

An Insight into MCPS Athletics

Spring 2022 ♦ Issue 15



*"Sports do not build
character, they reveal it."*

- John Wooden

The R.A.I.S.E. Report

Director's Message

MCPS Sports Nation – As we enter the final quarter of the school year, we have much to celebrate in MCPS Athletics! To begin, I am so proud of our Student-Athlete Leadership Council for planning and hosting our first Student-Athlete Leadership Conference in March. It was amazing to watch our students leading and inspiring each other – special shout outs to the mental health group and to Ms. Kathy Green, for her work with the council and the conference! We also have been celebrating the 50th anniversary of Title IX, which officially occurs in June. Finally, we celebrate the countless individuals who support our student-athletes and program and champion our R.A.I.S.E. core values – from our coaches, athletics specialists and athletic coordinators to our Athletics Unit, administrators, athletic trainers, officials, booster clubs, parents/guardians, and fans – we are blessed to have our dedicated and spirited MCPS Sports Nation! Thank you for all that you do!

Together #WeRAISE MCPS Athletics – Jeff

COACHES' CORNER

First Fall Practice Date

Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA) fall interscholastic athletic teams may begin practices on Wednesday, August 10, 2022. Though it is not mandatory that fall teams begin practice on August 10, all teams must begin practices by Saturday, August 13, 2022. Teams may distribute equipment on Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

Fall Preseason Coaches Meetings

The fall preseason coaches' meetings will be held Tuesday, August 9, at Northwest High School. All coaches will attend the general session in addition to their respective sport-specific session. The team handball preseason meeting will be held Wednesday, August 31, 2022, 3:30–5:00 p.m., at a location to be determined.

Fall varsity coaches are expected to attend the preseason coaches' meeting for their sport. Attendance for varsity coaches is mandatory; attendance for junior varsity is optional but strongly encouraged.

Fall Athletic Trainers Meeting

The athletic trainers' preseason meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at Northwest High School.

Athletic Leaders Spotlight

Maryland State Athletic Directors Association Awards Update

Distinguished Service Award

Mr. Clark Beil, Senior Administrator for Licensure and Regulatory Services for the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), has been named recipient of the Maryland State Athletic Directors Association (MSADA) Distinguished Service Award.

Mr. Beil has served on the COVID-19 Task Force for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Athletics as the DHHS representative since June 2020. As the DHHS representative, Mr. Beil has assisted with leading MCPS Athletics through the ever-changing and challenging times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Athletic Director of the Year



Mr. Jesse Irvin, Athletics Specialist at Seneca Valley High School, is the recipient of the MSADA 2022 District 2B Athletic Director of the Year award. Recipients of this prestigious award are selected by the collective voice of all twenty-five athletics specialists.

Mr. Beil and Mr. Irvin will receive their awards at the MSADA State Conference Banquet on Saturday, April 30, 2022. #WeRAISE

Welcome to the AD Family!

MCPS Athletics is excited to welcome Mr. Daniel Whitlow to the AD family, as the new athletics specialist at Richard Montgomery High School. Mr. Whitlow has been involved in MCPS Athletics in various capacities over the years, including coach, assistant athletic director, middle school athletic coordinator, and summer workshop participant. Welcome Mr. Whitlow!



Student Athlete Leaders In The House!

The Student-Athlete Leadership Council (SALC) hosted a [Student-Athlete Leadership Conference](#) on March 11, 2022, for over a hundred student-athletes across 25 MCPS high schools. The Student-Athlete Leadership Conference empowered student-athletes with tips and strategies for dealing with the overall well-being of student-athletes; including, mental health, time management, leadership, and



sportsmanship. Members of the Student-Athlete Leadership Council spent months planning a leadership conference for student-athletes on topics relevant to their hearts. Thank you to the MCPS Athletics SALC Planning Committee for assisting student-athletes with conference implementation. **#WeRAISE**



Student-Athletes Celebrate Officials Appreciation Weeks

Thank you to coaches and student-athletes across MCPS Athletics for celebrating Officials Appreciation Weeks throughout the year, most recently for spring officials April 4-8, 2022. **#WeRAISE**



“Officially” Support Athletics!

Do you know any sport lovers that would like to support the MCPS interscholastic athletics program? The MPSSAA is currently registering officials in numerous sports. If you know someone interested in officiating, who is at least 18 years of age and a high school graduate, the opportunity is only a [click away!](#) The NFHS offers several free online courses for officials including [basketball](#), [football](#), [softball](#), [soccer](#), [swimming and diving](#), [volleyball](#), and [wrestling](#).

Middle School Athletics

The [Middle School Searchable Schedule](#) allows you to search for your entire school's schedule, a specific sport schedule by school, or an entire sport schedule for the county.

The countywide athletic coordinators end-of-year meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2022, at the Carver Educational Services Center (CESC); the meeting will begin at 3:30 p.m.

Did You Know...

MCPS Winter 2021–2022 athletic teams won a total of 60 championships, including four state championships, six state finalists, 19 district or regional championships, and 31 division or county championships. In addition, 95 MCPS student-athletes won individual state championships during the 2021–2022 winter season. **Winston Churchill** won the 4A/3A Boys' State Swimming Championship, **Walter Johnson** won the 4A/3A Girls' State Swimming Championship, **Poolesville** won the 3A/2A/1A Boys' (10th consecutive) State Swimming Championship and **Damascus** won the Girls' Swimming State Championship. **#WeRAISE**

Save the Date!

SPRING COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

BASEBALL & SOFTBALL:

May 10, 2022 at James Hubert Blake HS, 7 p.m.

GYMNASTICS:

MCPS VARSITY MEET

- May 3, 2022, at Walter Johnson HS, 6 p.m.

MCPS VARSITY B MEET

- May 4, 2022, at Springbrook HS, 6 p.m.

LACROSSE:

May 9, 2022, at Albert Einstein HS

- Boys – 5:30 p.m.

- Girls – 7:30 p.m.

ALLIED SOFTBALL:

May 11, 2022, at TBD, 5:30 pm

TENNIS:

May 12, 2022, at 3:15 p.m.

- Boys – Walter Johnson

- Girls – Paint Branch

TRACK & FIELD:

MCPS VARSITY MEET

- May 11, 2022 at Seneca Valley HS, at 4 p.m.

MCPS VARSITY B MEET

- May 14, 2022, Albert Einstein HS, at 10 a.m.

VOLLEYBALL – BOYS' & COED:

May 12, 2022, at Col. Zadok Magruder HS

- Boys – 5:00 p.m.

- Coed – 7:00 p.m.

Check out the [MCPS Athletics Webpage](#) for more information on MCPS Athletics!

#WeRAISE

Coaches, student-athletes, athletics specialists, athletic coordinators and stakeholders across the MCPS athletics program



are encouraged to celebrate and promote examples and accomplishments that exemplify our R.A.I.S.E. core values. When doing so on social media platforms, users are encouraged to tag **@MCPSAthletics** and include the hashtag **#WeRAISE**.

