



Dear DHS and HRMS Communities,

This email is about attending home athletic contests at Danvers High School. This Friday, September 22nd, we will have our first home football game. We want to support our team as they represent our school and community. This is a good time to review our expectations for attending DHS and HRMS school events. Students are subject to all rules and expectations as stated in the student handbooks.

As members of our schools, supporting our athletic teams should be structured around:

1. Participating in positive cheers that encourage our athletes.
2. Discouraging any cheers that would redirect that focus—including those that taunt and intimidate opponents, their fans and officials.
3. Learning and understanding the rules of the game, and respecting the officials who administer them.
4. Respecting opponents as fellow students and acknowledging their efforts.
5. Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances.

With respect to athletic events, the MIAA is very clear on their policy with regards to taunting and sportsmanship. This policy applies to spectators as well as players and coaches calling out opposing players in competition. “Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players, or spectators which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule or demean others, whether or not the deeds or words are vulgar or racist. Included is conduct that berates, needles, intimidates or threatens based on race, gender, ethnic origin or background, and conduct that attacks religious beliefs, size, economic status, speech, family, special needs or personal matters.” **This behavior is not acceptable and can lead to ejection from the game and potential bans from future events.**

Our students represent our school when they attend an athletic event, or any co-curricular event. Their actions are viewed by family and friends, opposing fans, the local community and the media. Positive displays of good sportsmanship will demonstrate the most positive things about our students and school. We are proud of our schools and community and wish to support our talented students in a constructive manner.

We all want our students to be supportive and enjoy DHS and HRMS events. However, it is important to understand that all DHS and HRMS events fall under our code of conduct. It is essential that as a school community, we understand the importance for our students to be responsible when attending school events. For parents and guardians, please take time to review this letter with your child. **Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the venue and tickets will NOT be refunded. Consistent disruptive behavior will result in being banned from attending all athletic events.**

Sincerely,

Adam Federico

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