

# POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOME OF THE TIDE!



## Interscholastic Athletic's Guide to Parent Communication

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## Pottsville Area School District Interscholastic Athletic Philosophy

The School District recognizes the value of interscholastic athletics and understands it is an integral part of the total school experience for all District students as a conduit for community involvement. The program fosters the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and stimulates community interest. The games, activities and practice sessions provide opportunities to teach transferable skills such as competition, sportsmanship and teamwork.

### Objectives for School, Student Body, and Community

1. Sportsmanship, fair play, and good school citizenship should be objectives of all athletic programs.
2. Athletics should be the means of promoting school morale.
3. All opposing coaches, spectators, officials and visiting teams should be treated as guests.

### Pottsville Area School District

Superintendent: Dr. Sarah Yoder  
High School Principal: Mrs. Tiffany Hummel  
Middle School Principal: Dr. Caitlin Mohl

[www.pottsvilleathletics.org](http://www.pottsvilleathletics.org)



### Expectations of Parents and Guardians

1. Support your son or daughter's efforts and commitment.
2. Promote a positive environment.
3. Become familiar with the rules governing your child's sport.
4. Communicate in a timely manner, using the District chain of command.
5. Treat all coaching and administrative personnel with respect and insist your son or daughter do the same.



## Parent/Coach Communication

Parent and coach communication is important to maintaining smooth operations in high school sports. By establishing an understanding of each perspective, we can provide a better environment for our athletes. Parents and guardians have a right to understand the expectations coaches have for their students who are involved in athletics. Coaches have a responsibility to communicate these expectations as clearly as possible.

### Communication to Expect From Your Child's Coach

1. Philosophy of the coach for the program.
2. Expectations the coaches have for your child and all players on the team.
3. Locations and times for all practices and games.
4. Team requirements like special equipment, off-season sport specific training expectations, weight training and conditioning needs.
5. Risk of injury associated with playing each sport.
6. Discipline policy, team rules, and consequences.

## CHAIN OF COMMAND

Head Coach  
Athletic Director  
High School Principal  
Superintendent

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## Communication Coaches Expect from Parents/Guardians

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of scheduling conflicts as far ahead as possible.
3. Questions about team philosophy or expectations as they relate to your child.

Interscholastic programs at Pottsville Area will provide some of the most rewarding experiences in your child's young life. Part of the growth process is dealing with adversity. Whether it is experiencing an injury, defeat in contests, or not getting as much playing time as you might like, things may not always go your way.

### Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. The physical and mental treatment of your child.
2. Understanding ways for your child to improve in the off season.
3. Concerns about your child's health, behavior, or attitude.

Athletic Office: 570-621-2977

## Issues Not Appropriate for Discussion

1. Playing time
2. Team Strategy and play-calling
3. Other student athletes.

### Procedures for Dealing with Concerns

1. If possible, your child should discuss the issue with the respective coach. Many problems can be resolved at this step.
2. If the problem is not resolved, parents and guardians have the ability to schedule a meeting with the coaching staff. Coaches will meet with parents at a time that is convenient for both parties.
3. Coaches are instructed not to engage in problem solving efforts immediately before, during or after competitions, games, or practices.
4. If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved through the coach, the parent or guardian may request to meet according to the official chain of command.(From coaches, the chain progresses like this: athletic director, high school principal, and finally the superintendent. If you approach a step out of sequence, you will be referred to the appropriate contact.

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