



---

## MCPS ATHLETICS

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

Update—June 15, 2022

---

Dear MCPS Community:

Thank you for your continued support, as we conclude another successful school year of MCPS Athletics. Heading into the summer, here are some important program updates and reminders:

#### **Student-Athlete Medical Advisory Committee**

The COVID-19 Task Force for MCPS Athletics, established in June 2020, has now transitioned to a standing Student-Athlete Medical Advisory Committee (SMAC). The SMAC will serve as the advisory group for all health and safety protocols and initiatives for MCPS Athletics. Included in this work will be COVID-19 protocols and procedures.

#### **Student-Athlete COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement Update**

Vaccination for COVID-19 is strongly recommended for student-athletes, but is no longer required. This change to the vaccination requirement applies to summer conditioning and the upcoming fall season. The change is due to community transmission levels, vaccination rates, and analysis of activities (mostly outdoors). Vaccination requirements are subject to change, pending the latest guidance from the Student-Athlete Medical Advisory Committee for MCPS Athletics, in collaboration with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. There are no changes to the vaccination requirements for school staff and volunteers at this time.

#### **Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan Operations**

The [Return to R.A.I.S.E. Plan](#) will continue to drive program operations in regard to COVID-19 procedures and protocols. The plan is reviewed on an ongoing basis by the Student-Athlete Medical Advisory Committee for MCPS Athletics. The latest version is always available on the [COVID-19 Athletics Information](#) webpage. The June 15 plan includes updated language regarding the student-athlete vaccination requirement.

#### **Health & Safety - Fall Heat Plan & Hydration**

Students, coaches, and parents/guardians should review and become familiar with the [Health & Safety](#) webpage for MCPS Athletics. The MCPS [Fall Heat Plan](#) will guide operations during the opening weeks of the fall season. Additionally, [information and resources](#) are available regarding proper hydration and weather guidelines. Updated information will be posted by the end of July.

#### **Summer Guidelines**

The [MCPS Out-of-Season Guidelines](#) outline the rules and guiding principles regarding out-of-season participation. Other resources include:

[MPSSAA Handbook](#)  
[80% Rule Clarification](#)

### **High School Fall Sports Registration**

Registration for high school fall sports will open through ParentVUE on **July 11, 2022, at noon**. [Tryouts and practices](#) for high schools start on **August 10, 2022**; details regarding tryout/practice logistics are available through the local school and team(s). Systemwide resources are available on the [MCPS Athletics webpage](#).

### **Middle School Fall Sports Registration**

Registration for middle school fall sports will open through ParentVUE on **August 15, 2022, at noon**. [Tryouts and practices](#) for middle schools start on **September 13, 2022**; details regarding tryout/practice logistics are available through the local school and team(s). Systemwide resources are available on the [MCPS Athletics webpage](#).

### **Communication and Resources**

Our Student-Athlete Medical Advisory Committee 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 and are available on the [COVID-19 Athletics Information](#) webpage. Specific questions should be directed to your school's [athletics specialist \(AD\)](#), [athletic coordinator](#) (AC), or coach.

We appreciate your continued commitment and support of our student-athletes and MCPS Athletics. Have a safe and relaxing summer!

Montgomery County Public Schools