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Karen E. Arnold, Director of Interscholastic Athletics

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Dear Pittsburgh Public Schools Families,

It is our utmost priority to maintain a safe and respectful environment for all students, staff, and visitors at athletic competitions, including sporting events at Cupples Stadium. Pittsburgh Public Schools believes sportsmanship is the most important aspect of interscholastic athletics, and good sportsmanship exemplifies positive support for Interscholastic Athletics.

We expect good sportsmanship values from spectators, too. The values include not condoning or performing actions meant to demean or disrupt players, spectators, coaches, officials, and the public at large. These actions will not be tolerated at any Pittsburgh Public Schools sporting event. This includes behavior outside of the stadium, such as loitering, fighting, disorderly conduct, and disturbing the peace. During the current football season, we have experienced several incidents that violate the health and safety of everyone involved.

If your child(ren) plans to visit Cupples Stadium, please encourage them to leave the stadium immediately after the game and travel home. The Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) has buses staged outside of the stadium to transport students Downtown or eastbound down Carson Street to get them home safely.

We also ask for your support in reinforcing these sportsmanship values at home. Please take a moment to discuss the importance of respectful behavior with your child(ren) and emphasize the consequences of their actions on the broader school community.

Students who violate the PPS Student Code of Conduct may be banned from the stadium, face school-based disciplinary actions, and/or citations from city police for incidents outside the stadium. Please also note that if your child is suspended from school, they are not permitted to attend school-sponsored functions (including sporting events) on the days of their suspension.

The District is prepared to enact preventive measures to minimize or limit such incidents from happening in the future, including required parent supervision and restricting the number of spectators.

We are committed to ensuring that Cupples Stadium and the surrounding South Side area remain a safe and welcoming place for all. If you have any concerns or questions related to this incident or our response, please contact the Office of Interscholastic Athletics at athletics@pghschools.org. We value open communication with our parents and are here to address your concerns.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Arnold
Director of Interscholastic Athletics

www.pghschools.org
Parent Hotline: 412-529-HELP (4357)

The Pittsburgh Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, creed, religion, sex, gender (including gender identity or expression), sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy, or disability in its programs, activities or employment and provides equal access to designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services at 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 or (412) 529-HELP (4357).