

Mountain View High School

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September 1, 2016

Dear VHSL Members:

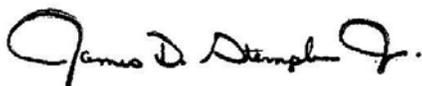
As we begin the new school year, allow me to introduce myself as the 2016-17 Virginia High School League Chairman. This year will begin my 28th year in education, 23rd in educational leadership, 16th as a high school principal, and second consecutive year as League Chairman. It's truly an honor to lead and serve as league chairman and to work with the outstanding VHSL staff once again.

First, allow me to introduce and welcome Dr. William "Billy" Haun, as our new VHSL Executive Director. Dr. Haun officially began his position on July 1st and brings with him an impressive track record as a teacher, coach, school administrator, central office administrator, and working in the Virginia Department of Education. He has a passion for athletics, activities, and all that the VHSL can offer our students across the state. I know he will be out attending region meetings and you will have the opportunity to meet him in October at our state meeting. I am excited about his vision for the VHSL and I look forward to his leadership as executive director. Like the previous year, this year will provide many opportunities and challenges for the league. We will be undertaking the task of: Creating a five year Strategic Plan for 2017-2022, continuing the work of moving toward four regions in each classification, looking at all aspects of communication, and continuing our effort to increase revenue for the league. We will continue to tackle the issues of financial stability, transgender students, and home-school students to name a few.

The success of the VHSL is dependent on the participation of every principal and athletic director of every school. I realize that in today's climate of high stakes test scores, social media, and various pressures unique to your school it is easy to put the VHSL on the back burner. I am asking each of you to make an effort to attend the regional and state meetings and actively participate in solving our challenges and making the league great. All of this work cannot happen without the participation of our member schools. We need your involvement to be successful.

Once again, I invite you to attend the fall membership meeting on October 13th where we will create opportunities for dialogue as we move forward to maintain the high standards for league activities and competitions. I wish you all a very successful school year, and if I can be a help in any way please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,



Dr. James D. Stemple, Principal

Dr. James D. Stemple, Jr.
Principal



Katie B. Werner
Assistant Principal

Melissa H. McClellan
Assistant Principal

Eric R. Cooke
Assistant Principal

Greg A. Margheim
*Assistant Principal
for Athletics/Activities*