



UPPER MORELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

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MICHAEL Q. ROTH, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

LAWRENCE W. CANNON, *PRINCIPAL*

To: Upper Moreland Middle School Parents & Guardians

From: Larry Cannon - Principal of Upper Moreland Middle School

CC: Dena Criss- Assistant Principal, Matt Beyerle - Assistant Principal, Sean Feeley- Assistant Principal UMHS, AD 6-12

Date: September 15, 2020

Re: UMMS 2020 Fall Activities

Parents and Guardians,

I would like to begin by thanking each of you for your patience and understanding as we have worked through the process to determine if we can safely operate a Fall 2020 Athletics and Activities season here at Upper Moreland Middle School. The Middle School Administrative Team, as well as Sean Feeley, the HS Assistant Principal and Athletic Director for grades 6-12, spent the past two weeks reviewing the potential for a middle school fall activities season for the 2020 school year. There were a number of factors that needed to be considered when determining the potential for a middle school sports/activities season during the COVID pandemic which includes but are not limited to; participation of other local schools, the ability to staff activities that will provide a safe and supportive environment for our students, and parent/ student interest. In order to elicit feedback from all of the stakeholders, the Administrative Team surveyed the staff members that were prepared to coach for the fall season, as well as the parents for prospective athletic and band students. Mr. Beyerle and Mr. Feeley have also been participating in bi-weekly Athletic Directors meetings to determine whether a schedule can be developed based upon participation from local schools.

Based on the survey responses and feedback from the local middle school league, we have made the very difficult decision to not run a fall season. At the core of this decision was the health and safety of our students and staff members. It is important to note that this priority of health and safety went beyond the COVID regulations. We needed to ensure we have enough staff each day to run activities safely, while also teaching the skills necessary for our students to grow and learn while participating in their respective activity.

While we are not moving forward with an official fall competition season, Sean Feeley and I have been reaching out to local organizations to provide opportunities for our students to participate in different activities. We are also looking at the opportunity of offering some of our fall activities in the Spring of 2021, which we will work with our coaches and directors on these logistics moving forward and we will provide more details by the end of the calendar year.

We know this decision will not be popular, but please know we looked at every option so that we could offer activities for our students. We are committed and dedicated to working with the community to provide opportunities for your child moving forward. This decision is only for the Fall season and as we continue to work with our staff and local league, we hope to be able to offer opportunities for middle school Athletics and the Arts in the Winter and Spring seasons.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Cannon.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Cannon', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lawrence Cannon

Upper Moreland Middle School Principal