



The School Board of Broward County, Florida

RESOLUTION

No. 09-104

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION PROPOSAL
TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF VARSITY AND JUNIOR VARSITY CONTESTS ALLOWED**

WHEREAS, FHSAA is designated by Florida Statute 1006.20 as the governing non-profit organization of athletics in Florida; and

WHEREAS, Florida Statute 1006.15 "The Craig Dickinson Act" recognizes that extra curricular student activities are an important complement to the academic curriculum. Participation in a comprehensive extra curricular and academic program contributes to student development of the social and intellectual skills necessary to become a well round out; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Broward County offers 22 individual sports programs involving over 16,000 high school students; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics a student shall maintain a GPA of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Broward County recognizes and believes that participation in sports and athletic competitions helps prepare students to become productive citizens. Students learn the importance of teamwork, cooperative learning and problem solving. Students learn important lifelong and character education skills from their coaches and peers including self-esteem, self-discipline, motivation, leadership, character development and sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Broward County sustained a \$94 million state funding cut going into the 2008-09 school year and an additional \$35.6 million state education funding cut in January 2009. Based on these state funding cuts and taking into account the continuing economic decline, the District is anticipating state funding cuts for the 2009-10 school year to be as much as \$160 million; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in funding faced by The School Board of Broward County impacts educational and extra curricular programs; and

WHEREAS, the FHSAA in recognition of steep declines in state and local tax revenues is proposing a reduction in the number of varsity contests or games by 20 percent (except football) and the number of junior varsity games by 40 percent (except football); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the FHSAA proposal is to reduce travel and game management costs (security, officials, ticket sellers/takers) for member schools throughout the state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Broward County commends the FHSAA for their foresight in assisting school districts to reduce operational expenditures; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Broward County, including all 29 public high schools supports the FHSAA proposal and encourages the Board of Directors to approve said proposal at the April 27, 2009, FHSAA Board of Directors meeting in Gainesville, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of Broward County urges the FHSAA Board of Directors to approve the proposal to limit the number of varsity and junior varsity contacts all member schools are allowed to play.

Given at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this 21st day of April 2009.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: _____
Maureen S. Dinnen, Chair

ATTEST: _____
James F. Notter, Superintendent of Schools