Theatre Advisory Committee Recommendations

Spring 2026

* 1. Recommend adding a section to District Entries on the MSHSAA website with a check box to notate if your One-Act Play selection requires permission for cutting (8-0)

2. Recommend creation of a form that district host nominees must fill out in order to be selected as a host site for the district tournament. This form must be submitted prior to host site selection vote in order to be able to become a district host. (8-0)

3. Recommend moving the release of Theatre class/district assignments up to Friday of Week 14 (aligning with Speech & Debate). (8-0)

4. Recommend creating a minimum measurement requirement for Readers Theatre performance area of 30ft (wide) by 18ft (deep), with a “spiked” (marked) center point, unless otherwise agreed upon by all participating district schools. (8-0)

5. Recommend amending the language of 5.H.6.a to “a school who exceeds the prescribed time limit for an event ~~may~~ shall be penalized by the lowering of the rank by one place on each ballot. (8-0)

6. Recommend creation of a subcommittee to evaluate and potentially determine judge requirements for judges used in MSHSAA postseason Theatre (districts/state). Subcommittee may also look at creation of a training and post-evaluation tool for judges. (8-0)

7. Recommend amending language of 6.B.6 to: Electronic sounds ~~other than background music~~ may not be used. Students are permitted to make noise using binders, chairs/boxes, and bodies. All sound effects ~~other than~~ including music must originate from the performers on the stage and not from off the stage or audience. (8-0)

8. Recommend that the venue of the state championship finals round for theatre may be the same as one of sites for the prelim rounds on day 1. (8-0)

9. Recommend amending the language of Readers Theatre rule 11 to: The goal and purpose of clothing within Readers Theatre is for ensembles to be unified and not promote characters, ~~themes~~, or differences in students in any way. Specialized or character-specific clothing—including hats, wigs, uniforms, or shoes that depict specific characters or period attire—is prohibited. Performers may wear coordinated ensemble uniforms, which are defined as identical or nearly identical outfits that are neutral and that do not represent specific characters or roles.~~, or narrative themes.~~ (8-0)

*** 10. Recommend the addition of a third event in the activity of Theatre for the ’27-’28 school year pending board approval of the event rules. The new/third event would be titled Black Box One Act Play. The original (current) One-Act Play would be retitled Main Stage One Act Play. Participating district schools must elect to participate in *either* the Main Stage One Act Play event or Black Box One Act Play event, and shall not participate in both events. Only 8 entries qualify for the state championships of Black Box One Act Play (as opposed to 16 in Main Stage OAP and RT), the top performance of each district. (8-0)

BOARD ACTION

*	DENIED
**	TABLED FOR FURTHER STUDY
***	APPROVED AS AMENDED
****	NO ACTION

ALL OTHERS APPROVED