



MCPS ATHLETICS

RETURN to R.A.I.S.E.

Update—May 14, 2021

Dear MCPS Community:

We continue to monitor ever-changing national, state, and county guidelines and will continue to provide you with timely updates. There are no changes to the operating procedures in the [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Strategic Plan](#) at this time; however, the Task Force continues to work collaboratively with county health officials to plan next steps. We appreciate the collective efforts across the program to our safety protocols and procedures. Following are the updates and reminders for this week.

Spring Sports and Winter Engagement Competition Guidelines

Competition guidelines for spring sports and winter engagement opportunities are available [here](#). These guidelines are a supplement to the [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Strategic Plan](#). All sports and activities will comply with the latest Montgomery County [Board of Health Regulation](#), the MPSSAA [Winter](#) and [Spring Sports Bulletins](#), and MCPS guidelines that have been established through the COVID-19 Task Force for MCPS Athletics. Two spectators will be allowed per student-athlete, if facilities allow, per the approved [spectator plan](#) for MCPS Athletics.

Winter Engagement and Senior Showcases

Winter engagement opportunities for returning seniors are underway. An overview of the engagement plan is available [here](#). Following a second week of practices, senior showcase scrimmages will occur during the week of May 24 for basketball and wrestling. Thank you sport directors and coaches for your efforts in organizing these opportunities for our student-athletes.

Middle School Athletics

The winter/spring combination season is now up and running and will continue through May 28. Program offerings are virtual, in-person or hybrid (a combination of in-person and virtual), depending on the availability of coaches and the registration of student-athletes. All in-person programming and activities will continue to occur in alignment with guidelines and protocols approved by the COVID-19 Task Force for MCPS Athletics. More information is available on the [COVID-19 Athletics Information webpage](#). Specific questions should be directed to your school's [athletic coordinator](#) (AC) or coach.

Fall Sports Season

MCPS is planning for a full return to operations beginning with the fall season of the 2021-22 school year. [Tryouts and practices](#) for high schools start on **August 11, 2021**; details will be provided through the local school and team(s). Registration will open in mid-July through ParentVue.

Collective Commitment

We must continue to demonstrate a collective commitment to our [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Strategic Plan](#) COVID-19 protocols and procedures. Student-athletes must do their part and hold each other

accountable, coaches must enforce expectations and support student-athletes, and athletics specialists, athletic coordinators, and other staff members need to support the overall administration and operations of the program. Additionally, we need the continued assistance of the community to promote safety protocols throughout the remainder of the school year.

Communication and Resources

Our COVID-19 Task Force for MCPS Athletics will continue to evaluate and implement the latest safety measures. Updates and guidance from the Task Force will continue to be provided on a weekly basis through each school's athletic department and are available on the [COVID-19 Athletics Information webpage](#). The [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Strategic Plan](#) provides operating procedures and safety protocols that are being utilized; the plan has been updated for the spring season and winter engagement opportunities.

We appreciate your continued commitment and support. Specific questions should be directed to your school's [athletics specialist \(AD\)](#), [athletic coordinator \(AC\)](#), or coach.

[Montgomery County Public Schools](#)