

HISTORY OF THE O.K. CONFERENCE

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THE O.K. CONFERENCE

Ed Taylor	1963 – 1982
Jim Genger	1982 – 1989
Lou Kramer	1989 – 2005

Assistant Directors

Dale Scheerhorn	1998 – 2000
Dave Bos	2000 – 2005

COMMISSIONER OFFICE ESTABLISHED IN 2005

Commissioner

Jim Haskins	2005 – Present
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Assistant Commissioner

Steve Scholten	2010 – Present
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CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF O.K. CONFERENCE ADDITIONS AND REALIGNMENTS

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1965 – 1966: Five (5) schools were added: Kenowa Hills, Northview (independents), South Christian (4C League), West Ottawa and Zeeland (Grand Valley League). The Conference now consisted of 13 members who were divided into two (2) Divisions – Red and Blue.

1967 – 1968: Godwin (Valley Coast League) was added to bring the total to 14, and South Christian was shifted to the Blue to balance the Divisions at seven (7) schools each.

1970 – 1971: Nine (9) schools joined the Conference: Caledonia, Hamilton, Middleville, Wayland (Expressway League), Comstock Park and Rockford (Tri-River League), East Grand

Rapids and Grandville (Valley Coast League), Jenison (independent). This raised the total to 23 schools and resulted in the formation of the White Division.

1972 – 1973: When the Forest Hills School District split into two (2) schools, the Conference total reached 24, and there was some shuffling of schools between the Red and White Division.

1974 – 1975: There were no new schools added, but Kelloggsville and Hudsonville switched Divisions.

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1984 – 1985: Five (5) more schools were added: Calvin Christian (4C League), Cedar Springs, Coopersville, Lowell, and Sparta (Tri-River League). The membership now reached 29, and a fourth Division, the Gold, was added, along with a major shuffling of schools.

1985 – 1986: Grand Haven and Muskegon Mona Shores (Lake Michigan Athletic Conference) and Holland (Big Eight Conference) were added to the Red Division, bringing the total to 32 schools divided into four (4) Divisions of eight (8) schools each.

1988 – 1989: The membership total remains at 32, but there was some shuffling in the Divisions with the changes in school enrollments.

1994 – 1995: To accommodate those schools with lower enrollments, three (3) schools were added: Allendale, Hopkins, and Saugatuck (River Valley Conference). The Silver Division came into existence, and there was movement of schools between Divisions as the total membership reached 35.

1995 – 1996: Conference membership reached 39 with the addition of Belding (North Central League), Hastings (Twin Valley League), Spring Lake (Seaway Conference), and Unity Christian (independent).

2000 – 2001: Conference membership dropped to 38 as Spring Lake joined the Western Waterways Conference. Kent City was added to the Silver Division.

2003 – 2004: Conference membership reached 42 as Saugatuck left to join the Southwestern Athletic Conference and these schools were added: Greenville (Mid-Michigan Athletic Conference), Muskegon (Independent), Muskegon Reeths Puffer (Independent), and Holland Christian (Independent). The Red Division split into a Red Metro and a Red Lakeshore, and major shuffling took place in all six (6) Divisions.

2005 – 2006: Conference membership reached 44. Zeeland Public Schools went from one high school to two high schools (Zeeland East and Zeeland West). Forest Hills Public Schools added a third high school, Forest Hills Easter. These additions created a new Division (Green).

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2010: Conference membership dropped to 50 as Grand Rapids Central High School closed.

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2013 – 2014: Second five (5) year Title IX report due.

2014 – 2015: Kent City left the Conference, dropping the number of schools to 48. Wyoming moved to the Bronze Division and West Catholic moved to the Blue Division.

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2010: Conference membership dropped to 50 as Grand Rapids Central High School closed.

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1967 – 1968: Godwin (Valley Coast League) was added to bring the total to 14, and South Christian was shifted to the Blue to balance the Divisions at seven (7) schools each.

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Rapids and Grandville (Valley Coast League), Jenison (independent). This raised the total to 23 schools and resulted in the formation of the White Division.

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1974 – 1975: There were no new schools added, but Kelloggsville and Hudsonville switched Divisions.

1978 – 1979: Two (2) schools, Kelloggsville and Wayland, traded places in the White and Blue Divisions.

1984 – 1985: Five (5) more schools were added: Calvin Christian (4C League), Cedar Springs, Coopersville, Lowell, and Sparta (Tri-River League). The membership now reached 29, and a fourth Division, the Gold, was added, along with a major shuffling of schools.

1985 – 1986: Grand Haven and Muskegon Mona Shores (Lake Michigan Athletic Conference) and Holland (Big Eight Conference) were added to the Red Division, bringing the total to 32 schools divided into four (4) Divisions of eight (8) schools each.

1988 – 1989: The membership total remains at 32, but there was some shuffling in the Divisions with the changes in school enrollments.

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1967 – 1968: Godwin (Valley Coast League) was added to bring the total to 14, and South Christian was shifted to the Blue to balance the Divisions at seven (7) schools each.

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