

HIGH SCHOOL

What Alabama football coaches think of AHSAA public-private split debate



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Key Points

- The Alabama Football Coaches Association met to discuss several topics, including the ongoing debate between public and private schools.
 - The AHSAA is considering reclassification options that could separate private and public schools for playoff competitions.
 - ALFCA executive director Jack Wood stated the association will not support any policy change without unanimous board approval.
 - AHSAA Central Board of Control president Terry Curtis addressed the ALFCA board about the issues and noted similar situations have occurred in other states.
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The Alabama Football Coaches Association met Friday, Dec. 5 at the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame board room in Birmingham as a part of the annual Super 7 meeting and addressed the issues between public and private schools within the AHSAA.

On Oct. 14, [AHSAA executive director Heath Harmon met with AHSAA private schools](#) to discuss issues brought up by private schools. On Dec. 15,

three representatives from AHSAA private schools were given 15 minutes to offer solutions to said problems to the AHSAA Central Board of Control.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS PRESENT SOLUTIONS: [AHSAA independent schools present solutions to Central Board of Control](#)

On Thursday, Dec. 18, the [Montgomery Advertiser](#) reported that the AHSAA is discussing reclassification options that include splitting private schools from competition from public schools, at least in the postseason.

At the annual ALFCA meeting, executive director Jack Wood spoke briefly about the future of public and private schools and reclassification. Wood reminded the board of the ALFCA policies and stated that the ALFCA will not support any policy change unless it has unanimous support from its board members.

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With both public and private schools represented on the ALFCA board, Wood said it would be impossible to attain such support.

Wood then called on Terry Curtis, a former president of ALFCA and current president of the AHSAA Central Board of Control – to discuss the current issues facing the AHSAA and private schools.

Curtis talked about the current lawsuit concerning the CHOOSE Act, the public and private school issues and reclassification, according to the public meeting notes. In closing, Curtis reminded the ALFCA board members that

the issues are ones that are occurring or have occurred in other states recently.

AHSAA DISCUSSING PUBLIC-PRIVATE SPLIT: [AHSAA discussing public-private split for championship competition](#)

Reclassification announcement was originally set for Monday, Dec. 15, [before it was rescheduled](#) to Jan. 23. The AHSAA cited the move of the announcement to "current mediation." The AHSAA did not clarify what the mediation is over or who is party to that mediation.