

Dear Parents,

Increased participation in ZCS sports at the junior high level has provided a positive impact on the skill and success for our high school sports program.

Even though our junior high numbers are up, our high schools rosters have typically remained on the small side. However, there are some teams and sports that have increased participation, which is why I am sending this letter. Due to an increased number of athletes participating, certain sports cuts might be necessary to keep our teams at an effective size.

In order to keep the playing field level, I want to make you aware of several items that will affect your son or daughter. It is very important that your child be at the first week of practice to allow the coaches to have a meaningful way to evaluate each athlete. If your child is not there during the high school-team evaluation period, it will impact his or her ability to make the team.

High school practices begin the second week of August, and middle school practices begin the third or fourth week of August. If you are planning a summer vacation and you have a student-athlete, it would be most helpful if you could schedule your vacation prior to the first day of practice.

Additionally, the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) is getting very strict about sports physicals. In the past, we have allowed students to practice even though their physical was not turned in to the school. Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, each athlete must turn in his or her sports physical on or before the first day of practice/tryouts. If they do not have it, they will not be allowed to practice. Also, all physicals for the next school year must be administered after April 15. For example, a sports physical for the 2018-19 school year must happen AFTER April 15, 2018. Any physical prior to that date would only be good for the 2017-18 school year.

Thank you for your time and attention to these sports updates. Feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns.

Best Regards,

Joel Bont
AD Zion Christian