Millersburg Area School District and Upper Dauphin Area School District Sports Cooperative Extracurricular Health and Safety Plan Joint Addendum

Application

This Extracurricular Health and Safety Plan Joint Addendum applies to all extracurricular activities within the Millersburg Area School District (MASD) and Upper Dauphin Area School District (UDASD) including interscholastic athletics. This addendum applies to activities scheduled between August 31, 2020 and November 19, 2020 (2020 fall season).

Background

The Millersburg Area School District and Upper Dauphin Area School District have joined in a Cooperative Sports Program which includes five fall sports/activities (Competitive Cheer, Golf, Girls' Soccer, Boys' Soccer and Football). Since the cooperative sports are deeply intertwined, it is recommended that the two school districts follow a common set of criteria and principles related the operation of extracurricular activities within the 2020-21 school year.

The Mid Penn Conference (football) and Tri Valley Athletic Association (other sports) have voted to postpone the start of the 2020 fall sports season. The Governor of Pennsylvania has stated his concern about playing high school athletics and its potential impact on COVID-19 cases and the ability to have inperson education. On Friday, August 21, 2020, the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) voted to continue with the 2020 fall sports season despite the concerns of Pennsylvania's Governor. Many legislators have expressed that they would like to have fall sports continue.

Consequently, schools are faced with what direction to proceed and how to address potential issues that may be experienced prior to the end of the fall extracurricular season. The MASD and UDASD had previously suspended extracurricular activities until August 31, 2020 due to confirmed COVID-19 cases, quarantines resulting from those cases, and an increase in students being tested.

Recommendation

As a result of the background information described above and the desire to preserve in-person learning, the following recommendation has been developed:

- Criteria for cancelling extracurricular activities for the remainder of the 2020 fall season: Extracurricular activities will continue for the 2020 fall season unless one or more of the following criteria are met:
 - **a.** The operational levels of one or both school districts are such that full remote education is implemented for more than ten days.
 - **b.** A third suspension of extracurricular activities occurs between now and the end of the 2020 fall season based on the criteria in Section II (the suspension count is currently one based on the suspension of activities that already occurred until August 31st).
 - **c.** A government order, PIAA order, or league order is issued that prevents the continuation of extracurricular activities.

- II. Criteria for suspending extracurricular activities for part of the 2020 fall season: Extracurricular Activities will be suspended if conditions exist that prevents a team/group from continuing based on the following criteria:
 - **a.** If a coach/advisor or participant is diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and that individual had direct/close contact with one or more team members within the past fourteen (14) days.
 - **b.** If the minimum number of coaches/advisors needed to provide proper supervision of the extracurricular activity is no longer available due to coaches/advisors being quarantined even if the guarantine is not related to or the result of team activities.
 - **c.** If an opponent, official or other person connected with an extracurricular event is a confirmed case and that individual had direct/close contact with one or more team members within the past fourteen (14) days.
 - **d.** It is determined by the administration of both districts that continuing extracurricular activities is likely to jeopardize the ability to provide in-person education based on local case data and community spread, current quarantine levels, and current levels of potential/suspected cases.
 - **e.** It is found that coaches/advisors, participants, or parents are not complying with components of the districts health and safety plans.
 - **f.** If one team or group is affected, the suspension will be for that team or group.
 - **g.** If two or more teams or groups meet the criteria, all extracurricular activities will be suspended and will count towards the criteria in Section I above.
- III. Spectators will be allowed based on the following criteria:
 - a. The number of spectators will be determined based on the following:
 - i. Government orders in place at the time;
 - ii. The capacity of the venue using social distancing guidelines;
 - iii. Restrictions in place at the PIAA, District III or league level;
 - iv. The number of participants, staff, and media needing access to the event; and
 - v. The health and safety of all involved.
 - b. No more than two spectator passes will be distributed to each participant.
 - c. If necessary, the number of spectator passes may be distributed based on the graduating class of participants with senior parents of participants getting priority for varsity-level events.
 - d. Each family may decide who uses the passes, but children will not be admitted without a parent chaperone and children must remain with the parent during the course of the event.
 - e. There will be no tickets sold at the gate.
 - f. Spectators must sit in a socially distanced manner and wear face coverings.
 - g. For UDASD stadium events, no parking will be permitted inside the stadium with the exception of event staff and ambulances.
 - **h.** Efforts to broadcast as many home games as possible will be made.
 - i. As long as no government orders preclude marching band and cheerleaders from attending events nor set limits on the number of persons at events, marching band and cheerleaders will be considered participants and will be able to attend home football

- games in a socially distanced manner and wearing face coverings when not directly active in a routine or performing in the stadium setting.
- j. If it is found that individual spectators are not complying with components of the districts health and safety plans, the spectators will be removed from the premises and their passes may be revoked.
- **k.** If it is found that spectators, as a whole, are not complying with components of the districts health and safety plans, the administration may suspend the admittance of spectators to future events at its discretion.
- I. No concession stands will be allowed to operate.
- IV. Screenings of all coaches/advisors and extracurricular activity participants will be completed each day and everyone at a contest must be documented so the information is available if needed for contact tracing.
- **V.** Coaches/advisors must wear face coverings at all times while on school property regardless of location or ability to maintain social distancing.
- VI. Each team will receive an educational session by the athletic director and/or pandemic coordinator about COVID-19 symptoms, requirements, and the types and expectations of quarantines.
- VII. Organized team activities (i.e. open gyms) for winter sports will not be allowed until October 19, 2020. The administration of both school districts will evaluate the situation at that time and decide how to proceed.
- VIII. Use of indoor weight room/fitness facilities will not be allowed until October 19, 2020. The administration of both school districts will evaluate the situation at that time and decide how to proceed.
 - **a.** This closure applies to use outside of the school day.
 - b. Outdoor strength and conditioning activities and classroom instruction in strength and conditioning may still occur in lieu of use of indoor weight room/fitness facilities.