

August 3, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child expressed interest in playing softball /baseball and/or may participate in a MSHSAA recognized activity later in the year. MSHSAA recognized activities include baseball/softball, JH and Varsity basketball, Choir, Band, Academic Bowl, JH and Varsity Cheerleading, JH and Varsity Track and/or participate in the A+ Program. The first practices for softball/baseball will be held on August 10th. Softball practice will be from 7-9 am that morning and baseball practice will be from 9-11 am. Every athlete must have an updated physical in order to be able to begin practice. The physical must be completed on the MSHSAA form. Physical forms are available at the school and can be picked up Monday – Thursday from 8am -3pm. Please bring your physical to the first practice. Physicals are good for two years now. If you did not have a physical last year, you will need a physical this year.

Instead of an athletic meeting this year, the athletic handbook can be viewed online or you can request a printed copy of it. The drug testing policy and concussion information will be included in each student's beginning of the year informational folder. In the folder there will be a form that you can sign saying that you have viewed the appropriate handbooks online. You will also need to review all of the printed materials and sign and return all necessary forms. It will be mandatory that all forms are signed by a parent/guardian and the student and turned in before a student will be allowed to participate in a competition. The student may practice without the forms being turned in but will not be allowed to participate in competitions.

When reviewing the Linn Co. R-1 High School Athletic, Club and Activity handbook with your student (s), please pay special attention to pgs. 3, 9-10, and 13-14. Page 3 contains basic guidelines for participation and school rules. It outlines school attendance, detentions and team rules. On page 9-10 under Athletics the handbook has guidelines for parents/spectators. Pages 13-14 contain some very important information under General Rules for all Athletic Sports, Organizations, and extra-curricular activities. This section discusses eligibility, attendance, and transportation to and from activities. Also beginning at the bottom of the page is the extra-curricular code of conduct according to MSHSAA. This outlines guidelines for a student that has charges filed by law enforcement authorities, student responsibility for self- reporting and consequences for violation of a variety of rules.

The drug testing policy has a few changes from last year. Students participating in the A+ program must also participate in the drug testing program beginning this year. Pages 3-6 cover the consent form, confidentiality, procedure and consequences. The last page is the signature page that must be returned. Please review it with your student(s) carefully and sign and return the form to the office. Also included in the folder is a concussion informational handout. Please review the information with your student(s). More information on concussions can be viewed at www.mshsaa.org or NFHS.com. On the MSHSAA website, click the sports medicine tab at the top of the page and there is a concussion link and a link to NFHS information.

If you have any questions or concerns with any of the above mentioned materials, please contact me at (660) 244-5035 or e-mail me at cgray@linnr1.k12.mo.us.

Sincerely,

Candi Gray