



**MINUTES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
HARDSHIP APPEALS – FALL – Round 2
September 1 2026**

In accordance with Article 6, Section 3, Paragraph 1 of the Arizona Interscholastic Association, Inc. (AIA) Constitution, a special meeting of the Executive Board was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026 at the AIA Office, 7007 N 18th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020 and via teleconference.

President Corey Newland called the meeting to order at 8:47 am.

Members in Attendance:

William Duarte, 1A Conference (Superior Jr./Sr. High School)
Tim Bridges, 2A Conference (American Leadership Academy Anthem South)
Greg Haagsma, 3A Conference (Valley Christian High School)
Corey Newland, 5A Conference (Paradise Valley School District)
Tim Carter, Cognia (Yavapai County School Superintendent, Retired)
Steve Johnson, Arizona School Boards Association (CAVIT)
David Verdugo, Arizona School Administrators (Santa Cruz Valley School District – Rio Rico)*
Missy Townsend, Arizona Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (Prescott High School)*
Jim Dean, Ed.D, AIA Executive Director

Members Absent:

William Wright, 4A Conference (Estrella Foothills High School)
Jennifer Burks, 6A Conference (Perry High School)

AIA Staff Present:

Nathan Slater, Associate Executive Director
Tayler Coady, Executive Administrative Assistant
Rosa Leon, Legal Counsel*

**Indicates attendance via teleconference.*

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

On a motion made, seconded and carried the Executive Board **approved** the adoption of the September 1, 2026 agenda.

LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

On a motion made, seconded and carried, President Townsend, in accordance with Article 6, Section 3, Paragraph 3, Subparagraph 2 of the AIA Constitution, called for the following Executive Session(s) to receive report from legal counsel:

✓ 8:47 am – 9:01 am

ACTION ITEMS:

HARDSHIP APPEALS

The following representatives entered the meeting for a student eligibility appeal and left upon completion of their presentations:

Queen Creek

Matt Harris - Athletic Director, Parent, Student, Grandfather

Casteel – Kraig Leuschner – Athletic Director

Following review and discussion of the written and oral information presented, the Executive Board, in accordance with Article 15, Section 14 of the AIA Bylaws, **granted / denied** the following hardship eligibility requests:

School/Appeal

Granted/Denied

Queen Creek

Denied

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded, and carried, the meeting adjourned at 9:48 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Dean Ed., D.