



## **Press Release –September 10, 2020**

Northland Pines School Board has committed to providing the opportunity for high school athletics to our student athletes. Similar to the education of our students, our goal is to provide this opportunity while remaining with in-person learning and sports.

In cooperation with the Vilas County Health Department and administration, we have determined that we need to limit the capacity of our spectators to provide for the safety of fans, student athletes and coaches. Our goal is to keep all events at a capacity of less than 250 spectators. This will be done by giving each student-athlete, coach, & manager four (4) ticket vouchers for them to distribute to family and/or friends. We understand that many of our faithful community members who have come out to support our events in the past may not be able to see our teams play this Fall; we hope to see everyone back at a future date.

When spectators attend with their voucher, they will be required to wear masks, follow social distancing, handwashing and hand sanitizing safety protocols. These are the same procedures that we use at school as recommended by the Vilas County Health Department. Another safety procedure to reduce the risk of infection is that, just for the Fall season, we are not going to charge for games; this is to reduce the instances of transferring items and money between persons at the events.

All spectators traveling outside of their county or area should take the time to review that county's current status of cases of COVID-19. You can find information on each county's health department's web pages. Also understand that each school district has their own specific safety procedures related to COVID-19.

We are exploring other options for people who are not able to attend, or who choose to attend in a different format, due to lack of space or for their own safety. The district and our student-athletes have appreciated all of the support in hopes of getting back to a normal time; however, just like in most parts of our lives, we need to make changes for the short term to give these student-athletes these opportunities. We thank the community and spectators for your understanding and cooperation as we work together to protect the health and safety of everyone involved in our Fall sports.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact either of the following:

Brian Margelofsky, Activities Director at 715-479-6286, Ext. 1

Scott Foster, District Administrator at 715-479-6487, Ext.1