



BURGETTSTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mr. Stephen P. Puskar Superintendent

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This has been a difficult week for Blue-Devil football. The week began with one student testing positive for Covid-19. We are now at the point where more players have tested positive and several others are either quarantined or are awaiting test results. In a game-time situation, decisions would be made such that the next man on the depth chart would step up and fill in. Indeed, as long as there are 11 healthy players on a team, the game can go on. We are not in the middle of a game, a time where we have to substitute players on the fly. While we certainly have more than 11 healthy players, this week's game has not yet occurred and we have a responsibility to be proactive and to assess our situation heading into this evening's game.

After considering where we stand from a Covid-19 health standpoint, an injury perspective, and a preparation perspective (preparation that was stunted because of the unfolding Covid-related events) we are exercising caution and withdrawing from this evening's scheduled football game against Rochester. Additionally, we are assessing our ability to safely resume practice in preparation for our next game. We hope that today's pause will be a short lived one and the season will be able to resume soon.

We know that decisions like the decision to cancel a game are not popular, and sometimes create more questions than answers. We respect that. We understand. We feel badly for the student-athletes, especially the seniors, because there are only so many opportunities they have to compete before their scholastic athletic participation comes to a close. We are also not always in the position to explain every nuance that goes into our decisions in a letter such as this, or in a brief social media post. If you do have questions or concerns about this decision, please feel free to reach out to our Athletic Director Kevin Krzczowski or our MS/HS Principal, Brian Fadden, and they will be more than happy to spend some time with you. Finally, please know that I am only a phone call, e-mail, or in-person meeting away, and will gladly discuss the situation to the degree that I am able, without breaking student confidentiality.