



Board of Directors Fall Meeting, September 27-28, 2024

Meeting Location: New Orleans, LA (New Orleans Marriott Metairie)

Call to Order/Welcome/Record of Approved Minutes

Mission Moment and Presidential Charge

This moment is designed to set the tone for the meeting and purposefully remind all present of our mission, vision, values, and goals as we deliberate and conduct business on behalf of our current and future membership.

Review Membership Correspondence

In accordance with our goal of increased membership engagement, letters submitted to the Board will be included in our meeting materials to inform the Board of ideas, requests, and concerns that have been submitted for consideration. This is an opportunity to briefly highlight, clarify, and/or frame action items on the docket in light of these submissions.

Standing Committee Minutes and Q&A

Our current procedures call for the inclusion of any committee meeting minutes from any meeting that occurred between main Board meetings. These minutes are housed in the BoardEffect Board of Directors Library. If you have any questions about the minutes, please directly email the committee chair. After communicating with the chair, if you have any issue with the minutes, please directly email the President and copy the Executive Director. If there are no requests submitted prior to the meeting, no time will be allocated for this topic.

Legal/Confidential Matters

Each Board meeting includes time allotted for relevant updates on any pending legal matters or other business that require discussion in executive session.

Strengths For Leaders Exercise

As part of the “forming” stage of the newest iteration of the NSDA Board of Directors, Board President Byron Arthur and Executive Director Scott Wunn have asked the Board members and staff executive team to take the Gallup StrengthsFinder “Strengths For Leaders” assessment. The results will be shared out at the meeting and the Board and staff will participate in an exercise exploring how this information might be utilized moving forward to maximize the strengths of our collective leadership team.

Organizational Culture and Community Building

Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Dr. Paul Porter will provide an update on key aspects of the organization's efforts in the area of DEI. His overview will include updates on Phase III of the DEI Audit and the DEI Map, the Coaches' Network, the Community Learning Series, and the Wellness Committee. Dr. Porter will also lead a conversation on how we continue to embed diversity, equity, and inclusion into the organization's culture and how a holistic approach to DEI helps move us toward building the community we all desire to create.

Additionally, the Board will discuss gender equity in high school debate events. The discussion will span from student participation and success to the number and retention of female identifying judges and coaches.

FY24 Strategic Plan Objectives Priorities Report/FY25 SP Objectives Priorities Plan

Executive Director Scott Wunn and Assistant Executive Director Amy Seidelman will report on the end of year FY24 Strategic Plan Objectives Priorities results. The Board will have the opportunity to ask questions of the report. In May, the Board approved the FY25 Strategic Plan Objectives Priorities. The Board will have the opportunity to ask questions concerning the proposed key performance indicators and strategies within these agreed upon objective priorities for the year. Individual Board standing committee members (Governance, Internal Affairs, External Affairs) will provide additional input on areas discussed during the first standing committee meetings of the year.

Strategic Planning Process: Building a Strategic Growth Plan

Over the next six months, the NSDA will embark on a strategic planning process to create a new three-to-five-year strategic growth plan. At this meeting, Chief Strategy and Growth Officer Steve Stein will facilitate a discussion among the Board and staff executive leadership on the process we will use and a discussion of what our goals should be, as well as the main strategies we should consider exploring to achieve those goals.

Technology Update

Director of Technology Aaron Hardy will present an overview of our advancement in technology over the past year, as well as top priorities for the organization in his vision for future development.

Centennial Commemoration Update

The Board will be provided an update on the organizational plans to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the National Speech & Debate Association.

FY24 EOY Budget Report/FY25 Final Budget Approval

Chief Financial Officer Laura Stein, Executive Director Scott Wunn, and related staff leadership will answer questions related to the FY24 Budget Report. The Internal Affairs Committee will seek acceptance of the FY24 Budget Report. The Chief Financial Officer, Executive Director, and related staff leadership will answer questions related to the proposed FY25 Budget. In May, the Board approved a pre-budget. The Internal Affairs Committee, in collaboration with the

Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer, will propose appropriate amendments to the pre-budget based on the FY24 EOY budget actuals. The Internal Affairs Committee will seek approval on the proposed amended FY25 Budget.

Board FY24 Self-Evaluation/Board Manual Revisions Approval

The Board will review its FY24 self-evaluation and offer observations and feedback. The Governance Committee will offer its recommendation of three to four priority goal areas for the Board for this upcoming year. These recommendations will be discussed, and the Board will make a final determination of the FY25-FY26 two-year Board goals and priorities. In addition, in light of recent governance changes to the Board, as well as the creation of the Competition and Rules Leadership Committee (CRLC), changes to the official Board manual are necessary. This includes updates to the general actions/expectations of Board and Executive Director standing committees (Governance, Internal Affairs, External Affairs, CRLC, wording committees, etc.). Updated language will be reviewed, revised (if warranted), and approved. This will also be an opportunity for Board members to discuss and clarify lingering questions/concerns on any aspects of the CRLC/Board of Directors governance structure to ensure transparency and clarity of responsibility/roles. Finally, the Board members will have the opportunity to suggest ways in which the Board's self-evaluation process can be improved in the future.

Board Nominations Committee Proposal

The Board will consider a proposal from the Governance Committee to formally establish a standing Nominations Committee of both members of the Board and other members of our NSDA community. The proposed Nominations Committee will be charged with seeking out and nominating potential new appointed members to the Board of Directors. The Governance Committee is ultimately responsible for sending the final recommendation of Board appointees to the entire Board.

National Tournament Review and Future Planning

The Executive Director will share some general themes of 2024 National Tournament feedback, as well as the Executive Director's and staff's primary takeaways. Additionally, an update on the 2025 National Tournament will be provided. The Executive Director will also share his thoughts on the future of the event's sites and location selection and the role that the newly formed Competition and Rules Leadership Committee can play as an important collaborator in these discussions.

Equity Pause

In order to be consistent and intentional about incorporating the [Equity Lens](#), we've added a moment at the end of each day to consider questions from the lens that may be relevant to the conversation.

Adjournment