



Dear Bulldog Parents:

As the summer draws to a close, our thoughts would normally be focused on the new school year. Student athletes would be braving the summer heat – throwing, kicking, catching and hitting balls and running, jumping and training with teammates in preparation for Fall competition. Unfortunately, the COVID pandemic means returning student athletes and incoming freshman vying to begin their Churchill athletic careers, find themselves without the opportunity to compete on the field and build lasting friendships with teammates.

Churchill coaches are actively thinking about pathways for students' return to sports. And conversations will continue about how to create innovative ways to keep athletes engaged. The Booster Club will support these plans as they roll out – through the work of many active and dedicated parent volunteers and student athletes.

While the pandemic has significantly impacted all of us, it's our hope that brighter skies are ahead. Athletics are instrumental to our children's mental and physical well-being. We have enjoyed seeing our athletes running through our neighborhoods; meeting up safely to shoot goals and shoot hoops; and hearing about creative ways they've been able to stay in shape.

Our collective goal is for Bulldog athletes to return to competition during the second semester. And to be clear, it is our hope that Fall and Winter sports will be able to compete in the first quarter of 2021. With guidance from the Board of Education, MCPS, and our state and local health officials, we look forward to being able to host spirited competition in our gymnasiums and pools and on our fields and track – led in a safe manner for all participants.

The Booster Club and the Churchill Athletic Department is focused on ensuring our athletes will continue to have all of the necessary things to compete at the highest possible level once their season begins. Given the budgetary challenge that the Athletic Department will face during the coming year, the Booster Club will play a critical role in providing supplemental resources to help offset these economic challenges. This, coupled with the existing financial responsibility that the Booster Club has in resourcing the field maintenance for the Churchill fields, we have decided to kick-off a virtual Booster Club membership campaign. **Your membership in the Booster Club is critical to ensuring Bulldog sports have these necessary resources.**

Our goal is to have active participation from all Bulldog team families – as well as support from our community partners – who continue to generously support our programs. As an incentive, the Booster Club **will donate 15% of each team's revenue back to a team's individual account**. Please encourage parents of returning athletes – and freshman families – to join us in this nontraditional campaign kick-off. As an added challenge, **any team that has 100% participation** from returning families, will receive a \$300 bonus credited back to their team account. **This is a critical year and we cannot provide the critical support needed to launch sports programs without your help.** [Sign up here](#) to support our Bulldogs!

Thank you in advance for your help and support. We wish our families health and safety as we navigate these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Rob Demske
President
WCHS Booster Club

Jesse Smith
Athletics Specialist
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