



September 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are quickly approaching the start of another fall athletic season. I'm sure that there is much excitement and joy that our kids will once again get the opportunity to compete and learn the many intangibles that can only be learned through high school athletics. We plan on running our full complement of fall athletic teams and cheerleading at both the middle school and high school.

Yesterday, the governor lifted his ban on spectators at athletic events. The governor stated that event attendance restrictions of 25 for indoor events and 250 for outdoor events are still in effect. While I appreciate our state leadership realizing the need to allow parents to attend their children's games, I don't think it is very realistic for sports like football and girls volleyball where the facility limits are still 250 and 25 respectively to be able to host parents and meet those numbers.

Our first home event is a football scrimmage this Friday, September 4. Since the band and cheerleaders are not in attendance for scrimmages, we plan to allow two parents per player (or players siblings) to attend the game. PPE must be worn and physical distancing must be maintained at all times. We will have markers in the stadium to ensure each parent group maintains at least 6 feet of distance between groups throughout the game. It is critical that these rules be followed by all parents. The marked seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The next home event that we have is a soccer game on September 14. Parents will be able to attend all boys and girls soccer games for the entire season because meeting the 250 capacity restriction will not be an issue; PPE and physical distancing will still need to be followed.

Mr. Cherpak and I conducted a meeting with all of the teams in Section 3 to discuss the capacity restrictions, as well as their plans for marching bands and cheerleaders. It is our intent to allow our marching band and cheerleaders to be present and involved in our home football games as usual. Unfortunately, they will not be allowed to attend away contests because of a joint decision made by the athletic directors and superintendents that represent Section 3. For home contests, we will allow all members of both teams, our marching band, and cheerleaders. We are going to continue to look at creative ways to separate our venue in a way that would also allow two parents per football player, band member, and cheerleader. Again, PPE and

distancing would be a requirement. For girls volleyball, we are going to need to get further clarification on the limit of 25 people.

We will be live streaming and recording all football, soccer, and girls volleyball games. The scrimmage will be accessed through a link on our website. Every home game in volleyball, boys and girls soccer, and football can be seen live and recorded through our partnership with Triblive High School Sports Network. We are doing everything we can to ensure the safety of our kids and community, while being reasonable and rational in attempting to meet the state and county guidelines. We will continue to communicate with you as we move toward our first home games. Yesterday the PA House of Representatives passed House Bill 2787, which would give individual districts discretion over stadium and gym capacity limits, as long as they followed CDC guidelines for facial coverings and physical distancing. This will be headed to the senate next week for a vote. I urge you to contact Senator Pam Iovino and encourage her to vote for HB 2787 which would allow districts to raise venue attendance restrictions based on a percentage of capacity, as seen in casinos and restaurants. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation regarding this matter. Let's go Jaguars!

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Ghilani  
Superintendent

Mr. William Cherpak  
Athletic Director