OHSAA
Athletic Discussion Meeting Presentation
April – May 2017

Dr. Dan Ross
Commissioner

Dr. Deborah Moore
Associate Commissioner
OHSAAA Staff & Responsibilities

Dr. Daniel Ross  
Commissioner

Jerry Snodgrass  
Assistant Commissioner  
- Coaches Education  
- Soccer, Baseball  
- Basketball

Bob Goldring  
Director of Operations

Jeff Jordan  
Chief Financial Officer

Tim Stried  
Director of Information Services

Steve Neil  
Assistant Commissioner  
- Corp. Agreements  
- Ball Contracts  
- Ice Hockey

Roxanne Price  
Assistant Commissioner  
- Eligibility  
- B & G Tennis  
- B & G Bowling  
- Softball

Dr. Deborah Moore  
Associate Commissioner  
- Eligibility  
- Sports Med  
- VB, FH, SD, GGYM

Beau Rugg  
Assistant Commissioner  
- Officiating  
- Football  
- Wrestling

Jeff Jordan
Organization & Oversight

- OHSAA Board of Directors
- OHSAA Commissioner (Executive Director)
- OHSAA Staff
  - Bylaws & Specific Sport Regulations
- District Athletic Boards
  - Sectional & District Tournaments
The Referendum Process

• **Ballots**
  – mailed to all principals in a first class mailing on **April 28, 2017**

• **High School Principals**
  – Shall return the original ballot with signature no later than Monday, **May 15, 2017**, at 4:00 PM via regular mail. **Voting is optional but return of the ballot is required.**

• **7-8th Grade Principals**
  – No Issues in 2017

• **Share**
  – the ballot and accompanying script, which is posted at [ohsaa.org](http://ohsaa.org), with all interested constituents within the school system.
The Referendum Process

Outlined in Constitution Article 8

• Referendum Items
  – Approved by Board of Directors for Inclusion on Ballot
  – All items, if approved, become effective **August 1, 2017**, unless otherwise specified by the Board. These alternative dates are denoted on the slides and on your ballot.
Due to the strong interest in these changes, please consider:

- **Sharing** this information with parents, booster members, others members of your administrative team, coaches, students, etc.

- **Making** information available to the public via your school website and/or directing interested individuals to the OHSAA website

- **Reminding** everyone that the results of the referendum vote will be posted to the OHSAA website on May 16, 2017
Issue 1C – Revise Article 3- Initial and Continuing Membership

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would:

1. Require schools to sponsor two sports per season and compete in at least 50% of the contests in each
2. Require participation in the OHSAA Tournament in each
3. Place school immediately on probation if the school fails to follow these rules
4. Require remaining teams to be ineligible for OHSAA tournaments.
WHY?

• To more precisely define “participation” in sports as a member school

• To clarify that tournament participation is part of that requirement for both initial and continuing membership

• To stipulate within this article the consequence for non-compliance
Issue 2 C – Revise Articles 5 and 6 – Board of Directors and Commissioner

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would:

1. Change the titles of office staff to Executive Director, Senior Directors, Assistant Directors and Coordinators.

2. Permit the Board to employ a Senior Director of Finance to render reports to the Board and publish the audit.

3. Amend #8 to remand appeals of any OHSAA ruling to the Appeals Panel.
2 C - Continued

- Amend Article six to be labeled Executive Director and replace throughout the Constitution, Bylaws and Sports Regulations

- Amend 6-1-4 to remove financial duties from the Ex. Director and require the ED to provide reports, business rules and the minutes of all meetings to the Board.
WHY?

• This change creates the SDF and removes those duties from the ED that have already been assumed by the SDF.

• The SDF will still work under the supervision of the ED.

• This change requires all business rules to be Board-approved.

• The revision in #8 makes for a better option by allowing the Appeals Panel to hear all appeals.
Issue I B – 1-2-1 Sponsorship

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would revise to:

1. Requires that all interscholastic activity be under the DIRECT control of the schools involved

2. Refer readers to new Bylaw 3-2-1 for more information
WHY?

• The way this bylaw is currently written has caused confusion and conflict:
  – Schools and officials not being issued contracts
  – Schools and officials not being compensated as promised
  – Use of non-OHSAA officials
  – Use of eligibility and contest rules that are not OHSAA approved
  – Exploitation of spectators in terms of high ticket prices
WHY?

- Philosophically, all interscholastic contests should be under the direct control of school personnel which is the way the bylaw was originally written.

- If this were to pass, we would honor all current contracts and phase in

- When issues arise, expectation is that OHSAA will resolve the problem when we have no real authority to do so.

- The real purpose is to furnish protection for schools.

- The OHSAA would develop best practice policies and procedures to assist with how to permit participation in these events but shift sponsorship to a school.
Issue 2 B – Revise 1-6 – Team Membership

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would:

1. Amend 1-6-1 to allow girls to play on boys teams with no restriction and to include information on a female to male (FTM) transgender student participating on a boys team in accordance with OHSAA policy.

2. Amend 1-6-2 to include a FTM transgender male to be compliant with all OHSAA policies.

3. Amend 1-6-3 regarding boys playing on girls teams to both include the Title IX policy interpretation of “overall opportunities” and to specify that a MTF transgender female must comply with all OHSAA policies.
WHY?

• To rewrite in accordance with current policy and practice
• To make it easier to understand 1-6-3 by stipulating Title IX policy regarding “overall opportunities” for boys and girls
• Referencing part one of the three-part test is very specific and easily understood in terms of analyzing overall opportunities.
Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would permit:

1. The Commissioner’s Office to waive the prohibition on competition between the sexes:
   - On a case by case basis
   - Provided the school administrators of both schools follow the procedures for obtaining the waiver as prescribed.
WHY?

- Schools have requested some relief in this area.
- Our office will establish a waiver process not unlike what is now required for uniform deviations for religious reasons, special requests, etc.
- Our office will consider factors such as safety, rationale for the waiver, contest limitations, etc.
- The competition parameters shall be clearly designated on all contest contracts to permit oversight.
Issue 4 B – New 3-2-1 – School’s Responsibility When Hosting

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would require the host school to ensure:

1. Contest supports educational values

2. Safety of all participants – players, coaches, officials and spectators

3. Appointment of a site manager or administrator who is in charge of the contest

4. The manager is aware of the Emergency Action Plan including how to deal with medical emergencies, crowd issues, and other safety concerns.

Violation can bring consequences as specified in Bylaw 11.
WHY?

- To provide codified guidance within the bylaws to ensure contests proceed safely and efficiently
- To address the core values of interscholastic athletics participation by emphasizing
  - Appointment of a responsible adult
  - Sound practices to ensure safety
Issue 5 B – Revise 3-3-1 – School Representative Must Accompany Team

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would

• Clarify that in BK – the rule covers both boys and girls and home/away

• Highly recommend a school administrator be present for IH and B/G Soccer.

• In all other sports, require appointment of a site director/manager who could be the coach.
WHY?

- Clarify the rules in BK
- Emphasize the need for an administrator in IH and SO – high incidence of concussion
- To coincide with language in 3-2-1, require appointment of a site manager in all other sports.
- Especially important to the EAP protocol.
Issue 6 B –4-3-1 Exception 4

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would

1. Change “alternative” to non-traditional

2. Reinforce that students in these schools count for EMIS purposes at the school where assigned

3. Stipulate that students who attend these schools in multi-high school districts shall be assigned for sports to a member school based on OHSAA business rules which are Board approved and linked here: (http://www.ohsaa.org/Portals/0/Eligibility/BusinessRulesMultiHSPublic.pdf)
WHY?

• The word “alternative” actually refers to a specific type of school that serves at risk students

• To improve clarity, the use of non-traditional, is more representative and includes many types of schools sponsored by districts

• Students at these schools continue to be counted on EMIS

• Students in multi-HS districts shall be assigned for athletics in accordance with business rules developed by the Board and published for review
WHY?

- Does not apply to home educated, STEM, community or non-public students

- Such students are covered under state law and exception 6 of this bylaw and do not count in the EMIS number for the school at which they participate.

- Their participation is also governed by business rules when they live in a multi-high school district.
Effective Date: August 1, 2017

If passed, this amendment would

1. Add the term “non-traditional” and include students who are involved with STEM, College Credit Plus and other educational options to define that the preceding grading period is that of the member school in which the student is competing or wishes to compete
WHY?

• Adding these terms memorializes that all students who are receiving their education outside the walls of the brick and mortar school building are required to use that school’s immediately preceding grading period for the evaluation of their grades for determining scholastic eligibility.
Issue 8 B – Bylaw 4-7-2 Exception 1 - Transfer

Effective August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Add the phrase “immediately following the date of the student’s transfer” to the conditional eligibility provision of 90 days when both parents are unable to make a move that is more than 100 miles from their former residence.
WHY?

• Adding this phrase more clearly defines our current practice

• It is not appropriate for students to “save” their 90 days to begin adjacent to the sport they wish to play

• The 90 days begins, if appropriate, immediately upon transfer, not when the exception is requested.
Issue 9 B – Revise 4-7-2

Exception 1 “Note” - Transfer

Effective August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Add the phrase “any member public school in the parents’ new district of residence in a multiple high school district” to signify that this is a choice when the student is actually enrolling in that school.
WHY?

• This is our current practice when a family moves into a new public school district containing multiple high schools and chooses to/is permitted to enroll the student in any of those member public high schools.
Issue 10 B –4-7-2 Exception 7–
Transfer

Effective August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Substitute the word “substantially” for “strictly” as it applies to compliance with a District’s Anti-Harassment, Bullying and Intimidation policies and procedures.

2. Add item 5 to this exception to indicate that in accordance with state law, this exception cannot be used for isolated or alleged incidents or in cases where there has been no contemporaneous reporting of the incidents.
WHY?

- The word change to substantially will assist us in evaluating each case for compliance.
- The addition of #5 is in strict compliance with state law and indicates that we will not entertain this exception for isolated undocumented incidents.
Issue 11 B –4-7-2- New Exception 11
Transfer

Effective Date, August 1, 2017
If passed, this change would:

1. Permit the office to waive the 50% sit out for a transfer student who has experienced the death of an immediate family member with whom he/she was residing under the following conditions:
   • The transfer is necessary to protect the student’s mental or physical well-being as certified by the superintendent of the district.
   • The transfer is made within a reasonable period of time after the death
WHY?

- Upon hearing an appeal of a situation involving the scenario referenced in this exception, the Appeals Panel asked the office to propose the exception to the membership.

- Please remember that the Superintendent’s agreement as codified in ORC 3313.64 (F) (12) already has this provision in place for transfers between public schools but not non-public schools.
Issue 12 B – Bylaw 4-7-3 – Transfer

Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Add the statement “the student is approved for transfer under the requirements” of Exception one of Bylaw 4-7-2 making it clear that 4-7-3 is applicable unless this approval has been made and the two schools are more than 50 miles apart.
WHY?

• This statement is necessary to clarify that a student who makes a transfer during a season is INELIGIBLE unless the student is approved under Bylaw 4-7-2 exception one and the two schools are more than 50 miles apart.
Issue 13 B – 4-7-6 – Transfer – Add Note

Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Add a note at the end of the bylaw to stipulate that “This exception will have no application for seniors who are requesting a specific change of academic program.”
WHY?

• Adding this note to the intra-district transfer bylaw for multiple high school public school districts simply memorializes current practice.

• The Executive Director’s office will not entertain these requests for seniors who are likely too advanced into their current programs to reap any benefits from reassignment making the intention behind the bylaw moot.
Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Add a note at the end of the bylaw to stipulate that “This exception will have no application for seniors who are requesting a specific change of academic program.”
WHY?

• Adding this note to the intra-system transfer bylaw for multiple high school non-public school systems (Catholic Conference, Independent, American Christian Schools International) simply memorializes current practice.

• The Executive Director’s office will not entertain these requests for seniors who are likely too advanced into their current programs to reap any benefits from reassignment making the intention behind the bylaw moot.
Issue 15 B – 4-8-1 – Exception – International and Exchange Students

Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Add Note #2 to this bylaw to stipulate that students who are approved under this international bylaw must also meet an exception to the transfer bylaw in order to begin immediate participation.
WHY?

• All students must be compliant with all sections within Bylaw 4 – Student Eligibility.

• Requiring adherence to a transfer exception, just as is required for in-state and out of state transfers is appropriate.

• Due to the fact that interscholastic participation is not common internationally, most students coming to Ohio from another country will not have participated for any school in the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer.
Issue 16 B – Amend 4-9-7 – Recruiting

Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, this change would:

1. Provide the Executive Director’s Office with a broader range of specific penalties for violating the recruiting bylaws to include denial of participation in the OHSAA tournaments in the sport(s) in which the student was recruited
WHY?

• To codify the practice of denial of participation in OHSAA tournaments for students who have been found to be recruited to a member school.
1. Amend 7-1-7 to reference game contracts which cannot be fulfilled due to circumstances such as weather, strike, force majeure, etc. and provide steps to resolve the issue.

2. Add new bylaw 7-1-8 to deal with a purposeful breach of a game contract and provide remedies to resolve such a breach.

3. Note that included in these remedies are sanctions in accordance with Bylaw 11 including denial of participation in the OHSAA tournament in the sport in which the dispute occurred.

Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, these changes would:
WHY?

• There is a major difference between contracts which cannot be fulfilled due to no-fault situations and those that constitute a unilateral breach.

• Separating these bylaws improves clarity.

• The current “damage clause” addresses only unilateral breach.

• Providing a broad array of sanctions, including removal from the OHSAA tournament, should be an effective deterrent for an increasing number of disputes.
18 B – Revise 11-1-2 - Penalties

Effective Date, August 1, 2017

If passed, these changes would:

1. Include within the penalty bylaw, suspension of membership, suspension of eligibility

2. Expand denial of participation to include the post season OHSAA tournaments and make it applicable to students, coaches and administrators.
WHY?

• These revisions more clearly define the term “suspension” to include both membership in the Association as well as student eligibility.

• Denial of participation for post season OHSAA tournaments is already a remedy used to penalize students and coaches. This amendment codifies that process.
• New Sudden Cardiac Arrest Education Component and Parent/Student Information – Reminder about all Coaching Standards

• Concussion Management:
  • Please review the regulations and resources in your packet

• Updated PrivIT electronic PPE – Provided an updated shortened electronic version complete with all consent forms (4)

• Acclimatization:  Review with staff... ALWAYS important!

• Emergency Action Plans and AED management
  – “Anyone Can Save a Life” – Recommended EAP
• **Out of Season Coaching Information** – Please review with all coaching staff!!

• **College Credit Plus** -

• **4-8-1 – International Students**
  [http://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/International](http://www.ohsaa.org/Eligibility/International)
OHSAA Updates

• Competitive Balance Review

• Auditor’s Finding - Reminder on Coaching Requirements

• Students to Soldiers

• Participation in non-interscholastic sports at the same time as the interscholastic season

• Continued Examination of the Transfer Consequence – 50% rule
The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Competitive Balance Update

(April/May 2017)
Competitive Balance Rostering Reminders (1 of 4)

• Schools shall enter rosters for the following eight sports:
  - Fall Sports – football, boys and girls soccer and volleyball
  - Winter Sports – boys and girls basketball
  - Spring Sports – baseball and softball

• Roster data is used in arrears (i.e. 2016-17 data will be used for 2017-18).

• **EVERY** student in grades 9 through 12 at each team level in sports that are part of Competitive Balance **MUST** be entered in the rostering system and assigned a specific tier.
Competitive Balance
Rostering Reminders (2 of 4)

• Identifying the specific team level (e.g., freshman teams, j.v., reserve, gold squad, blue squad, varsity, etc.) is not needed, but every student no matter on what level of team he/she participated must be included.

• Students are to be included only one time per sport.

• Note: The student I.D. will prevent duplication if you added them to two rosters.
• Students who were on the roster but did not play during the season (likely coach’s decision) **CANNOT** be deleted from the roster count. These students **COUNT** on that sport’s roster. Think of it as a “snapshot” of the team.

• A student who participates in two sports during a season **MUST** count on both team’s rosters unless that student quits one of those teams PRIOR TO the first regular season contest.
• A student who was on your roster but later transferred to a different school **CANNOT** be deleted from the roster count regardless if he/she never played (likely coach’s decision). Again, think of it as a “snapshot” of the team.

• A student who is sitting out due to the OHSAA transfer consequence does **NOT** count on a roster if that student never becomes eligible for the team, even if your school permits that student to practice, sit on the bench and/or travel with the team.
Basic Principles of Tiering

• There is a fundamental difference in how public schools and non-public schools determine Tiers.

• For a public school, begin with “Does the student and at least one parent currently reside within your school district (or within your attendance zone for multiple high school districts)?”

• For a non-public school, begin with “Has the student been continuously enrolled in the same system of education since the 7th grade?” (Note: it does not matter where the student and his/her parents currently reside.)
2016-17 Initial Roster Submission Dates — Have Passed

- Boys Soccer: Monday, Aug. 1 - Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Girls Soccer: Monday, Aug. 1 - Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Volleyball: Monday, Aug. 1 - Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Football: Monday, Aug. 1 - Monday, Sept. 19

- Girls Basketball: Tuesday, Nov. 1 - Friday, Dec. 23
- Boys Basketball: Tuesday, Nov. 1 - Friday, Dec. 23

- Baseball: Wednesday, Mar. 1 - Monday, Apr. 10
- Softball: Wednesday, Mar. 1 - Monday, Apr. 10
2016-17 Updated Roster Submission Dates* — Spring Sports Only

- Boys Soccer: Monday, Nov. 14 - Thursday, Dec. 1
- Girls Soccer: Monday, Nov. 14 - Thursday, Dec. 1
- Volleyball: Monday, Nov. 14 - Thursday, Dec. 1
- Football: Monday, Dec. 5 - Tuesday, Dec. 20
- Girls Basketball: Monday, Mar. 20 - Monday, Apr. 10
- Boys Basketball: Monday, Mar. 27 - Monday, Apr. 10
- Baseball: Monday, June 5 - Monday, June 19
- Softball: Monday, June 5 - Monday, June 19

* Updates only permitted for very narrowly-defined situations. See the OHSAA website for a description on why you would make updates.
Other Competitive Balance Business Rules

- Public school districts with multiple high schools will need to submit their attendance zones to the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office by May 31 every other year.

- Non-public schools will need to submit their designated public school attendance zone (the area where the designated, or chosen, “feeder school{s}” is located) to the OHSAA Commissioner’s Office every other year.

- A public school’s current district and/or current or established attendance zone (multiple high school districts) and a non-public school’s current assigned or designated attendance zone will stay constant for two years (and will not change on a sport-by-sport basis).
Divisional Alignment Process (1 of 5)

• Need to maintain our current Sports Regulation that, besides Division I in football, each division shall have as equal number of schools as possible.

• 2017-18 Timeline for Approval of Divisions:
  • Fall Sports — April 6
  • Winter Sports — June 1
  • Spring Sports — August 10
Divisional Alignment Process (2 of 5)

1.) Assign schools to divisions based solely on EMIS numbers.

2.) Add the Competitive Balance Numbers.

3.) Compare the assignments based solely on EMIS with schools’ Competitive Balance numbers.

4.) Follow our principle that a school cannot move more than one division.
Divisional Alignment Process (3 of 5)

(EXAMPLE — Division I: 346 and above; Division II: 195-345)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volleyball School</th>
<th>2017 EMIS Females</th>
<th>2017 Pre-CB Division</th>
<th>2017 CB Numbers</th>
<th>2017 VB Adj. Enrollment</th>
<th>2017 VB Division</th>
<th>2016 VB Division</th>
<th>Division Change</th>
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<tr>
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<td>II</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>Down 1 EMIS</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Divisional Alignment Process (4 of 5)

2017 Fall Sports Data

• Football:
  - 176 of 717 schools had some type of movement (24.5%)
  - 22 moved up a division due to competitive balance (CB)
  - 53 moved up a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
  - 17 moved up due to EMIS, down due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016
  - 16 moved down a division due to competitive balance
  - 57 moved down a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
  - 11 moved down due to EMIS, up due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016

• Volleyball:
  - 110 of 784 schools had some type of movement (14%)
  - 17 moved up a division due to competitive balance (CB)
  - 34 moved up a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
  - 10 moved up due to EMIS, down due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016
  - 13 moved down a division due to competitive balance
  - 31 moved down a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
  - 5 moved down due to EMIS, up due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016
Divisional Alignment Process (5 of 5)

2017 Fall Sports Data

**Boys Soccer:**
- 72 of 575 schools had some type of movement (12.5%)
- 11 moved up a division due to competitive balance (CB)
- 19 moved up a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
- 11 moved up due to EMIS, down due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016
- 7 moved down a division due to competitive balance
- 19 moved down a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
- 5 moved down due to EMIS, up due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016

**Girls Soccer:**
- 59 of 534 schools had some type of movement (11%)
- 11 moved up a division due to competitive balance (CB)
- 13 moved up a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
- 9 moved up due to EMIS, down due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016
- 7 moved down a division due to competitive balance
- 16 moved down a division due to EMIS (enrollment) numbers
- 3 moved down due to EMIS, up due to CB but net result is the same division as 2016
• Subcommittee met on November 1.

• Was comprised of a small group of school administrators and OHSAA staff that have been extensively involved with Competitive Balance.

• Reviewed current issues and business decisions since the information on roster collection began last spring.
Committee will meet again in the Fall.

Want to be transparent, not make any rash decisions and stay within the spirit of “where do you get your kids.”

Do not plan to recommend any modifications until we go through a two-year cycle to see where changes may be needed.
• If recommend changes to formula, Board of Directors will place proposal on referendum ballot.

• Otherwise, business rules will be set by Board of Directors.
• Issues We Have Heard:
  - The factors need to be larger.
  - Change the factor for non-enrolled students (currently Tier 2).
  - Change the factor for international exchange students (currently Tier 2).
  - Align rosters with EMIS (EMIS uses grades 9 through 11 so why not use rosters for grades 9 through 11 since they’re also being used in arrears).
Strictly look at tournament rosters.

For non-public schools, allow the choice of all feeder schools within a county (NOT just those from a public school attendance zone).

Ensure consistency of the principles for attendance zones for public schools with multiple high schools.

Allow schools to move more than one division if that is what their Adjusted Enrollment Count indicates.

What determines if this plan is a success?
Still Have Questions?

OHSAA Competitive Balance Resource Center
(www.ohsaa.org/CompetitiveBalance.htm)

• Use of Arbiter for Rostering •
  Jacki Windon: jwindon@ohsaa.org

• Public Schools •
  Kristin Ronai: kronai@ohsaa.org

• Non-Public Schools •
  Bob Goldring: bgoldring@ohsaa.org
• Please Review Referendum Items Prior to Vote
• New Eligibility Guidance and forms will be posted to the website and a reminder sent to all administrators after the referendum vote.
• Please discard old forms from 2016-17
• OHSAA Handbook for 2017-18 will be mailed in July
• Fall Regional Meetings will be conducted – Sites and Dates TBD
- EMIS Numbers are posted – Fall Sports Divisions Posted
• **Referendum results**: posted on May 16, 2017, and will get an email reminder to take a look
THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND FOR ALL THAT YOU DO TO EDUCATE OUR STUDENTS!