

Matthew W. Stover, Ed.D.
Superintendent



DeAnna C. Finger
Asst. Superintendent
Curriculum & Instruction

L. Chris Gibbs
Asst. Superintendent
Human Resources

Dan K. Moore
Asst. Superintendent
Operations

CATAWBA COUNTY SCHOOLS
Informed Consent
Athletic and Extracurricular Activities / COVID-19
(Updated December 7, 2020)

Name of Student _____ (Please Print)

Dear Parents & Legal Guardians,

Thank you for your continued patience and trust as we work to make in-person educational, athletic and extracurricular activities available to your student. The health and safety of your student and our community is our top priority. With the evolving situation around COVID-19, we want to make sure you and your student know the best ways to protect yourselves and others when participating in voluntary, extracurricular activities, including athletic activities.

As with the transmission of any communicable disease like a cold or the flu, you and your student may be exposed to COVID-19, also known as "coronavirus," at any time or in any place. Be assured that we will continue to follow state and federal recommendations to limit transmission of COVID-19. All protocols are being vetted with local health officials prior to in-person activities. The coach or sponsor of your student's extra-curricular activity will review with your student the appropriate requirements and protocols for maintaining a safe and healthy environment.

However, even with careful attention to recommended precautions, there is still a chance that you or your student could be exposed to an illness while participating in athletic and extracurricular activities, just as you might be at your place of work, grocery store, or favorite restaurant. Additionally, although measures are being taken to increase physical distancing, due to the nature of athletic and extracurricular activities, it may not always be possible to maintain physical distancing between students, staff, and parents. In short, there are no guarantees that your student will not be exposed to COVID-19 during in-person athletic and extracurricular activities sponsored by Catawba County Schools.

Again, participation in athletic and extracurricular activities is voluntary; it is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, the school system is requiring that you agree to the following as a condition of your student's participation in the school system's athletics and extracurricular activities:

1. Participation in voluntary extracurricular activities includes possible exposure to and illness from communicable diseases, including but not limited to a common cold, influenza, and COVID-19. While physical distancing may reduce this risk, there are unique health risks due

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- to COVID-19, including serious illness and death, especially to those with underlying health conditions;
2. The school system may, in its discretion, require your student to allow his/her temperature to be taken, answer basic health screening questions, **and conduct and require your student to submit to specimen collection and testing for COVID-19 through a nasal swab;** and
 3. Any other safety requirements or protocols issued by the school system as a condition of your student's participation in athletics and extracurricular activities.

Parent / Guardian Agreement:

I have read the contents of this Informed Consent to my student, including the risks of COVID-19 and participating in athletic and extracurricular activities and my student's personal responsibilities for adhering to all of the school system's requirements for participation.

By signing below, I agree that I have read and understood this Informed Consent. By my signature below, I also agree that I am accepting the inherent risk of my student voluntarily engaging in the school system's extracurricular activities. If the student resides in two or more households, my signature also confirms that a minimum of one responsible parent or guardian has signed from each household.

Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian #1

Parent/Legal Guardian #1 Signature (if student is under 18)

Date

Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian #2

Parent/Legal Guardian #2 Signature (if student is under 18)

Date

Student Signature

Date