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Dear Parents of Student Athletes:

Charles City County Public Schools (CCPS) student athletes are able to return to Virginia High School League (VHSL) competition in December, according to an Executive Order signed last week by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam. Participation in conditioning for various sports is <u>optional</u> for CCPS students/parents. The school division is currently observing a virtual attendance/learning format for most of our students; however, schools are open, and teaching and learning is taking place - schools are not closed. Thus, the school division is supporting student athletes as they prepare for upcoming participation in their respective sports/activities.

The school division will abide by the <u>Guidelines for Return to Participation</u>, developed by the VHSL in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Health. These Guidelines address safety standards on a sport by sport basis. Modifications outlined in the <u>Guidelines for Return to Participation</u> are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel, and allowing for appropriate protective equipment. Recommendations are provided for cleaning and disinfecting; mask protocols; transportation; and how to run activities safely for individual sports and activities. Teams conducting out-of-season workouts will continue to abide by Phase 3 Guidelines as established by the VHSL and the Virginia Department of Health.

With this allowance of returning to sports and activities, we want to make every effort to keep our students safe. This can be done via a collective effort between students, parents, coaches, and administrators. All student athletes, coaches, and other adults involved will be expected to follow all safety protocols and guidelines. All involved are encouraged to monitor themselves and one another (e.g., providing reminders about safety protocols - wearing face covering and social distancing). Individuals not following safety guidelines will be asked to leave a practice or game.

The VHSL previously voted to adjust their 2020-2021 competition schedules due to COVID-19. Winter sports are scheduled for December 7-February 20; fall sports are scheduled from February 4-May 1; and spring sports are scheduled from April 12-June 26.

Thank you,

Dalphine A. Joppy, Ed.D.

Superintendent