



MCPS Athletics Statement – Impact of COVID-19 on Operations July 21, 2020

MCPS Sports Community,

Today, July 21, 2020, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), after careful review and consultation with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, [announced the cancellation](#) of the fall and winter sport seasons during the 2020–2021 school year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, these two seasons will not occur as they have traditionally been conducted. For MCPS, this includes all varsity and junior varsity sports at the high school level, along with our middle school athletics program.

While we are deeply saddened by the cancellation of interscholastic athletics during this time, we know that the number one priority for everyone is the health and safety of our students and staff. In this regard, we appreciate the ongoing efforts of student-athletes, coaches, athletics specialists, athletic coordinators, and all stakeholders across our program to embrace and champion physical distancing and safe practices. We are inspired by your acts of generosity, kindness, and compassion and continue to be inspired by your messages of hope.

The MCPS athletics program is committed to supporting and reimagining the experience for student-athletes during these unprecedented times. More information will be provided, as it becomes available from MCPS and the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association. We will continue our efforts moving forward to be champions of health and safety in our schools and communities, while strategically and safely preparing a return to in-person operations.

In closing, I want to recognize the resiliency of our student-athletes, who we strive to serve each and every day and who inspire us all. Even so, our student-athletes will benefit from your understanding, guidance and compassion in the coming days and weeks. When the time comes for us to return to action, we will do what we do best—provide meaningful opportunities for our student-athletes to excel and bring our communities together. Until then, we will do whatever we can to assist with promoting health and safety across MCPS, Montgomery County and the state. We wish all the best to you and yours. Together #WeRAISE.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Sullivan".

Jeffrey K. Sullivan, Ed.D.
Director, Systemwide Athletics