



SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Deborah Judy, Superintendent

May 6, 2026

RE: Middle School Sports 2026-27 School Year

Dear 5th, 6th and 7th grade families,

I am writing with an update on middle school sports for the 2026-27 school year.

In my letter dated February 11, 2026, the district indicated sports would be offered at Clayton Middle School and 6th grade students would be eligible to participate in all sports except football, in accordance with DIAA regulations. This remained our plan unless unforeseen circumstances arose.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances that have since emerged, including operational and financial considerations, the district must make the difficult decision not to offer full middle school sports schedules at both schools for the 2026-27 school year. Clayton Middle and Smyrna Middle students will combine as one team representing the entire district. This adjustment will allow us to continue offering all middle school sports opportunities while also realizing important cost savings and making the most efficient use of district resources.

Please know that all middle school sports will be offered, and all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students-athletes will have the opportunity to tryout and participate in every sport for which they are eligible. To support participation for students at both schools, the district will provide transportation between Clayton Middle School and Smyrna Middle School, depending on where the teams practice and play.

We are currently developing a schedule that will allow some teams to be based at Clayton Middle School and others at Smyrna Middle School. This approach will help maximize the efficient use of our fields and gymnasiums while also providing the community with opportunities to utilize and engage with both facilities.

We understand the importance of athletics in our students' middle school experience and remain committed to providing meaningful opportunities for participation, teamwork, and school pride. As we move forward, the district will continue to make the necessary financial adjustments and operational plans needed to work toward initiating a full slate of sports at both schools in the following school year.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

The Smyrna School District is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against employees, applicants, visitors, or others, and does not deny access to educational or other services, based on any characteristic prohibited by law.