



# *Adirondack Central School*

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Dear Parents, Students and Community Members:

School districts have faced challenging decisions with addressing on how best to begin sports in schools amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The New York State Public High School Athletic Association distributed a set of guidelines to resume fall sports, but ultimately left the decision to resume play with each section/district in the state. Throughout the past several months we have had to make difficult decisions preparing for the reopening of school.

We need to make another difficult decision in regards to fall sports. At this time, as a District, it will be difficult to participate in sports without compromising the safety and welfare of our students, staff and school community. We believe more planning and time would be needed before starting Interscholastic Sports to fulfill all the requirements needed such as safety, transportation, staffing needs, locker rooms, etc. We are concerned about the perplexity with the safety standards set during the academic day as compared to the implementation and follow through for after school events. Therefore, I anticipate that the Board is likely to adopt a resolution formally stating that the District will not participate in fall interscholastic athletics.

Presently, throughout the school day, students need to be socially distanced, wear face coverings, eat lunch separated from one another or have physical barriers. Physical education teachers must adhere in keeping students 12 feet apart to participate in physical activity in class. With all of the safety precautions we have implemented during our instructional day, it will be beneficial to continue to assess and monitor the situation before we move forward with athletics and extracurricular activities.

We all know the importance of athletics within our school community but also need to continue to follow the guidelines set forth in our reopening plan to keep everyone safe. At this time there are no extracurricular activities being held after school but we will continue to evaluate throughout the school year. We want to provide our students with opportunities but must do so in a safe and reasonable manner. We have canceled our Community Education programs and have not approved building use requests. This has all been done to limit the number of individuals on site at any given time.

We understand that this will be a disappointment for our student athletes, but given all the safety protocols and procedures that have been implemented for the reopening of school, we believe additional time is needed before interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities can begin. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Edward S. Niznik  
Superintendent

*Edward Niznik*  
Superintendent of Schools

*Sharon Cihocki*  
Business  
Administrator

*Charlotte Bourgeois*  
District Treasurer

*Michelle Freeman*  
District Clerk

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