

MCPS ATHLETICS

R.A.I.S.E. Update

October 6, 2022

Dear MCPS Community:

Thank you for your efforts in championing our R.A.I.S.E. core values and promoting a safe and positive environment at our events. As we gear up for the fall postseason, here are some important program updates and reminders:

Athletics Safety Plan

The MCPS Athletics Safety Plan will continue to drive program operations and all of our schools remain in Tier 1. We are continuing to assess the impact of the actions across the programs and will provide updates as potential modifications are made. Temporary lighting is being coordinated for schools, to assist with lighting key areas in stadiums, parking lots, and surrounding areas. We appreciate your patience and understanding, as we navigate some of these challenging situations. It is our goal to maximize the ability for our students, parents, families and communities to support our student-athletes in a safe and positive environment.

Athletic Trainers

There continues to be a shortage of athletic trainers impacting MCPS and school districts across the state. Vendors are continuing to work tirelessly to hire the remaining positions. Vacant full-time positions are being filled based on the availability of athletic trainers, including commuting distance for the candidate. All schools without a full-time athletic trainer are receiving part-time in-person coverage, as well as other resources and support such as telehealth, coach consulting, injury management, and training room office hours. Coverage schedules and services are available at the local school; please contact your coach or athletics specialist for additional information. Answers to frequently asked questions are here. Community members who know interested candidates should contact Dr. Jeffrey Sullivan, director of systemwide athletics or Mrs. Angela McIntosh-Davis, director of procurement.

Officials Appreciation Week

Officiating is often referred to as a thankless avocation and MCPS athletic contests would not occur without the unwavering commitment of officials and referees. In conjunction with the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA), MCPS Athletics will celebrate Fall Officials Appreciation Week October 10–15, 2022. Please take time to *Thank a Ref* for letting the games go on!

Winter Sports Registration

Registration for high school winter sports will open in <u>ParentVUE</u> on October 10, 2022 at 12:00 noon. The winter season begins on November 15, 2022.

Schedules

High school schedules are available at countysportszone.com. Middle school schedules are available here.

Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan Operations

The Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan will continue to drive program operations in regard to COVID-19 procedures and protocols. The plan is reviewed on an ongoing basis by the Student-Athlete Medical Advisory Committee for MCPS Athletics. The latest version is always available on the COVID-19 Athletics Information webpage.

Communication and Resources

Specific questions should be directed to your school's athletics specialist (AD), athletic coordinator (AC), or coach.

We appreciate your continued commitment and support of our student-athletes and MCPS Athletics!

Montgomery County Public Schools