



500 Graves Avenue  
Erlanger, Kentucky 41018-1699  
Phone (859) 727-2009 Fax (859) 727-5653

ERLANGER/ELSMERE SCHOOLS

www.erlanger.kyschools.us

September 1, 2020

Dear EES Families, Staff, and Students:

On August 20, 2020, the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's (KHSAA) Board of Control voted to move forward with fall athletics. I am disappointed in the Board of Control's decision to allow students to engage in high contact, close proximity practices and competitions in sports like football and volleyball despite their own guidance document stating:

"It is thought by our medical advisors that these droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about six feet) for the times specified by the CDC. Risk mitigation strategies should be aimed at reducing the likelihood of a person being exposed to respiratory droplets coming from another person."

If the KHSAA Commissioner and Board of Control truly wanted our fall athletes to have a season this school year, there were many other options available for them to implement other than a business as usual approach. In my opinion, this decision did not take an innovative approach to solving a complex problem and did not consider the health and safety of our student-athletes, coaches, families, and communities amid a global pandemic.

As the superintendent, my first priority for the Erlanger-Elsmere Schools is to facilitate the return of our students to some form of in-person instruction as soon as safely and logistically possible. I will not place student involvement in extra-curricular activities that do not meet the recommendations and best practices of COVID-19 mitigation ahead of that goal. Therefore, the Erlanger-Elsmere Schools will not be practicing or competing in KHSAA high-contact fall sports until we can do so responsibly and safely.

As a former athlete, coach, and Athletic Director, I certainly understand the important role that extra-curricular activities play in our students' lives. Many have expressed concerns over the social/emotional health of student-athletes, and I share these concerns about all students, staff, families, and the community as a whole. With each decision, I want what is best for our entire school family. With that in mind, I am committed to continuing to offer our students access to extra-curricular activities in a safe and responsible manner. We will continue to

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Robin Cooper  
Sarah Meyer  
Jeffrey Miller  
Sarah Shackelford

Chad D. Molley  
Superintendent

Matthew D. Engel  
Assistant Superintendent

Christopher Klosinski  
Director of Special Education  
(859) 342-2427

Lisa Goetz  
Finance Director

Laura Deters  
Chief Information Officer

Shawn Neace  
Director of Pupil Personnel

Michael Goodenough  
Director of District-Wide  
Programs

Al Poweleit  
Instructional Coordinator –  
Student Services

Stefanie Stubblefield  
Instructional Coordinator –  
Technology

Melanie Dowdy  
Health Services Coordinator  
(859) 342-2427

Michael E. Nitardy  
Attorney



500 Graves Avenue  
Erlanger, Kentucky 41018-1699  
Phone (859) 727-2009 Fax (859) 727-5653

ERLANGER/ELSMERE SCHOOLS

www.erlanger.kyschools.us

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Robin Cooper  
Sarah Meyer  
Jeffrey Miller  
Sarah Shackelford

Chad D. Molley  
Superintendent

Matthew D. Engel  
Assistant Superintendent

Christopher Klosinski  
Director of Special Education  
(859) 342-2427

Lisa Goetz  
Finance Director

Laura Deters  
Chief Information Officer

Shawn Neace  
Director of Pupil Personnel

Michael Goodenough  
Director of District-Wide  
Programs

Al Poweleit  
Instructional Coordinator –  
Student Services

Stefanie Stubblefield  
Instructional Coordinator –  
Technology

Melanie Dowdy  
Health Services Coordinator  
(859) 342-2427

Michael E. Nitardy  
Attorney

allow our fall sports to conduct sessions using the KHSAA Segment 3 guidance, which includes; screening and exclusion, masking, social distancing, hand hygiene, and ten person pods as mitigation strategies against the spread of the virus. We are also developing a calendar to begin working with our middle school fall athletes following the KHSAA Segment 1, 2, and 3 guidance.

This is not the outcome any of us wanted, but I believe it is the right decision. We simply cannot jeopardize the health and safety of our students, staff, and their families. My team and I will continue to evaluate this situation and look forward to the day when we can responsibly allow our students to compete safely.

Sincerely,

Chad D. Molley  
Superintendent