



Request to Appeal Determined Classification

WIAA Handbook Rule 4.8.1 indicates a school may appeal its determined classification to the District Director Appeals Board. WIAA Handbook Rule 4.1.4 indicates a school may appeal its determined classification. This form is the mechanism schools utilize to communicate their request.

Email: riley@woodlandschools.org
School Requesting Change: Woodland High School
Current Classification: 2A
Current WIAA District: 4
District Director Email: tim.graham@tumwater.k12.wa.us, Tim.Trimble412@gmail.com
Current League: 2A
Current League President: Robert Blackman
rblackman@longview.k12.wa.us
Requesting Classification: 1A
Requesting WIAA District: 4
Requesting League: 1A
Requesting League President: Neil Williamson
neil.williamson@crschools.org

DETAILS

Circumstances involving significant change in enrollment and/or history of declining enrollment

Our loss of levy funds has had a significant impact. The loss of middle school athletics is a major limiting factor.

Potential positive/negative impact on your current classification/league alignments

We understand that FVRL is also requesting to move down to 1A. I believe if we both are reclassified 1A there are implications on playoff opportunities for the league. Depending on what happens with Fort it could make an odd number of teams in the 2A GSHL and the 1A Trico. If only Woodland were to go to 1A, both leagues would be even at 8 teams - no negative impact.

Potential positive/negative impact on your requesting classification/league alignments

After analyzing our performance over the past three years across all sports our records would reflect we are competitive in a few areas and only had a winning season in football last year. With the lack of feeder programs we do not expect to enter the 1A league with any dominance.

Potential positive/negative impact on the WIAA District(s)

Both classifications have 16 teams I believe, so state allocations wouldn't change.

Circumstances surrounding participation in current classification and why changing classifications is in the best interest of your school.

If you take into account that nearly 20% of our student population is Old Apostolic who do not participate in athletics our numbers are really more sincerely aligned with the 1A league. With the loss of levy funds we are without MS athletics. Our pool of athletes sincerely aligns more with other 1A teams. Our teams match up much better - especially at the sub varsity level.

Our levy loss has not only affected our athletic programs it has impacted morale. Culture wars and small town politics have shattered our once vibrant and united community. We know from experience nothing brings a community together than it's teams. The opportunity to celebrate matches in which kids can participate competitively unites just about everyone. After several losing seasons, we saw how our football team brought our nearly everyone together and reestablished some sense of community spirit.

Due to the circumstances of the levy failure, the fact that our enrollment does not reflect the actual pool of athletes comparable to the other 2A districts, and our previous record it was worth requesting the reclassification.

Additional information that supports your request

The levy failure is absolutely taking it's toll on enrollment. There are also countless other unintended consequences of the levy failure. Not only were MS athletics cut completely, it also impacted our youth and community sports programs. With the loss of levy funds the district had to raise rental fees, and many of our youth sports programs can't afford them. We are a blue collar community and few families are able to afford to participate in tournament teams or club sports. We simply don't have comparable feeder programs to provide a pool of athletes equivalent to the 2A league.

I also reviewed our data and found that while our participation numbers looked healthy in the past, we actually have a very high number of 2-3 sport athletes. Our actual pool of athletes is small in comparison to the other 2A districts.