

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS 6 It's up to him' Details of OSAA hearings by Salem-Keizer, Cascade finalized



The Salem-Keizer appeal will be heard at 9 a.m. on Jan. 29 at the district's Support Services Center at 2575 Commercial St. SE in Salem. ANNA REED/STATESMAN JOURNAL

Bill Poehler Salem Statesman Journal I USA TODAY NETWORK

he details for appeals by the Salem-Keizer and Cascade school districts of the league realignments have been finalized. • The Salem-Keizer appeal will be heard at 9 a.m. on Jan. 29 at the district's Support Services Center at 2575 Commercial St. SE in Salem. • The Cascade appeal will be heard at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 8 at the Cascade School District office located on the campus of Cascade High School in Turner. • Former State Supreme Court Justice W. Michael Gillette will be the hearing officer for both appeals. • The school districts and the OSAA each will have representatives who will testify. • Testimony from the public will not be taken, though the hearings will be open to the public. Gillette may hand his decision down that day or later.

"It's not specified, it's up to him," OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber said.

In the redistricting cycle, Salem-Keizer schools McKay, McNary, South Salem, Sprague and West Salem were placed in a league with Bend, Mountain View and Summit, a move that will cost an approximate \$700,000 per school year.

In its appeal, Salem-Keizer officials say the OSAA failed to hold public hearings; the OSAA's Classification and Districting Committee didn't follow its criteria of safety, minimizing the loss of student instructional time and minimizing expenditure to the schools; and the OSAA violated ORS 329.025, which requires equal access to educational opportunities for all students.

Cascade was moved up to Class 5A from 4A and placed in a league with Central, Corvallis, Crescent Valley, Dallas, Lebanon, North Salem, Silverton, South Albany and West Albany.

In its appeal, Cascade officials said the redistricting committee used the high school's attendance number from June instead of October, a difference of 75 students.

bpoehler@StatesmanJournal.com or Twitter.com/bpoehler