



INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Make a copy of this Google Doc
- 2) Complete all cells highlighted in blue
- 3) Rename the Doc to match the title of your proposal
- 4) Submit your copy of the completed Doc to superintendent@csdecatur.net

Proposal to Return to In-Person Activity

Submitted by:	Rodney Thomas	Date:	9/08/2020
Title:	Athletics and Activities Director	School:	DHS
Brief title this proposal can be referred to as (try to keep to 5 words or less):			
DHS Varsity Football Return to Play			
Brief description of what is being proposed (try to keep to under 5 sentences):			
I am proposing that the DHS Varsity football team resume practice in early September.			
When do you propose beginning this activity in person, why do you propose that date, and what will the impact be if in-person activity is delayed until after that date?			
I would like the DHS varsity football team to resume practice on or before September 15th. If the football team is not allowed to begin practice at this time, it will be unsafe for them to participate in their first scheduled game on October 2nd. Therefore, the team has less than a month to get properly prepared for this game. Currently the football team has canceled three games. The remaining seven games are all regional games. These games are essential to the team making the State playoffs. The team can not afford to miss any of the remaining games. For the safety and well being of the players, GHSA requires an acclimation period so that football players can get accustomed to wearing pads and a helmet. This acclimation period is five days. However, before the players can start wearing pads and helmets, they must regain their conditioning and "football fitness". Reconditioning may take 5-10 days and the coaches will need almost two weeks to implement plays. Therefore, starting on or before 9/15 is essential to us participating in the 2020 football season.			
Describe the population of people who will be returning to in-person activities (students, staff, age levels, grades, programs, teams, etc.):		Approximately how many people in each of those groups will be impacted by this proposal (students, staff, volunteers, etc.):	
Students grades 9-12. Ages 14-18		35-40 players	

<p>Varsity Football players only. Football Coaching Staff</p>	<p>3 certified staff coaches 1 certified lay coach 3 lay coaches</p>
<p>Describe the <u>benefits</u> of returning to in-person for this activity and the <u>risks</u> of <u>NOT</u> returning to in-person:</p>	<p>Describe the <u>risks</u> of returning to in-person for this activity and the <u>benefits</u> of <u>NOT</u> returning to in-person:</p>
<p>Resuming Fall extracurricular activities will help the social and emotional well being of our student athletes. So much has been taken from these students. The resumption of these activities will give them a healthier attitude about school. It will also allow several of these students the opportunity to receive a scholarship to college which could possibly change their life trajectory. The risks of not returning include a negative mindset towards school, possibly leaving DHS to attend a school where extracurriculars are being held, and the students feeling not valued or appreciated since they will be watching others proceed in their activities while they sit in the wings. The GHSA Football games were held on September 2nd and games took place through Saturday. Several high school games were televised. Our students are watching others participate in the season while they stand in the wings. This is a huge burden for our kids to bear.</p>	<p>The risk of returning is the possible spread of the COVID-19 virus among the football team. The benefit of not returning is that our football team would not have contracted the virus while playing football for DHS. However, there is no guarantee our football players, the coaching staff or our football families will not contract the virus outside of the football program. All we can do is try to mitigate this virus to the best of our abilities.</p>
<p>Describe in detail the protocols, equipment, and other actions that will be implemented to protect the health and safety of the persons involved in this activity:</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DHS Football Conditioning/Practice Protocol</u> Fall 2020</p> <p>Decatur High School Football will follow the safety guidelines provided by Georgia High School Association (GHSA) and CSD policy. The guidelines are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coaches and athletes will have their temperature taken prior to each workout, and will sanitize from the elbow down before entering the field. Anyone with a temperature at 	

or above 100.0 fahrenheit will not be permitted to enter or use facilities. Coaches will administer all temperature checks.

- Athletes will have to complete a short questionnaire related to their health each day (screening). Coaches will keep the forms on file.
- Athletes must bring their own water and water bottles. A water cooler will be cleaned and managed by the Athletic Trainer. Students will not share water bottles or use water fountains.
- Hand Sanitizer will be plentiful and readily available.
- Students will report to the facility dressed to condition. Locker rooms will be used to store and retrieve equipment only. A Custodian or the AAD or Asst AD will spray the locker rooms with a fogger at the end of each day.
- Coaches will use a sprayer filled with disinfectant to clean all equipment before, during and after each workout.
- Social distancing will be adhered to. Athletes will have individually designated areas for breaks and water.
- Masks or face covering will be provided by the Athletic Department. Students will wear masks when not participating in activities during which breathing is severely stressed (i.e. continuous sprints). Coaches and trainers must wear masks at all times.
- Everyone is required to wear a mask when inside the building. Coaches will limit the number of players to 5 at a time while inside the locker room and social distancing will be required.
- Parents and visitors will NOT be allowed at the training sessions.
- Families should communicate with coaches if a student-athlete is not feeling well.

Coaches and Students will enter the field via the side gate on Don Griffin Drive. Athletes will line up 6ft apart to have their temperature checked and to complete necessary forms.

All athletes must have an updated profile on DragonFly with a current physical form and medical information in order to participate.

Describe in detail how the above protocols, equipment, and other actions will be monitored to ensure compliance and fidelity of implementation, including who will be

responsible for each aspect of monitoring:

The football coaches will conduct daily temperature checks as well as monitor the completion of the paperwork. The coaches will also handle the daily spraying of the equipment before, during and after practices. The coaches will also monitor the locker room to ensure that no more than 5 students at a time are in the locker room in order to retrieve their equipment. During practice the coaches will make sure social distancing is being observed. The team will also practice in small groups whenever possible. However, with football being a team sport, the players must come together at times to work on plays and concepts. The Athletic and Activities Director or the Assistant Athletic Director will check in on each practice to make sure all protocols are being properly implemented and to help out with anything if necessary. At the conclusion of each day a custodian or the Athletics and Activities Director or his Assistant will use a fogger to disinfect the locker room. It will be equally important for the coaches to constantly remind the football players about the responsibility they have when they leave the practice field. They must practice COVID safety at all times or risk bringing the virus to their team, their coaches or to their families.

Will this activity be voluntary, compulsory, or socially compulsory? If the answers vary by participant (such as students vs. staff), answer separately for each category of people.

What will happen for those normally involved in this activity if they choose not to participate when it returns to in-person? (Answer separately for each category of people if applicable.)

Voluntary

Any player who does not feel comfortable returning to in person football activities may return to the team whenever, he or she feels comfortable without any repercussions

Describe in detail any interactions this activity will have with others (such as other teams/clubs within the district, other teams/clubs outside the district, etc.), the risks such interactions would introduce, and how those risks will be mitigated.

No interactions with any other team or club either inside or outside the district while practicing.

What other information, not already provided above, needs to be shared with the team evaluating this proposal?

Listed below is the Daily Questionnaire recommended by Dr. Huddleston and Shonda Moore that we were using over the Summer. .

We have an on site trainer who attends every practice and is present at every game. Our trainer also helps mitigate the virus by maintaining sanitary spaces and equipment, while constantly reminding the players and the coaches of the protocols in place.

Finally, every Athletic and Activities Department staff member as well as every head coach has been required to take the NFHS course "COVID-19 For Coaches and Administration". This is a free online course from the National Federation of High Schools.

Daily Workout Questionnaire

Print Name: _____

Please answer yes or no

Daily Workout Questionnaire

Print Name: _____

Please answer yes or no

Now, or within the past 72 hours...

Have you had a fever above 100F? What is your Temperature today?

Have you had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?

o Yes > The person should not be at practice/school. The person can return 14 days after the last time they had close contact with someone with COVID-19, or until they've met CSD/DPH criteria for isolation/quarantine guidelines.

o No > The person can be at school if they are not experiencing symptoms.

Since you were last at school, have you had any of these COVID-like symptoms?

o Fever or chills at or above 100.0 Fahrenheit

- o New cough
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o Fatigue o New loss of taste or smell
- o Sore throat
- o Muscle or body aches (outside of exercise fatigue)
- o Congestion or runny nose
- o Headache
- o Nausea or vomiting
- o Diarrhea
- o Yes > The person should not be at practice/school and they should go home, stay away from other people, and call their health care provider.

Since you were last at school, have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?

- o Yes The person should not be at practice/school and they should go home, stay away from other people until they've met CSD/DPH criteria for isolation/quarantine guide

Proposal Review

Reviewed by CSD COVID Response Team:
 K. Beam, C. Burnett, D. Dude, M. Fehrman, L. Huddleston, E. Melton, S. Moore, S. Perez, R. Thomas

Status:
 Approved
 Denied

Date:
 9/13/2020