

August 27, 2020

Dear Dodgeland Families,

During the past month, continued changes in our state and county COVID data has resulted in frequent modifications to our planning for both school re-opening and athletic programming. Honoring the commitment to starting the school year as planned on September 1st has been at the forefront of our planning. Ensuring co-curricular opportunities for students has also been a significant goal for our return to school. Conference meetings have been occurring frequently to address the ever changing need to adjust seasons and schedules. Flexibility and creativity have been key factors as we continue our planning to provide our students opportunities to re-engage in co-curricular activities, including athletics.

On August 14th, the WIAA Board of Control approved modified athletic seasons in light of the continued challenges that the COVID pandemic has caused. Our cross country programs were approved to begin their season on August 17th. They have been practicing daily at the Wild Goose Park in Juneau while adhering to safety procedures in reducing transmission of contagions. The WIAA approved start date for fall season football, volleyball and boys soccer is September 7th and our planning had been targeted to start practices for football, volleyball and boys soccer on September 7th.

On Tuesday, August 25th, Dodge County Public Health announced updated guidelines for Dodge County schools and school-based co-curricular activities. "High impact sports such as football and dance/cheer and moderate sports such as volleyball and soccer increase student's, teacher's and support staff's risk of being exposed to the virus; thus increasing the risk for school closure." In light of the COVID-19 activity in our community, moderate and high risk sports, which include football, dance, volleyball and boys soccer are advised to be delayed until a successful re-opening of school can occur.

Therefore, the Dodgeland School District will be delaying the start of the football, dance, volleyball and boys soccer seasons until Monday, September 21st. Though this second delay to fall seasons is likely frustrating, we are committed to providing our students the opportunity to participate in after school strength and conditioning activities during the week of September 7 and September 14. By capitalizing on this after school fitness focused programming, our student-athletes can start their team practices on Monday, September 21st with improved strength and stamina.

To participate in our after school strength and conditioning program, students must have a face covering and labeled water bottle with them at all times. While indoor, students and coaches must always wear a face covering and regularly use hand sanitizer to reduce the spread of contagions. While outdoors, when social distancing of six feet or more is maintained, face coverings may be removed. Proximity between people less than six feet requires face coverings to be worn. Hand sanitizer will also be regularly used when outside.

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Elementary School p: 920.386.4404 f: 920.386.2602 As we prepare to return to school on September 1st, we want to thank you for your cooperation and support . Although delaying the season may not be ideal, we are grateful that our student-athletes will have the opportunity to practice and compete this fall.

Season information will continue to be shared with parents via School Messenger. Please watch for both emails and text messages from the school.

#DodgelandProud

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