

Franklin Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent 355 East Central Street; Suite 3 Franklin, Massachusetts 02038 Phone: 508-553-4819

Dear Franklin Community,

As our teams continue through their regular seasons, I want to remind our community of the behavioral expectations at events to avoid any incidents that could be prevented. We expect our athletes to demonstrate sportsmanship on the field and our fans to exhibit respectful behavior from the stands. We enlist your support in reinforcing the expectations below.

A. Fan Behavioral Expectations

Fan cheering is welcomed and, when it's done in good taste, contributes to a positive game environment. Inappropriate chants, excessive jeering, and offensive remarks do not represent our values. We are proud to share that the majority of our students have acted appropriately this season. Unfortunately, inappropriate behavior from an individual creates a negative impression of themselves and can also reflect poorly on Franklin High School, Franklin Public Schools, and the Town of Franklin. The school administration spends a significant amount of time investigating incidents that occur at our athletic events.

Fan Expectations

- 1. Demonstrate appropriate behavior at sporting events by following the <u>FHS Fan/Spectator Expectations</u> and the <u>Hockomock League Fan Expectations</u>.
- 2. Taunts, offensive slurs, or other behaviors deemed inappropriate by an administrator will not be tolerated, and violators will be removed from the event.

B. Middle/Elementary School Student Attendance at Varsity Athletic Events

We have seen an increase in elementary and middle school students attending FHS athletic events over the years which we welcome as a positive sign of team support. Last year we saw an increase in students leaving designated fan sections. For example, last Fall, large groups of middle school students gathered in the area behind the home bleachers during varsity football games. This area is largely unmonitored and it led to reports of unexpected behaviors. We do not have the capacity to monitor students in these areas throughout the event.

Middle/Elementary Student Expectations

- 1. Middle/Elementary school students must enter the event with an adult and be monitored at all times.
- 2. Students who attend an event without an adult will be picked up by their parent/quardian.
- 3. The area behind the home bleachers is off-limits. Students found gathering will be asked to return to the stands.
- 4. No bikes are allowed in or around the stadium (including the track and walkways).

Let's partner together as the Franklin community and build upon our reputation for being strong competitors and respectful fans.

Respectfully,

Lucas Biguere
Superintendent of Schools