



Education and Leadership for a Lifetime

2100 Freeway Boulevard, Brooklyn Center, Minnesota 55430-1735 | (763) 560-2262, FAX (763) 569-0499 | www.mshsl.org

April 2015

Dear Superintendent:

Each year Minnesota Statute 1993, Section 128C.01, requires individual school boards to authorize membership in the Minnesota State High School League. The Resolution for Membership affirms (1) that the school board for your school delegates the control, supervision and regulation of League-sponsored athletic and fine arts activities to the Minnesota State High School League; (2) that your school board adopts the MSHSL Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations; and, (3) that the administration of and the responsibility for supervising your registered activities are assigned to your official school representative(s).

Formal approval by the governing board of your school district or school must be made prior to August 1, 2015, to enable the League office to certify your continuation or new membership in the League. If your Designated School Board Representative or Designated School Representative has changed from the previous year, please make that change on your school's page on the MSHSL website database.

I am enclosing the Resolution for Membership form which provides for the appropriate school board action. The resolution form is provided in duplicate. **Please return one copy of the 2015-2016 Resolution for Membership to the Minnesota State High School League and retain one copy for your school files. The deadline for returning the resolution form is September 1, 2015. If the form is not received by the above date, a \$250 late fee will be assessed. No school is eligible to compete in post-season tournaments unless the completed Resolution for Membership is on file in the League office.**

A billing for services, rule books, and other supplies your school has ordered will be mailed in mid-August as has been the accepted procedure in the past. This billing, which includes a \$100 service fee, will be based on the materials your school has submitted to the League regarding the activities your school will sponsor during the 2015-2016 school year.

Please be reminded of the following:

1. August 1 begins the MSHSL fiscal year and the Resolution for Membership must be approved by your local school board.
2. **September 1 is the due date for return of the resolution form.** A late fee will be assessed if the resolution is not returned by that date; your students **WILL NOT BE COVERED** by the catastrophic insurance plan; your school district must assume that responsibility; and your students will not be allowed to participate in League-sponsored events.
3. **The resolution form must be completed in full**, including signatures of the superintendent and clerk/secretary of the board of education.
4. Please note the italicized paragraph on the Resolution for Membership from which begins, *"Member schools must develop..."* This language and the steps related to MSHSL Bylaw 206, Good Standing and General Eligibility Requirements as found in the most current MSHSL Official Handbook. The opportunity for a student to appeal a local Code of Conduct decision at your school level most often appears in your school's Student Handbook. Please review your school's internal process as your school board approves the Student Handbook.

5. Effective for the 2015-2016 school year, each school board must view the WHY WE PLAY training video which defines the purpose of education-based athletics and activities and will assist in communicating a shared-common language as it relates to the value of these programs.

Enclosed is a jump drive with the required Why We Play training video (in both mac and pc format) titled "Aligning School Communities Around The Purpose of Education-Based Programs." The school's athletic administrator has been provided with the necessary resources and training to assist in the facilitation of this short educational requirement.

I would suggest that you place this resolution on your agenda as soon as possible, and certainly not later than a June or July board meeting, in order to avoid last-minute efforts late in the summer which may create problems for your board and administrative staff to meet the September 1, 2015 deadline.

Membership in the Minnesota State High School League will provide your students with rewarding benefits as they participate in the education-based athletic and fine arts activities sponsored by your school. The League staff looks forward to an on-going partnership with your school, your school personnel, and the students in your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David V. Stead". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being more prominent.

David V. Stead
Executive Director

DVS/lmj
Enclosures

**2015-2016 RESOLUTION FOR MEMBERSHIP
IN THE MINNESOTA STATE HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE**

RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of School District Number _____, County of _____, State of Minnesota delegates the control, supervision and regulation of interscholastic athletic and fine arts events (referred to in MN Statutes, Section 128C.01) to the Minnesota State High School League, and so hereby certifies to the State Commissioner of Education as provided for by Minnesota Statutes.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the high school(s) listed below (name all high schools in the district):

is/are authorized by this, the Governing Board of said school district or school to:

1. _____ Make new application for membership in the Minnesota State High School League; School Enrollment (9-12): _____
OR;
_____ Renew its membership in the Minnesota State High School League; and,
2. Participate in the approved interschool activities sponsored by said League and its various subdivisions.
3. _____ Our school **WILL NOT** be renewing its membership in the Minnesota State High School League.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Governing Board hereby adopts the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of said League and all amendments thereto as the same as are published in the latest edition of the League's *Official Handbook*, on file at the office of the school district or as appears on the League's website, as the minimum standards governing participation in said League-sponsored activities, and that the administration and responsibility for determining student eligibility and for the supervision of such activities are assigned to the official representative identified by the Governing Board.

Signing the Resolution for Membership affirms that this Governing Board has reviewed the WHY WE PLAY training video which defines the purpose of education-based athletic and activity programs and will assist school communities in communicating a shared-common language as it relates to the value of these said programs.

Member schools must develop and publicize administrative procedures to address eligibility suspensions related to Code of Student Conduct violations for students participating in activity programs by member schools.

The above Resolution was adopted by the Governing Board of this school district and is recorded in the official minutes of said Board and hereby is certified to the State Commissioner of Education as provided for by law.

Signed: _____
Clerk/Secretary - Local Governing Board

Signed: _____
Superintendent or Head of School

Date: _____

Date: _____

District Office Address, City, Zip: _____

School Superintendent's Phone: _____ School Superintendent's Email: _____

RETURN ONE COPY TO THE MSHSL NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1, 2015
Retain one copy for the school files.