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## Important Community Message Regarding Protocols at DCS Extracurricular Events

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Wed, Sep 21, 2022 at 3:54 PM

Good Afternoon, DCS Community.

It is with pride that we gather at our fields, in our gyms, in our centers, and in our stadiums to support our students in their extracurricular activities. We have incredibly talented students, coaches, teachers, and directors who amaze us with their gifts, grit, and dedication.

While we sport our DreadStrong signage and spirit wear, we ask for a pause to think about the true meaning of DreadStrong. As a school district, we strive to Develop, Educate, and Inspire our students to become competent, creative, collaborative, and kind adults. As a community who cares about our kids, we need your help. We all play a role in modeling and reinforcing expectations of responsible, respectful, and most importantly, safe behaviors in our schools and community, including on and off the field of competition and performance.

The possession and/or consumption of alcohol or tobacco on school grounds is against the law. At Dexter Community Schools, we must follow the law and we are asking for your support. Alcohol, even for adults, is not permitted on DCS property – buildings, parking lots, and fields. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a drug-, tobacco-, and alcohol-free school.

During cleanup of Al Ritt Stadium after our recent home varsity football game, alcohol and tobacco use was evident. This is unsafe and unacceptable. DHS Parents - we ask that you speak with your student(s) about the use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. These activities are illegal and dangerous for students and can have lifelong consequences. We care about our kids and want them to be safe. Please partner with us in this effort.

Sadly, it has been reported that some of the empty alcohol containers were potentially the result of adults attending the game. Please remember that our students are present and our athletes are on the field. Drinking alcohol, for anyone of any age, is not appropriate at a high school game or performance.

It's a privilege to attend extracurricular events at DCS. Please note the following requirements for spectators and families at events on our campus:

- Children grades 6 and below attending a DCS extracurricular event need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
- Only those authorized by the Athletics Director, DHS Principal, or Superintendent are permitted to enter the field/coaching area of a DCS athletic event.
- Backpacks, large bags, and opened drinking containers are not permitted at DCS extracurricular events.
- Re-entry into events at Al Ritt Stadium or the DHS gymnasium is not permitted.

We appreciate the partnership and support that the community of Dexter offers our young people. Our students, coaches, teachers, and directors are grateful for the outpouring of love. Thank you for supporting our young people through these additional steps towards safety.

Go Dreads!

Christopher Timmis, DCS Superintendent  
Michael Bavineau, Athletic Director  
Melanie Nowak, DHS Principal