

2019-20 MIAA Student Advisory Committee

"Our Footprint"

Hello MIAA Member Schools Leaders,

We hope that you are staying safe, healthy, and happy during the COVID-19 crisis. The MIAA Student Advisory Committee (SAC) is a student lead program created by the MIAA and includes a select group of student leaders from across the state who share a passion for leadership and community service. As members of the MIAA SAC, we have found multiple ways to remain together as #ONETEAMONEMIAA through various outreach videos and challenges. We hope that these projects can continue to inspire student-athletes and provide hope during these difficult times. However, in addition to these videos, we have discussed other ways to leave behind a footprint.

It is our **goal** to bring the **concept of a Student Advisory Committee to all MIAA Member Schools**. We love being a part of SAC for many reasons and it is truly our second family. As of last year, many of us had never even met, but we quickly formed a bond as like-minded people who enjoy helping others. As SAC members, we have learned leadership and communication skills that are essential in school, sports, and everyday life. Therefore, we believe that all students deserve the same opportunity to benefit from this type of collaboration by creating local Student Advisory Committees, as clubs, in all MIAA Member Schools. Its purpose is to establish a connection throughout the athletic programs by bringing together student leaders of all backgrounds within your school. These local Student Advisory Committees would include any student-athletes in each school who are willing to advocate, lead, and enrich the athletics programs in their communities.

Each school has the ability to adapt the program to meet their own wants and needs. It is recommended that the members of your local SAC are involved in the school and ready to participate in community service initiatives. The committees can be voluntary or selective to fit the schools' needs. In order to promote the students' voices, there could be a student-run board with a chairperson, vice chair, etc. However, this can change depending on participation and the school environment.

Some people may compare the Student Advisory Committee to other clubs, but we do not think that it is similar to student government, National Honors Societies, etc. Instead, we'd like the sole purpose of these committees to improve the athletic experience and engagement within the community. The members should develop skills through lessons in leadership, sportsmanship, diversity, inclusion, community service and wellness. Additionally, each year the members should be expected to create a project within their school or community that will benefit the student athletes that will follow them. Examples of potential "footprints" that the SAC can work towards throughout the year are community service projects, changes to the athletic program, and "hype clubs" to promote positivity from the bleachers. Other ideas include raising money to buy new equipment/facilities, helping the unified sports program to grow, and coaching athletes at the youth level.

Student Advisory Committees can also improve student involvement and communication between students, administrators, and Athletic Directors. Leaders from different schools can communicate and build better relationships at the league level. Local MIAA Student Ambassadors and other MIAA leaders may be called upon to lead these programs in their schools and to continue to make a difference within their communities. We hope that all MIAA member schools participate in this initiative to create a lasting effect on many school districts across the state.

Best,

The 2019-20 MIAA Student Advisory Committee

Luis Aldarondo Jr. , Fitchburg High School	Jordan LaValley , West Springfield High School
Ava Auclair , Gateway Reg. High School	Anna Litteer , Advanced Math & Science Academy
Liam Bennett , Milford High School	Claudia Mazzocchi , Lincoln Sudbury Regional HS
Stephanie Cantone , Salem High School	Colleen McNamara , Shrewsbury High School
Sydney Chenoweth , Narragansett Regional HS	Nicholas Oliveira , Uxbridge High School
Andrew Chronis , Danvers High School	Nyla Rodriguez , Putnam Vocational Academy
Emma Dahl , Foxborough High School	Rachel Romero , Fitchburg High School
Mary Cate Flynn , Arlington Catholic High School	Katherine Taylor , Hampshire Regional HS
Karlie Guimond , Smith Academy	Julia Trager , Wahconah Regional High School
AJ Jaber , King Philip Regional HS	