



August 24, 2020

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**TO:** High School Principals  
High School Athletic Directors

**FROM:** Shirley Diggs *SD*

**RE:** Athletics Reopening Plan

Interscholastic athletics will promote the health and well-being of students mentally, emotionally, and physically, thus creating positive psychological and academic outcomes. The Interscholastic Athletics office believes that all student athletes should focus and enhance their academic achievement through PGCPS' online education-based opportunities as well as the virtual webinars provided by the athletic department.

Athletic Directors (AD) will be involved in several leadership committees. Coaches will focus on system-wide and sports specific virtual engagement.

Specialized presentations and opportunities will be provided for the junior and senior athletes to prepare for the next steps in their careers. Emphasis will be towards college and career, scholarships, social emotional wellness, applications and letters to schools.

The first semester of athletics will be virtual and feature three sport seasons: fall, winter and spring. During the first semester, athletes will have the opportunity to virtually participate in lessons for college and career readiness, academic achievement, recruitment preparation, physical activities, social, emotional and mental well-being and sport specific information.

Interscholastic athletics will start at the lowest risk level for participation. In December, a determination will be made on how PGCPS will continue delivering instruction for the second semester. Once that decision has been made, direction will be provided regarding face-to-face participation in sports.

Lowest Risk:

- Performing low-impact skill-building drills or conditioning at home, alone or with family members.
- Re-engagement of student-athletes and the virtual reintroduction of athletics and activities for the betterment of the social, emotional, and physical well-being.
- Encourage senior athletes to engage in virtual classes, webinars, meetings and online services with outside resources to prepare for academic success and college opportunities.

## **FIRST SEMESTER**

Three seasons will occur during the first semester with each season lasting five weeks. A complete virtual schedule will be posted on the athletics website and communicated to the athletes by their ADs and coaches for each season (Fall Sports - Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, Winter Sports - Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> and Spring Sports - Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>). The virtual athletic program will not include tryouts and will be open to all students. All athletes will be required to submit a parent/guardian permission form to participate in online activities.

Fall: September 14, 2020 - October 16, 2020  
Volleyball, Football, Girls/Boys Soccer, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Golf

Winter: October 26, 2020 - December 14, 2020  
Wrestling, Girls/Boys Basketball, Indoor Track, Swimming

Spring: December 14, 2020 - January 22, 2021  
Outdoor track, Softball, Baseball, Tennis, Girls/Boys Lacrosse

\*\*This first semester will be for High Schools only

\*\*Corollary Sports is pending at this time

\*\*All school athletic fields and facilities are closed!

\*\*Coaches are not to meet face-to-face with any student-athletes. This includes park and recreation facilities.

\*\*A full virtual schedule will be available by the dates listed above in the First Semester paragraph.

### **Virtual Athletic Director Duties and Responsibilities:**

Under the general supervision of the Principal and Director of Interscholastic Athletics, the Athletic Director will be responsible for providing overall leadership and coordination among the various student athletic activities, and facilitate programs that provide Prince George's County Public Schools' students with the best possible interscholastic experience that is aligned with the mission and core beliefs of the Prince George's County Public School system.

Responsibilities include:

1. Overseeing all athletic coaches assigned to his/her high school during virtual sessions.
2. Serving as the in-school interpreter of the county and state athletic association's rules and regulations.
3. Providing leadership with the principal in the selection and assignment of athletic coaches.
4. Assisting in fostering good school-community relations by keeping the community aware of and responsive to the athletic program.
5. Attending countywide virtual meetings, when scheduled, and conducting regular virtual meetings for coaches.
6. Providing coaches, athletes, administrative staff and the school community with information pertaining to current trends and policies in interscholastic athletics.
7. Involved in committees as established by the office of athletics.
8. Preparing presentations for ADs, coaches and athletes for the virtual sessions.
9. Review and understanding all policies, rules and regulations. (many changes taking place)

Establish and prepare for the restart of sports; COVID-19 training, health needs and protocols.

C: Helen Coley, Ed.D.  
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