Welcome to the first edition of the NYSPHSAA News. As the new Executive Director of this great association, I want to ensure communication with our membership is one of my top priorities. In an effort to accomplish this goal, we will be distributing the NYSPHSAA News each month. I want to encourage all member schools to contact our office with questions and concerns. The association serves as a resource to the membership; please do not hesitate to let us know how we can help.

Robert Zayas
NYSPHSAA Executive Director

HURRICANE SANDY:
Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of those affected by the destruction of Hurricane Sandy over the course of the last few days. The NYSPHSAA staff stands ready to provide support and assistance to member schools during this difficult time.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:
The Executive Committee met throughout the day on Sunday, October 21 in Latham. Several action items were voted upon; however one of the most noteworthy topics involved the fiscal reductions which were implemented in May 2009. The Executive Committee discussed a proposal to continue the fiscal reductions for the next four years.

It was determined that this topic should go back to the sections for discussion, with possible action at the January Executive Committee meeting. A meeting summary was issued immediately following the meeting and the minutes are now posted on the NYSPHSAA website.

CHEERLEADING REGIONAL COMPETITIONS:
The NYSPHSAA released the Cheerleading Booklet on Monday, October 15 for the East and West Invitational Events being held during the 2012-13 Winter season; East: January 26, 2013 at Arlington High School (Section 1) and West: March 9, 2013 at Rochester Institute of Technology (Section 5).

Schools may enter for only one event. We will do our best to ensure that all schools that wish to participate in an event will have the opportunity to do so. Please note that there are certain requirements in order for a team to compete.

These requirements and registration information are outlined in the booklet at the following link:  http://www.nysphsaa.org/forms/pdf/Cheerleading.pdf
COMBINING OF TEAMS AD HOC COMMITTEE:
As a result of discussion at the Central Committee meeting in late July in Lake George, an ad hoc committee is being assembled to discuss the combining of teams. Section Executive Directors have been asked to provide the NYSPHSAA with an individual to represent their sections. The first meeting will be held via teleconference and will be scheduled in early November.

WEBSITE REDESIGN:
The NYSPHSAA is currently in the process of evaluating potential website development companies to complete a website redesign in preparation for the 2013-2014 school year. It will be the goal of the association to develop a highly engaging, educational, functional and informational website that will cater to a wide range of user types with one common goal: To provide a single, comprehensive portal for all information related to the association. This site must serve NYSPHSAA’s High School and Middle School Member Institutions, AD’s, Coaches, Students/Parents, Officials, Principals/Superintendents, as well as sponsors and general supporters of the activities and athletics.

LIFE OF AN ATHLETE WORKSHOP:
Interested in getting an update on the latest research and information impacting our students in regards to alcohol and drug use? Be sure to attend the Life of An Athlete Winter Session at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, December 6-9, 2012. Log onto www.nysphsaa.org to download registration information.

LOOKING AHEAD:
Nov. 2, 2012  NYSPHSAA Central Committee Meeting (Teleconference) 10:00 AM
Dec. 14-18, 2012  NIAAA Conference (San Antonio, Tx.)
Jan. 29, 2013  NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting (Teleconference) 9:00 AM
May 3-4, 2013  NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting (Latham) TBD
July 30-31, 2013  NYSPHSAA Central Committee Meeting (Woodcliff Resort- Rochester)

QUOTE TO REMEMBER:
“The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure. These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur.”

Vince Lombardi