



Oxford Area High School

To: Oxford Area School District Families

From: Michael Price, Athletic Director

RE: Fall Athletics Postponed

Greetings,

The Oxford Area School District has a rich and wonderful history in athletics. Oxford is known for our grit and determination, our passion and our positive sportsmanship, and also for our ability to face adversity. As a fellow alumnus, I know first-hand, the importance of athletics and extracurricular activities for students. I also know that education-based athletics create some of the best memories of a child's youth and they teach children some of their greatest tools in life. That is why it is with great sadness that I inform you that fall athletics for all Ches-Mont member schools have been postponed. The Ches-Mont League consists of twelve schools in Chester County and one school in Delaware County. During this pandemic response, each of the thirteen schools have been following the guidelines from the Chester County Health Department (CCHD). Several days ago, the CCHD made a recommendation that all schools should not be competing in athletics until January 1st, 2021. Several members of the Ches-Mont League and other neighboring leagues reached out to the CCHD for clarity. The CCHD is standing by their recommendation with no immediate plans to amend it. In addition to obviously defying a local health recommendation, the league felt like the viability of fall sports being played this fall was a stretch at best. We chose to make the responsible decision to postpone all fall athletics and clubs.

With the start of school upon us, the Ches-Mont League officials know that we have a duty to give our student-athletes an opportunity to participate. We will be pursuing all options and pushing the PIAA to allow us to play fall sports at some point during the second semester with an alternate schedule. We are also conscious of the students who play multiple sports in different seasons. We will do our very best at making sure a student doesn't have to pick a sport, and can play their desired sport in each season. It will be our priority to provide a meaningful, competitive, and balanced schedule for the fall, winter, and spring athletic teams. Additionally, there are several other leagues in southeast Pennsylvania that are in the same position. All of us are advocating for the student-athletes.

Lastly, I just want to say thanks to all of our families. Our OASD parents, students, and community members have been nothing but supportive of our student-athletes since July when the school board approved our athletics health and safety plan.



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The students and coaches have done an amazing job at handling the workouts, albeit in a structured and social distanced environment. I would also like to thank the coaches for all of their time and preparation. The coaches and I have been in constant communication regarding the off-season workouts, the possibility of fall sports, and the numerous layers to participation.

We will be continuing HS athletics workouts for now. I am putting together a team of coaches from Penn's Grove and from the High School so that we can make some detailed plans for this fall and to help create ideas for us as a district as it relates to athletics. I will continue to send out e-mails about our sports teams that are participating in conditioning and workouts.

Please look for future correspondence from me in reference to athletics, physicals, future tryout dates, among other things. Please let me know if you have any questions.

[Here is a link to the Ches-Mont League Statement.](#)

Sincerely,

Michael E. Price
Athletic Director
Oxford Area School District

Mprice@oxfordasd.org