

FORRESTON JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

November 18, 2020

Parents/Guardians,

The Athletic/Activities Department at FJSHS continues to navigate the changing landscape of the pandemic and its effects on our ability to conduct sports & activities. With the recent changes from the Governor's office of Tier 3 mitigations to begin at 12:01 am on Friday, November 20th the IHSA released the following statement yesterday:

"The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) recognizes that today's announcement by Governor Pritzker will temporarily pause the IHSA's winter sports season. We remain optimistic that these new mitigations, coupled with the emergence of a vaccine, will aid in creating participation opportunities in the New Year for IHSA student-athletes in winter, spring, and summer sports. The IHSA Board of Directors will meet as scheduled on November 19, 2020, to continue plotting out potential paths for IHSA sport and activity participation through the remainder of the school year. Although representatives from the Governor's office and the Illinois Department of Public Health will be unable to attend the meeting, today's updated guidance from Governor Pritzker will aid the Board's decision-making. We have asked Deputy Governor Ruiz and Dr. Ezike to engage with us in the near future, so that we can collaborate on developing a plan to safely conduct IHSA sports and activities as soon as possible. IHSA schools have been exemplary in adhering to state regulations throughout this pandemic and we hope that non-school programs will hold themselves to the same standard as we all put the long-term health and safety of our fellow citizens ahead of short-term athletic competition."

This notification from IHSA & the Governor's office indicating the "pause" of the IHSA winter season affects all of our winter activities (basketball, swimming, cheer, dance, & academic bowl). As a reminder, high school wrestling was already moved to a start date of April 19th and junior high wrestling dates are to be determined. Effective Friday, November 20, in accordance with the Governor's office, IDPH, ISBE, & IHSA, the winter activities will be on pause until we receive further guidance.

We remain hopeful we can offer sports in a safe and proper manner and we will share any additional information as soon as it becomes available. Please continue to do your part to provide our students the best chances of playing competitions yet this season.

Thank you and be safe,

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Kyle Zick

Activities Director/Assistant Principal

Head Football Coach