coaches and ADs to help this situation? Get out into the hallways and lunches and recruit students. Build relationships with those students and make them want to become part of your program(s). Include those students who may have never played before but show an interest in your program. Talk to that student who sits alone at a lunch table. This will not only help our teams fill out rosters but will also help to fulfill our mission to our students.

Sometimes you find a diamond but if not, you have helped a student be active, gain confidence and see amazing growth in their abilities! ■

Book Review and Podcast

Book Review:



TEAM 8 – A fable and action plan for building the ultimate team connection

By Kate Leavell

This is a must read for any team you are working with at your school (students, coaches, or fellow athletic administrators).

This book is inspired by

the life of Jamie McHenry and his real-life team. It is an inspiring and powerful fable that reminds each reader why connection is the foundation of all teams, and then provides the tools to bring that connection to life. The practices taught in this book are all generated from the Ubuntu Philosophy. This is a very short read for anyone or group and has an action plan included to utilize for a book study or team-building implementation activity.

Podcast:



THE IT FACTORY: Pac-12 Football with Yogi Roth

(Specific Episodes: May 30 – Travion Brown: Struggle and Endurance and September 27, 2021 – Thomas Booker: Don't Judge A Booker By

His Cover)

Yogi Roth is an incredible storyteller and listening to any work he does, especially on his podcast is never a waste of your time. In "THE IT FACTORY", he sits down with current or former Pac-12 Football players and discusses their life inside and outside of the game. There are two specific episodes that truly are life-inspiring for two different varying reasons. You never know what you will learn when you just sit and listen to a young, student-athlete truly share their story and thoughts. Listen and learn. ■