FALL 2026

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear MSADA Members,
As we approach the finish line of the fall regular season, prepare for the start of playoffs, and transition into the winter sports season, I hope you can find time to pause and reflect on the positive relationships you have built with your coaches and student-athletes throughout the fall. The impact we make as athletic administrators extends far beyond wins and losses. The relationships we develop and the support we provide to our coaches and student-athletes are at the heart of what we do.

One of MSADA's primary goals is to provide meaningful leadership and professional development opportunities for athletic administrators throughout Maryland. I am pleased to recognize our LTI Coordinators, Mr. Michael Duffy, CMAA and Dr. Brandon Lauer, CMAA for their work in applying for and securing a grant from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) to support a Leadership Training Institute (LTI) Outreach Program. This initiative will help athletic administrators pursue their Registered Athletic Administrator (RAA) Certification at a reduced cost and represents an important step toward one of our association's ongoing goals: increasing professional certifications among athletic administrators across our state.

I also want to recognize our MSADA Board of Directors for the time, collaboration, and dedication they are investing in planning our upcoming State Conference in Ocean City, scheduled for April 22–25, 2027. We already have an exciting lineup of speakers, workshops, and LTI courses in development. Our goal is to provide valuable learning experiences, strengthen professional connections, and ensure that every attendee leaves with ideas and resources they can take back to their schools and communities.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the National Athletic Directors Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, this December. This annual gathering provides an outstanding opportunity to connect with colleagues from across the country, share ideas, and take advantage of the many professional learning opportunities available to us.

Thank you for your continued support of the MSADA and your commitment to interscholastic athletics throughout Maryland. The work you do each day makes a meaningful difference in the lives of our student-athletes, coaches, and school communities.

I wish you continued success as you finish the fall season, navigate the playoffs, and prepare for a successful winter season.

Sincerely,
Jason D. Woodward, CMAA
President
Maryland State Athletic Directors Association

HELP WANTED

Interested in serving, leading or teaching?

The NIAAA offers countless opportunities to contribute, influence and make an impact—from serving on national committees and in leadership positions to teaching, publishing, facilitating and presenting.

NIAAA Committees

Want to make an impact?

NIAAA members may serve on committees that manage many of the organization's tasks.

At each summer Board meeting, members are selected from the applicant pool. Submit a Committee Membership Application to the NIAAA Secretary or office. Applications remain in the pool for three years.

Explore the committee opportunities:

- Accreditation
- Awards
- Certification
- Coaches Education
- Credentials
- Endowment
- Equity and Community Engagement
- Hall of Fame
- Health and Wellness
- Membership
- Mentoring
- National Initiative and Assistance Network
- Publications
- Quality Program Assessment
- Resolutions
- Retired
- Sports Facilities

NIAAA Committee Membership Application
Click here to complete the application

MSADA Help Wanted

MSADA needs volunteers on our Council and at the State Conference.
Interested? Contact:

- **Executive Council —** Jason_D_Woodward@mcpsmd.org
- **Leadership Training Course Instructors —** mlduffy@carrollk12.org
- **Presiders and Speakers for Workshops —** Lisa_Magness@mcpsmd.org
- **Banquet Set Up —** Jason_D_Woodward@mcpsmd.org
- **Exhibitors Hall —** Ryan.myers@fcps.org

www.**msada-md**.org

MASCOTMEDIA

THOUGHTS ON OUR PSAs?

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In Memorial



Elizabeth C. "Liz" Bouve Johnson passed away on September 1, 2026, due to complications from ALS. Liz was a Montgomery County Public Schools educator, coach, assistant athletic director and physical education and athletics supervisor. But most of all, Liz was an incredible leader, trailblazer, and even better person.

Below is the obituary as written by Liz.

I decided to write my own obituary since my expiration date is unknown and has no sell by date. I also want to save my heirs the time and trouble. Most obituaries say the person passed "peacefully". I don't know who will be by my side and/or beside themselves. My intention is not to take death lying down. However, I see cremation as my last hope for a smoking hot body. I was perfectly content before I was born so predicting the same when I pass along. I have always liked the Grooks poem book by Piet Hein that includes The Cure for Exhaustion: "Sometimes, exhausted with toil and endeavor, I wish I could sleep for ever and ever; but then this reflection my longing allays: I shall be doing it one of these days."

By odd coincidence, I was born on my birthday September 5, 1946 in beautiful downtown Portland Maine. As I look back at the good old days, the best thing was that I wasn't good and I wasn't old. I grew up on Falmouth Foreside where I could walk out the door in the morning and come back when I got hungry. While out and about I climbed trees, wandered in mud flats, looked in the neighbor's widows, pulled up a few lobster traps just to see if anything was in them, played on icebergs in the ocean, sailed my boat, left the boots I did not want to wear to school under the stone wall by the bus stop and on occasion took the bus to Portland for 20 cents to get a 25 cent Amato's Italian Sandwich. Now, I am starting to think I'll never be old enough to know any better. I grew up as Libby but in 8th grade Liz Taylor became well known so Libby became Liz. What am I best known for giving out these days... Women Cards (empowerment and laughter) and toilet paper labeled "Who Gives A Crap".

Before I go ... I guess I am already gone but, anyway there is a famous quote about life imitating art, but I am concerned about life imitating violence in T.V. shows, movies, books, and some sports. An example is TV football which bans showing cheerleaders for more than a few seconds because they are attractive and wear cheerleading attire while they show hours of violent sport, fighting in the stands, confrontations outside the arenas and commercials for other shows and movies with people being attacked and murdered. I believed it is time to start restricting murder and violence as entertainment and advertising particularly when families and kids are watching. Let's see more of the high-performance athletic cheerleaders.

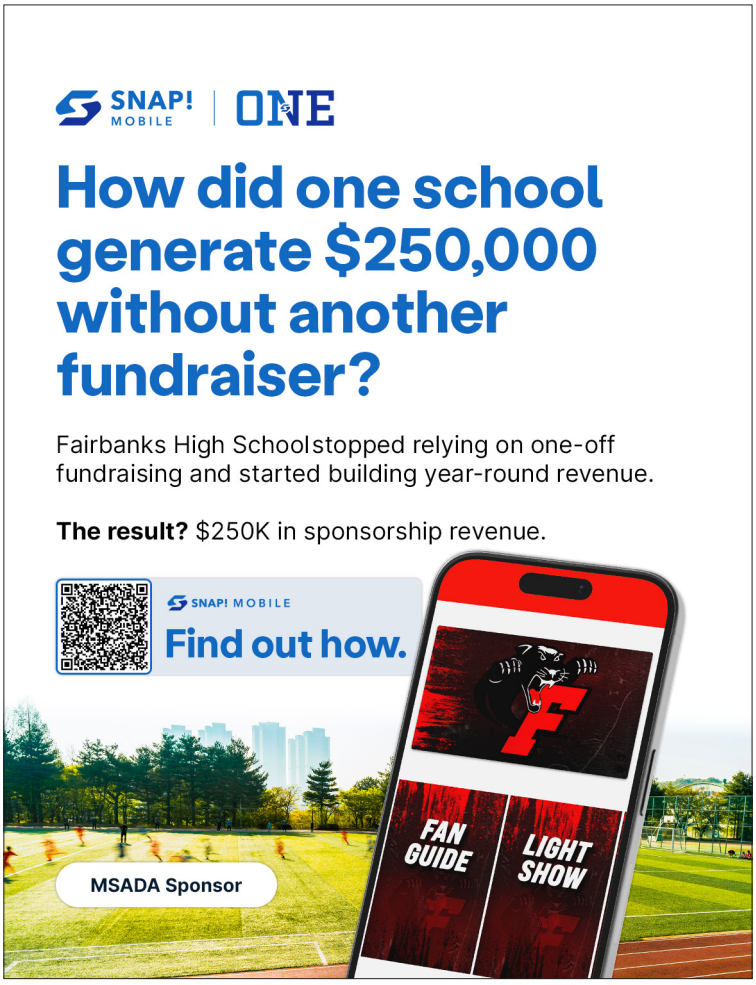
We can honor the dead by taking up their causes, concerns, and unfinished business, if we so choose. I believe the dead are not dead if we continue to love and cherish them. Finality does not diminish the grandeur of life. The memories of them live on. Or we can just relish all the good times and love. My surviving family and friend are my immortality. Elizabeth's father took a government job when she was a freshman in high school in Falmouth. The family moved halfway through the grading period to Bethesda Maryland, just outside Washington D.C. At Falmouth High School physical education required 6 showers a grading period. Since she moved halfway through, she was required to take 3 but only took 2 so her departing transcript for her new school said "Fail" in P.E. Sassy Libby offered to "make up the showers". Ironically after teaching high school physical education, dance, and photography she went on to supervise Physical Education and Athletics for the 8th largest school system in the country, Montgomery County Maryland. Upon retiring and returning to her beloved state of Maine she continued to work remotely for Montgomery County Athletics for 17 years, served as the Recreation Director in Harpswell 2002-2009 and picked up on all her favorite Maine adventures: sailing, swimming, skiing, skating, sunbathing, snow and Whoopie Pies. Photography was always one of her favorite and rewarding activities. She worked on the side professionally starting in 1974 with photos for The Washington Post, Sailing Magazine, Golf Magazine, Scandinavian Airlines Inflight magazine, Practice Psychology and Women Sports. Then in Maine she became a volunteer photographer which included calendars for Friends of Merrymeeting Bay and Harpswell Land Trust and photos for many local organizations. One day recently she said she did not want to admit how much she used her iPhone for photos.

Awards she received included: National Association for Girls and Women in Sport Pathfinder Award, Maryland Association Merit Award for Outstanding Teaching and Service, and Superintendent of Schools Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award. She has been inducted in the Einstein High School Athletics Hall of Fame and the Maryland Athletic Directors Hall of Fame. Much of her focus in work, play and life has been the equalization and appreciation of women. She filed a lawsuit with the Department of Justice for Equal Pay for Equal Work in the early 70's before Title IX.

She also adopted her grandmothers saying, "Other people's business cheerfully attended to". To her this meant helping as many people and causes as possible. Just to name a few: Harpswell Coastal Academy, Harpswell Aging at Home, Harpswell Heritage Land Trust, Riverview Cemetery Friends of Merrymeeting Bay, Harpswell Sailing Divas, Harpswell Garden Club, Association of Bowdoin Friends, Historic Maine Homes just to name a few. She was a beloved wife, mother, teacher, sister, coach, leader, friend, daughter, and grandmother where she adopted the name Lala. She loved "all creatures great and small". One of her favorite quotes was Piet Hein again, "Living is a thing you do now or never – which do you?"

She is survived by and thankful for many great relatives and friends.

Husband of 36 years Lee Johnson. Daughter Kristina Kramer, husband Mike Kramer and grandchildren Madeline and Collin. Son Erik Paabo. Son Todd Johnson and wife Michelle Johnson. Sister Deborah Cowperthwaite, niece Sarah Cowperthwaite and nephew Hugh Cowperthwaite. Brother Bruce Jordan. Sister Cheryl Jordan. Outlaws Theresa Kramer and Katie Kramer.





National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association

August 10, 2026

Jason Woodward, CMAA
State President
Maryland SADA

Dear Jason,

On behalf of the NIAAA officers and Board of Directors, please allow me to commend your state for achieving recognition within the NIAAA membership state commendation program for the 2025-26 membership year.

The Board of Directors provides special recognition for those state athletic administrator associations in which NIAAA membership has reached at least one of the following three criteria: 1) NIAAA membership in a state has reached at least 70% of the number of high schools that belong to their respective state athletic/activity association, 2) increased NIAAA membership by a minimum of 10% over the previous year, and/or 3) a state is at record NIAAA membership.

You are among 43 associations being recognized for meeting one, two, or all the commendation criteria. From July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, Maryland SADA achieved over 100% in membership.

We hope that you will utilize your NIAAA membership banner at an upcoming conference. Thank you for your state's support and the effort of many in your association.

Congratulations,

Dr. Dustin Smith, CMAA
NIAAA Board President

Phil Rison, CMAA
NIAAA Executive Director

NIAAA ONLINE COURSES

Our online courses are available **anytime, anywhere**—so you can take them at your own pace whenever and wherever you would like. Plus, all our online courses lead to certification.

Each four-hour course includes a digital manual, an interactive teaching style, instructional videos and more to help make the learning process interesting, easy and convenient for you.

Online course list
The following core courses are available online:

- LTC 501
- LTC 502
- LTC 503
- LTC 504
- LTC 506
- LTC 508
- LTC 510
- LTC 700
- LTC 701
- LTC 901
- LTC 902
- LTC 903
- LTC 904

TAKE A COURSE

Podcast Episode

UIAAA Connection #272 – Dana Johnson, CAA, Director of Athletic – Dunbar High School, Baltimore MD

UIAAA Connection

Mar 20 • 26 min 54 sec

Episode Description

The podcast is making its first visit to Maryland. UIAAA Connection #272 – Dana Johnson, CAA, Director of Athletic – Dunbar High School, Baltimore MD, - is now available. Dana grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, and attended Western HighSchool, an all-girls school where she competed in basketball, volleyball, and track. She continued her basketball career at Tennessee under legendary coach Pat Summitt, maintaining connections with the 161 players who competed in thatprogram. Professional competition in Hungary followed, along with collegiate coaching at Morgan State before transitioning into interscholastic athletics. She now serves on the LTC 640 National Faculty, investing in the development of athletic leaders. Her advice emphasizes securing a trusted mentor and building strong, collaborative relationships with building administrators to ensure long-term success. This podcast is also available on Amazon Music, Apple Podcasts, Breaker, Castbox, Google Podcasts, iHeartRadio, Overcast, Pocket Casts, RadioPublic, Spotify, Stitcher, and YouTube.


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THURSDAY, APRIL 22 – SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2027
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2027 MSADA Conference Schedule

TENTATIVE • APRIL 22–25, 2027

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

10:00 am – 4:00 pm	**Golf Outing (optional) –** Ocean Pines Golf Club
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	**Round Table Issues Discussions on CurrentEvents**
4:00 pm – 4:45 pm	**First-time Attendees Orientation and Meet and Greet** New & Inspiring Athletic Director Seminar (1–3 years)
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm	**LTC 635: College Bound Student Athletes: Role of the Athletic Administrator, Best Practices, Educating Student Athletes and Families**
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm	**LTC 716: Partnering with Parents—Building a Positive Culture in Education-Based Athletics**

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

8:00 am – 12:00 pm	**LTC 703: Student Centered Educational Athletics Performance Beyond the X's and O's**
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	**LTC 726: Student Leadership Development**
10:00 am – 4:15 pm	**Exhibitors Hall**
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	**Current Issues Talk & Trade** (Private Schools and Public Schools)
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	**Workshop #1** Topic to be announced
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm	**Workshop #2** Topic to be announced
2:30 pm	**CAA Exam (must be pre-approved by the NIAAA)** *CAA Exam Review: Tuesday, April 20 on Zoom, by invitation only*
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	**Workshop #3: Artificial Intelligence & Technology in Athletic Administration** Ryan Kimble, CAA · Athletic Director, Francis Scott Key High School
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm	**General Session: Business Meeting and Prizes Giveaway**
6:15 pm – 7:30 pm	**Bonfire Buffet Dinner** Optional · Ticket required
7:30 pm – 10:30 pm	**Exhibitors and Attendees Social – Visit with the Exhibitors**
9:00 pm – 10:00 pm	**Exhibitors Door Prize / Raffle Drawings** Must be present to win

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 am – 1:00 pm	**LTC 501: Guiding Foundations, Philosophies, and Resources**
9:00 am – 1:00 pm	**LTC 628: Mental Health and Wellness for the Student-Athlete**
10:00 am – 10:45 am	**Workshop #4: Legal Issues, Eligibility, Transfers & the Changing Rules of High School Sports** Melissa Nash Mertz, Director of Communications & Compliance, Maryland Public Secondary School Athletic Association Adaya Powell, CAA, Compliance Coordinator, Prince Georges County Public Schools Anne Rossiter, CMAA, Health & Safety Coordinator, Montgomery County Public Schools
11:00 am – 11:45 am	**Workshop #5: Building Your Athletic Brand, Culture & Community** Stevenson Foote, CAA, Athletic Director, International High School at Largo Jared Ingram, CAA, Athletics and Activities Manager, Marriotts Ridge High School
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	**Women AD Roundtable Talk & Trade – Current Issues Facing Women ADs**
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	**Banquet and Awards Social**
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	**Banquet and Awards Presentations** Ticket required

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

8:00 am – 9:15 am	**Attendees Breakfast** Keynote Speaker: Leanne Passaro, Executive Director, The Hidden Opponent

MSADA AWARDS

Do you know of someone who is worthy of being District Athletic Director of the Year, a Hall of Fame nominee or a Distinguished Service recipient?

MSADA District Athletic Director of the Year
Presented to an individual from within the district in which they are an athletic director. They must be a current member of MSADA. She/he shall have made a significant impact on the lives of students and used athletics to achieve progress in the social and cultural environment of the school and the community. **Application and recommendation are due by January 6.**

MSADA Hall of Fame
Presented to past athletic administrators for their outstanding contribution to athletics. The individual must be at least a retired MSADA member, submitted an application with a biographical sketch and a brief resume of his/her contributions and services to interscholastic athletics in their local and state community. In addition, they must have a supervisory endorsement from a principal, headmaster, headmistress and/or athletic supervisor. The inductee(s) will be selected by the MSADA Awards Committee.
Application and recommendation are due by February 1.

MSADA Distinguished Service Award
Presented annually by an active athletic director to individuals outside the field of athletic administration in recognition of their length of service, special accomplishments and contributions to interscholastic athletics at the local, state and/or national levels. The individual(s) are selected by the Awards Committee from applications that have been submitted. The recipient(s) will be selected by the MSADA Awards Committee. **Application and recommendation are due by March1.**

Contact your District Representative for all of the applications.

District 1A (Allegany, Garrett & Washington Counties)
Dan Cunningham, CAA cunnidan@wcps.k12.md.us

District 1B (Carroll and Frederick Counties)
Tim Novotny, CAA t_novot@carrollk12.org

District 2A (Montgomery County Private Schools)
Jamie Ready, CAA Jready@holychild.org

District 2B (Montgomery County Public Schools)
Rita Boule', CAA Rita_J_Boule@mcpsmd.org

District 3 (Prince George's County)
Terri Dendy, CMAA terri.dendy@pgcps.org

District 4 (Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties)
TBA

District 5 (Anne Arundel and Howard Counties)
Tee Dronenburg, RAA kristina_dronenburg@hcpss.org

District 6 (Baltimore County)
Marcus LeCounte, CAA mlecounte@bcps.org

District 7 (Cecil and Harford Counties)
Craig Reddish craig.reddish@hcps.org

District 8 (Eastern Shore Counties)
Kurisha Hoffman, CAA khoffman@talbotschools.org

District 9 (Baltimore City
Janae Corbin, CAA jscorbin@bcps.k12.md.us

District 10 (IAAM)
Jessy Morgan jessymorgan@gfs.org

District 11 (MIAA)
Freddie Newman, RAA fnewman@indiancreekschool.org

CONFERENCE LTCS

Thursday, April 22

LTC 635 *College Bound Student Athletes: Role of the Athletic Administrator, Best Practices, Educating Student Athletes and Families*

or

LTC 716 *Partnering with Parents – Building a Positive Culture in Education-Based Athletics*

Friday, April 23

LTC 703 *Student Centered Educational Athletics Performance Beyond the X's and O's*

or

LTC 726 *Student Leadership Development*

Saturday, April 24

LTC 501 *Guiding Foundations, Philosophies, and Resources*

or

LTC 628 *Mental Health and Wellness for the Student Athlete*

For course descriptions, go to https://niaaa.org/course-descriptions







NIAAA News

Certifications

RAA

Dwayne Bryant
Garston Banks
Kenneth Barton
Brian Camper
Dillon Cole
Brad Duvall
Eric Esbrandt
Aneisha Felton
Ryan Ferri
Wendell Foster III
Kevin Franc
Christopher Harless
Justin Howes
Carrie Klimes
Shawn Krause
Peter Kotz
Kelly Piazza
Phil Ranker
Dustin Reider
Kaitlyn Willmore
Joshua Wright

CAA

Bryan Atchley
Janae Corbin
Kevin English
Robert Harris
Kathy Luby
Ryan Myers
Michael Salapata

CMAA

Kara Carlin
Justin Nash

Congratulations to Marianne Shultz. Marianne was selected as the vice president of the Credentials Committee.

IAA Magazine

Check out the article "Why Should I Get Certified?" in the Fall IAA magazine. Lisa Magness, CMAA, MSADA 1st Vice President and NIAAA Certification Committee member was one of the contributors.

NIAAA Elevates Moran to Deputy Position

Indianapolis, IN – June 11, 2026

Becky Moran, CMAA, joined the NIAAA staff in August 2022 and her impact on the organization continues to rise. During the February 2026 NIAAA Board of Directors meeting, the Board approved the motion for Moran's title of Associate Executive Director to be changed to Deputy Executive Director, effective July 1, 2026.

This new title reflects the need to assume a clear leadership structure in the organization. With Moran in a deputy role, the NIAAA will ensure continuity, protect institutional knowledge, and provide seamless decision-making, especially in times of transition.

"I am deeply grateful to Phil and the NIAAA Board of Directors for their trust and confidence in me," Moran said. "I am excited to continue supporting our members, advancing education-based athletics, and helping lead the growth and impact of our association in the years ahead."

Phil Rison, CMAA, has been the executive director of the NIAAA since January 2023, and since then membership and staff have increased significantly. As a result, he surmised that safeguarding sound governance of the organization and investing in long-term stability with a pre-determined leadership succession plan became a priority.

Rison said that Moran is an exceptional leader and has shown unwavering commitment to the association, leading with integrity and vision. The hiring of Moran fulfilled the NIAAA 5th Strategic Plan's item number 20 to add executive-level leadership position(s), and she has been an excellent culture fit, valuing the history and traditions the NIAAA holds.

"I have complete confidence in Becky's ability to serve in this expanded role. I look forward to continuing our work together along with Rich Barton, as we advance the mission of the NIAAA and strengthen the future of education-based athletic leadership," Rison said. "This appointment is not simply an investment in one individual—it is an investment in the continued

excellence, stability, and legacy of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association."

Moran's relationship with the NIAAA is vast. She spent over a year on the NIAAA Board and was voted to be the 44th president of the association before accepting the director role at the NIAAA offices.

The NIAAA Board is extremely confident in Moran's abilities and the positive example she will continue to set in this elevated leadership position.

"I have seen firsthand the impact that Becky has had on the NIAAA and our membership," said NIAAA Board President, Dustin Smith, CMAA. "I am actually a product of her impact on me as an athletic director. Since she has joined the NIAAA national office staff, Becky continues to lead by putting others first, being true and authentic to who she is, and doing it all with a smile and determination that is unmatched."

Moran will assume several new responsibilities as deputy executive director. She will continue overseeing the association's marketing, working in conjunction with the NFHS to handle all National Athletic Directors Conference (NADC) matters, and managing internal systems.

With 19 years of experience as a director of athletics, Moran used her time in education to acquire wide-ranging knowledge in the profession and sharpen her leadership skills. Before joining the NIAAA, her previous role was the District Athletic Director at Round Lake High School in Illinois.

In her home state of Illinois, she was the professional development coordinator for the Illinois Athletic Directors Association (IADA). She led the IADA as conference co-chair, gave her time as a moderator, presented workshops, and taught Leadership Training Institute (LTI) courses at state and national levels.

In addition, Moran served as the chair on the NIAAA Credentials Committee, was an IADA Board member, a mentor in the NIAAA U Cohort Program, and a mentor for new athletic administrators.

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CRAB TALK!



DISTRICT 1A

(Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties)

Washington County

Flag football was added this year. One of the highlights was the North Hagerstown - South Hagerstown game with North Hagerstown winning after a triple overtime.

-

DISTRICT 1B

(Carroll and Frederick Counties)

Carroll County

CCPS welcomes Pete Lester as the new athletic director at Winters Mill High School. Former athletic director, Jen Gosselin left to become the new athletic director at Susquehannock High School in Pennsylvania.

Frederick County

Mark Walcott, athletic director at Oakdale High School will be retiring as of January 1st after 37 years, all with the Frederick County Public School System.

DISTRICT 2A

(Montgomery County Private Schools)

DISTRICT 2B

(Montgomery County Public Schools)

The Student-Athlete Leadership Council (SALC) kicked off the 2026–27 school year on September 22, by bringing together 70 student-athletes to collaborate around the theme "Learn, Lead, Leverage." The gathering set the stage for a year focused on personal growth, leadership development, and leveraging opportunities to make a meaningful impact both on and off the field.

The Student Led Athletics Media Team (SLAM) started the school year on September 22. They are excited to "Tell Our Stories" by bringing student voices and creativity to the forefront of athletics. The students will create authentic social media, photography, video, podcasts, and feature stories that celebrate student-athletes, showcase achievements, and highlight the R.A.I.S.E. core values.

Charles W. Woodward High School, which closed in 1987 is set to reopen in the Fall of 2027. Bryan Walker will be the athletic director of the Woodward Wolves.

Larry Hurd, athletic director at Walter Johnson High School, retired from the MCPS at the end of September. Mesi Tuiava has been appointed the new athletic director at WJ. Welcome Mesi.

DISTRICT 3

(Prince George's County)

Suitland High School has announced Kevin Smith as their new athletic director.

DISTRICT 4

(Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties)

Charles County

Pam Thornton-Miller has stepped down as athletic director at Maurice J. McDonough High School. Pam was, also the District 4 representative to the MSADA. Thank you, Pam for your many years of service to the MSADA.

St. Mary's County

St. Mary's County Public Schools started flag football this fall. The inaugural season was very successful.

DISTRICT 5

(Anne Arundel and Howard Counties)

Anne Arundel County

On October 24th, Anne Arundel County hosted their 4th Annual County Showcase Championships at Annapolis High School. This great event showcased all the fall sports at one site. Many thanks to athletic director, Pete Alvanos overseeing this special occasion.

Howard County

Troy Stevenson, Athletic and Activities Manager retired from Oakland Mills High School. Teacher and coach, Chris Brewington is the new AAM at Oakland Mills.

HCPSS completed its first season of flag football this fall.

Also, every high school has a full-time, school-based athletic trainer.

DISTRICT 6

(Baltimore County)

Baltimore County Public Schools is excited to announce the addition of flag football as an official fall sport. This expands the athletic opportunities for the female student-athletes around the county.

Congratulations to Jeff Markle, athletic director at Parkville High School, on his retirement. We thank him for his dedication, leadership, and service to student-athletes and the school community. We wish him all the best in his retirement!

BCPS is pleased to recognize the following individuals who have accepted new leadership positions within the district's athletic programs:

- Justin Nash, former athletic director at Towson High School was appointed as the Allied Sports Resource Teacher for the BCPS Department of Athletics.
- Michael McEwan, is the new athletic director at Towson High School. Mike spent the past several years at Loch Raven High School.
- Former Dundalk High School athletic director Tim Scherer, is now at Loch Raven High School.
- Garston Banks is the new athletic director at New Town High School.
- Denikwa (Dee) James, takes over as the athletic director at G.W. Carver Center for Arts and Technology.
- Parkville High School's new athletic director is Dustin Reider. Dustin was a teacher at Middle River Middle School.
- Dundalk High School teacher, Adam Capece has been appointed their new athletic director.

Please join us in congratulating these individuals as they begin their new roles. We look forward to their continued leadership, commitment to student-athlete success, and contributions to interscholastic athletics throughout Baltimore County.

DISTRICT 7

(Cecil and Harford Counties)

DISTRICT 8

(Eastern Shore Counties)

Somerset County

Nichole Pilchard is the new athletic director at Crisfield High School.

DISTRICT 9

(Baltimore City)

Western High School is temporarily located at the former Northwestern High School while Western's building is currently being renovated for the next two years.

DISTRICT 10

(Interscholastic Athletic Association of Maryland)

Danielle "Danny" O'Banion, Loyola University Women's Basketball Coach was the keynote speaker at this year's Athletic Director's Professional Development Breakfast.

The theme of the 13th Annual Leadership Day which will be held in November is "Leading from the Heart". The speaker is the former Johns Hopkins University Women's Lacrosse Coach, Janine Tucker.

The IAAM welcomes new athletic directors Kim Battaglia at Maryvale Preparatory School and Sam Murray at Notre Dame Preparatory School.

Also, the IAAM welcomes two new provisional member schools. Gunston Day School and athletic director Erin DeFalco and athletic director Graeme Miller at Jemicy School. They will become full IAAM members starting in the 2027-28 school year.

Several IAAM schools well be in a partnership with Howard County's Parks and Recreation in a winter Flag Football League.

After 22 years, Sue Thompson has announced her retirement as executive director of the IAAM at the end of the 2026-27 school year. Thank you, Sue for your many years of leadership and friendship. You are a true professional and will be greatly missed.

Just announced in October, Kara Carlin has been selected as the new executive director of the IAAM. Kara brings with her more than two decades of independent school athletics experience and an extensive record of IAAM leadership. She served as President and Vice President of the IAAM Athletic Directors' Association. Currently she is the Vice President of the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). Throughout her career, she has distinguished herself as an educational leader, athletic administrator and coach.

DISTRICT 11

(Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association)

The MIAA starts the school year with two new athletic directors. Marc Burkom at Beth Tfiloh School and Jennifer Hahn at Cristo Rey Jesuit School. Welcome Marc and Jen.

Maryland State Athletic Directors Association

MSADA

MSADA | SHARE THE MESSAGE

PSAs THAT MAKE AN IMPACT

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Two campaigns. Open the video to watch each.



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1	Developing the Future	30 sec	▶ PLAY
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5	Thank Them Too	30 sec	▶ PLAY
6	Their Place	30 sec	▶ PLAY
7	True Purpose	30 sec	▶ PLAY

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

December 11-15, 2026
57th National Athletic Directors Conference
Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ

April 22-25, 2027
51st MSADA Conference
Princess Royal Oceanfront Resort, Ocean City, MD

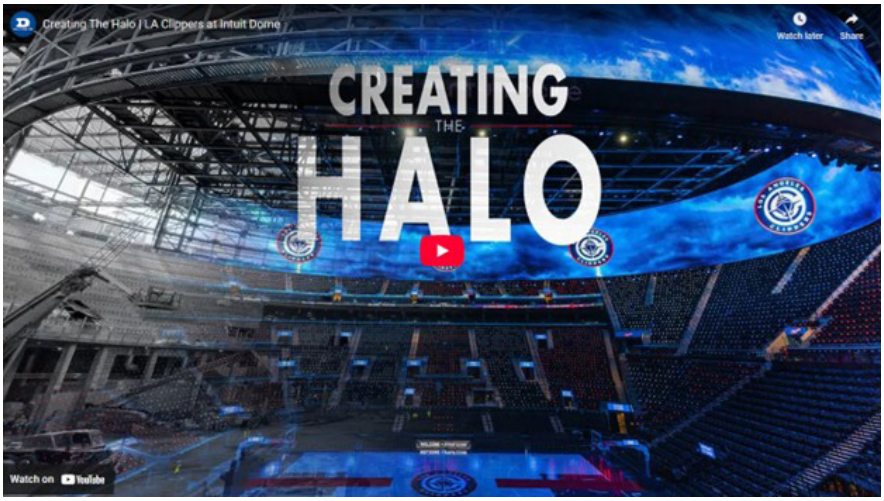
December 10-14, 2027
58th National Athletic Directors Conference
Kansas City Convention Center, Kansas City, MO

April 20-23, 2028
52nd MSADA Conference
Princess Royal Oceanfront Resort, Ocean City, MD

December 15-19, 2028
59th National Athletic Directors Conference
Indianapolis Convention Center, Indianapolis, IN

December 14-18, 2029
60th National Athletic Directors Conference
San Antonio Convention Center, San Antonio, TX

December 13-17. 2030
61st National Athletic Directors Conference
The Summit, Seattle, WA



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Curious about the process behind the LA Clippers Halo display? Watch the documentary here.

MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

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Join or Renew Online www.msada.finalforms-amp.com

or

if you need to mail in your membership

Please print or type; make sure you include home, school addresses and your e-mail addresses. Complete all information for each individual and send in all completed forms attached to one check

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School _____ School Address_____

City/St _____ Zip_____ AD's Office Phone _____

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The newsletter will be emailed, unless indicated. US Mail, please check ☐

MSADA Dues only ***Number of Years as an Athletic Administrator*** _____ (include 2026/27 school year)

_____ **$45.00** **Regular** _____ *New* _____ *Renewal*
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For all retired athletic directors, activities directors and athletic administrators

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Asst AD/ Admin_____

Asst AD-Admin_____

Asst AD/Admin_____

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For assistant athletic directors, principals, assistant principals, coaches, college students or athletic trainers

***MSADA/*NIAAA DUAL MEMBERSHIP**

_____ **$140.00** membership in the Maryland State Athletic Director Association ($40, a **$5 discount**) and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association ($100)

or

_____ **$150.00** for school membership package (**NIAAA/MSADA membership for AD only**, MSADA membership for up to three assistant athletic directors/administrators) Enter names on above lines

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For anyone employed by a school, school district or state association who administers interscholastic athletics at the high school, middle school or junior high level. *All membership dues are non-refundable.*

Benefits include:

- Discounts on LTI courses, certification fees, National Conference registration fees and more
- $2,000,000 supplemental liability insurance (student injury and property damage)
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- Discounts on Long Term Healthcare, Cancer Insurance and Accident Insurance
- Invaluable resources and best practices, including the NIAAA Member Portal and Interscholastic Athletic Administration (IAA) quarterly print magazine
- A national network of more than 16,000 athletic administrators
- Opportunity for national recognition through the NIAAA Awards Program and Hall of Fame
- Opportunity to nominate students for the annual NIAAA Student-Athlete Scholarship
- Opportunities to serve on national committees and in various NIAAA leadership positions
- Opportunities to teach, publish, facilitate and present

Retired Member Benefits include:

- Discounts on LTI courses, certification fees, National Conference registration fees and more
- $2,500 term life insurance
- Discounts on Long Term Healthcare, Cancer Insurance and Accident Insurance
- Invaluable resources and best practices, including the NIAAA Member Portal and Interscholastic Athletic Administration (IAA) quarterly print magazine
- A national network of more than 16,000 athletic administrators
- Opportunity for national recognition through the NIAAA Awards Program and Hall of Fame
- Opportunities to serve on national committees and in various NIAAA leadership positions
- Opportunities to teach, publish, facilitate and present

MARYLAND STATE ATHLETIC DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION PROFESSIONAL SPONSORSHIP

Take a moment and consider all the MSADA offers in terms of professional growth and development for the athletic directors of the state, which in turn benefits our programs, athletes and schools. Through the MSADA, athletic directors can:

- Complete LTI Courses which enhance their professional competency
- Participate in workshop sessions which provide practical solutions for the various challenges they must meet in their positions
- Contribute to the annual MSADA Scholarship Program
- Contribute to the State Endowment Program
- Network with other athletic administrators
- Take advantage of mentoring opportunities from experienced athletic directors
- ...And much more

Please consider having your school, district, association and/or league in becoming a professional sponsor of the MSADA. Encourage your booster club to make a contribution. In order to continue its valuable efforts, the MSADA could use your support.

We already have a commitment from several schools to be a professional sponsor. Will you be next? Please help the MSADA in their efforts to promote quality athletic programs in the state of Maryland.

MSADA

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57th National Athletic Directors Conference

December 11-15, 2026
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