



## **MARSHALLTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES MEMBERSHIP IN NEW LEAGUE: THE IOWA ALLIANCE CONFERENCE**

### ***11 High Schools to Begin Competition in 2022-23 School Year***

The Marshalltown Community School District is today announcing its membership in a new high school athletic league: the Iowa Alliance Conference. Eleven of Iowa's largest high schools will begin competing in the new conference, developed to enhance competition and participation among schools with long-time rivalries, with the start of the 2022-23 school year.

"We are excited to join with these 10 schools as part of the Iowa Alliance Conference," said MCSD Superintendent Dr. Theron Schutte. "This conference will offer excellent extracurricular opportunities to Bobcat students, and will provide our student-athletes with a true conference experience."

The Iowa Alliance Conference will be divided into two divisions and consist of the following high schools:

- North – Ames, Fort Dodge, Marshalltown, Mason City, and Waterloo East
- South – Des Moines East, Hoover, Lincoln, North, Ottumwa, and Roosevelt

Currently 10 of the 11 schools compete in the Central Iowa Metropolitan League. Waterloo East is joining the IAC from the Mississippi Valley Conference.

Athletic directors and administrators from the member school districts have been working over the past several months on establishing the new conference. Positive considerations in forming the alliance include:

- More competitive equity between the member high schools;
- Greater similarities among the member high schools;
- Increased competition and success for greater student participation and engagement;
- Increased competition and success in order to hire, support and retain coaches;
- Greater flexibility in decision-making and scheduling within a smaller conference;
- Maintain historic rivalries between central Iowa high schools.

"This is an important time for Bobcat Athletics and for all the members in our new league. We are looking forward to competition and performance in an environment that supports the highest possible level of holistic student participation," said MHS Athletic Director Ryan Isgrig. "This is a crucial step forward in the development of a well-rounded educational experience for our Bobcats."

Next year's schedules for the Iowa Alliance Conference will be posted at a later date. The new conference will first compete in Cross Country, Boys Golf, Girls Swimming and Volleyball starting next August.