

Proposal to Return to In-Person Activity

Submitted by:	Rodney Thomas	Date:	10/09/2020
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 Flag Football Return to Play			
Brief description of what is being proposed (try to keep to under 5 sentences):			
I am proposing that the DHS Flag Football team begin practicing in early October.			
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 Flag Football team to begin practice on October 19th. Beginning this date will allow our athletes enough time to learn about Flag Football and prepare for DHS' first ever Flag Football contest.			
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.):	
Female students grades 9-12. Ages 14-18 Flag Football. Flag Football Coaching Staff		20-25 players (1 certified staff coach, 2 lay coaches, and 1 volunteer)	
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:		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:	
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, connect students with additional supporting adult		The risk of returning is the possible spread of the virus among the team. The benefit of not returning is that our flag football team would not have contracted the virus while playing for DHS. However, there is no guarantee our students, the coaching staff or our football families will not	

role models, and improve academic performance. The risks of not returning include a negative mindset towards school and the students feeling not valued or appreciated since they will be watching others proceed in their activities while they sit in the wings. This is a huge burden for our kids to bear.

contract the virus outside of the program. All we can do is mitigate this virus to the best of our abilities.

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:

DHS Flag Football Conditioning/Practice Protocol **Fall 2020**

Decatur High School Flag Football will follow the safety guidelines provided by Georgia High School Association (GHSA) and CSD policy. The guidelines are as follows:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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 Dr. 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 flag 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. During practice the coaches will make sure social distancing is being observed. The team will also practice in small groups whenever possible. However, with flag 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. It will be equally important for the coaches to constantly remind the students 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 activities may return to the team whenever 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.

The flag football team will be competing against other school districts. If a game situation is deemed unsafe by the Athletic and Activities Director, his Assistant or the Head Flag Football

Coach, the team will be pulled and they will return to the school. The Athletic and Activities Director or his Assistant will attend all games to make sure the environment is safe for our students. The Athletic and Activities Director is in constant communication with Athletic Directors from other districts to ensure they are imposing and enforcing proper COVID protocols.

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. The coaches will use the infrared thermometers to acquire the player's temperature. The player will record his/her daily temp on the questionnaire. Coaches will monitor the completion of the questionnaire. In addition, the Athletic and Activities Department has presented a COVID-19 Waiver to our attorney for review. This waiver could be required of all persons willing to participate in Extracurricular activities.

We have an on site trainer who attends practices and games. 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

Now, or within the past 72 hours...

Do you have a fever of 100F? What is your Temperature today?

Have a cough?

Have a sore throat?

Have any muscle aches?

Have any difficulty breathing?

In the last 14 days, have you or anyone in your household:

Had a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19?

Been tested positive, been advised to be tested or is awaiting test results for COVID-19?

Self-isolated or been directed to quarantine due to COVID-19?

Traveled to a restricted area?

Each individual will be asked the above questions. Any person who answers “yes” to any question will not be permitted to enter or condition.

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:

2020-10-16