

The background of the slide features a blurred photograph of a school building with a prominent tower on the right side. In the foreground, there is a sports field with a blue and white court or track area. The overall scene is captured in a wide-angle shot, slightly out of focus to emphasize the text.

Springfield Public Schools 2020 Fall Athletics & Field Usage

**Presentation to the Board of Education
September 14, 2020**

Fall Athletics: Decision Guidance

- ★ NJ State Interscholastics Athletics Association (NJSIAA)
 - ▶ August 20th NJSIAA Advisory Task Force Guidance Released
- ★ Union County Athletic Conference
 - ▶ September 4th following guidelines from the NJSIAA the UCC announces it's "Event Management Guidelines."
- ★ Big Central Football Conference
 - ▶ September 5th in concert with the UCC and NJSIAA, the BCC releases it's "Football Gameday Guidelines."



Fall Sports: High School Only

- ★ Cross-Country (Coed)
 - ▶ September 14th- November 15th
- ★ Football
 - ▶ September 14th- November 15th
- ★ Soccer (Boys and Girls)
 - ▶ September 14th- November 15th
- ★ Girls Tennis
 - ▶ September 14th- November 15th
- ★ Cheerleading (Home Games Only)
 - ▶ September 14th- November 15th

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Fall Sports

- ★ Students **will not** be allowed to practice or to observe practice if they have not been medically cleared.



Athletics Health & Safety Protocols (1 of 3)

- ★ Approved Face Masks: Required at all times, except while students are playing on the field
- ★ Screening:
 - ▶ All participants will submit a daily COVID-19 Screening questionnaire via OnCourse or Google Forms.
 - ▶ Out of district personnel will have access to an independent Screening Questionnaire.
 - ▶ A temperature check will take place prior to any activity each day.
- ★ Transportation
 - ▶ Face coverings will be worn at all times
 - ▶ Daily screening will occur prior to boarding any bus.
 - ▶ Teams will limit travel to essential players and staff.
 - ▶ Teams should consider parental transportation.



Athletics Health & Safety Protocols (2 of 3)

★ Hygiene

- ▶ Hand sanitizer will be accessible at all times
- ▶ Workout apparel or uniforms shall not be left at the school after any type of participation. Athletes will be responsible for laundering and maintaining cleanliness of school issued equipment.
- ▶ Tennis and Cheerleader athletes/ coaches will apply hand sanitizer pre and post practice/ competition.
- ▶ Soccer and Football athletes/ coaches will wear athletic gloves for all athletic activities.

★ Sanitation Protocols

- ▶ There shall be no spitting, chewing seeds, or gum chewing during games or practices
- ▶ Facilities must be cleaned and sanitized in accordance with CDC and EPA guidelines.
- ▶ Equipment will be sanitized by the coaching staff after each athletic event.



Athletics Health & Safety Protocols (3 of 3)

★ Hydration

- ▶ Athletes will be required to bring a personal water bottle with 32 ounces of fluid.
- ▶ There will be no sharing of water bottles or use of hydration stations.
- ▶ Each team will have 1 cooler for refilling individual bottles.

★ Athletic Training Protocols

- ▶ The athletic training room will not be used during the fall season. Student athletes in need of medical attention will be treated on-field/outdoors.
- ▶ Injury ice and access to hydration will be provided in a supervised and socially distanced fashion.



Additional Guidance for Games

★ Home Games:

- ▶ Visiting teams will be screened prior to arriving to SPS facilities.
- ▶ Visiting teams will use their buses as structures/facilities.
- ▶ Outside of play, there will be no interaction between visiting teams.

★ Games as Visitor:

- ▶ When traveling, JDHS athletes will meet at the school to be screened prior to departing.
- ▶ All individuals involved in athletics will be required to wear a face mask while involved in any school-sponsored event.
- ▶ Parent/family transportation will be encouraged

★ Social distancing practices must be observed to the fullest extent possible.

- ▶ Half time will be observed at opposite ends of the field.
- ▶ Post-game handshakes are prohibited



Spectator Guidelines

★ Home Games

- ▶ All spectators attending outdoor events must wear face coverings.
- ▶ Spectators must follow social distancing guidelines.

★ Football & Soccer (Based on Facility Maximums)

- ▶ JDHS Field: 54 on home side, 32 on opposing side
- ▶ FMG Field: 50 seats total
- ▶ Based on social distancing maximum capacity limits at our facilities hosting Soccer & Football events
 - At Varsity events: tickets will be first provided to SENIOR Parents
 - At JV events: entrance will closed when the maximum number of spectators has been reached.
- ▶ We are working on a plan to livestream the home games so that all families and community members can watch our games.

★ Tennis:

- ▶ Spectators will not be permitted in the tennis facility. Spectators may view tennis matches from the parking area maintaining social distancing and face mask protocols.



Marching Band & Cheerleaders

★ Cheerleading:

- ▶ Cheerleaders will not travel to away football games.
- ▶ Home games may have cheerleaders present.
- ▶ A designated area will be established outside of the football team coaches box will be observed.
- ▶ Must practice social distancing during performance.
- ▶ No halftime performance permitted
- ▶ No “stunting” permitted

★ Marching Band:

- ▶ Due to restrictions on particular instruments, field movement, and seating capacity, the Marching Band will not be performing at games during the Fall season.



Use of Facilities & Fields

★ Tennis Courts

- ▶ Waiver/release must be completed prior to receiving approval to use courts
- ▶ Badge issuance thru Superintendent's office
- ▶ When using court, adhere to Athletic Department procedures

★ Football & Soccer Fields

- ▶ Permit seekers must indemnify Springfield BOE
- ▶ Permit seekers must agree to same protocols established by the athletic department
- ▶ Face mask – required at all times
- ▶ Anyone using the facility must certify:
 - A questionnaire was taken by the group (recreation/association)
 - Temperatures are check by the group (recreation/association)
 - The certification sent/received prior to use, the day of use

★ Permit Requests

- ▶ Contact the Building & Grounds Department to schedule

★ Spectator Guidelines & Requirements

- ▶ Adhere to game procedures established by the Athletic Department
- ▶ Face coverings are mandated for all spectators
- ▶ All spectators must comply with social distancing requirements

- ★ **Springfield Board of Education reserves the right to cancel permits based on directives from the NJDOH, NJDOE, local health officials, and/or Non-compliance with any of the protocols.**



Cancellation Decisions

- ★ The Governor issues orders and/or the NJSIAA announces cancellation of the season.
- ★ Other schools in the conference cancel, impacting the game schedule.
- ★ If a coach or a student tests positive, practices and/or games will be cancelled for a minimum of 2 days immediately following notification of a positive result.
- ★ If more than one student or coach tests positive within a 5-day period, the sport program will be cancelled for the remainder of the season.

