



WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

A regular meeting of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School Committee was held remotely on **Wednesday, December 9, 2020** via ZOOM Teleconferencing per Governor Baker's Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20.

Members Present: Charlie LaBella Ron Fitzgerald Ben Fichera
Richard Early Lisa O'Connor JoAnn Testaverde
Brett Murphy Johanna True Chip O'Connor
Dave Irving Garry James

Members Absent: Paul Tucker, Scott Wood, Tony LeSage

Others Present: Maureen Lynch, Superintendent
Kara Kosmes, Business Manager
Chris Laganas, Principal
Alyssa Michel, Student Representative

Mr. Murphy stated that the meeting was being recorded and held remotely via ZOOM Teleconferencing. Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 20, the public was not allowed to physically access the meeting. However, Public Comment was made available via email in advance of the meeting start time and/or prior to Public Comment. The meeting was available for the public to view live via: <https://www.youtube.com/c/WhittierTechHighSchool> Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Mr. Murphy took attendance. Mr. Murphy began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Murphy asked if there was any public comment. Mr. Murphy stated that 11 emails were received from relatives of the Whittier hockey team. Mr. Murphy stated that they were all about the same issue and will all go into the record (see attached emails). Mr. Murphy read the first email that was received from Brian Montejunas.

By motion of Mr. Irving, seconded by Ms. L. O'Connor to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting for November 12, 2020 as presented. Unanimously approved by roll call vote

By motion of Ms. L. O'Connor, seconded by Mr. James to approve the Minutes of Executive Session for November 12, 2020 as presented. Unanimously approved by roll call vote

By motion of Mr. LaBella, seconded by Ms. L. O'Connor to accept the Treasurer's Report for November 2020 as presented. Unanimously approved by roll call vote

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business posted.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Alyssa Michel, provided an update on student clubs. Chess Club meets every Monday afternoon for one hour. They are using a remote learning site where they have a private team (only Whittier students). Students are learning chess tactics, playing in speed matches and tournaments. There are 22 members on the google classroom site. The Multicultural Club has been meeting remotely once a week every Thursday afternoon. They are averaging between 6 to 9 students at the weekly meetings. One of their upcoming events is a virtual "secret santa" where students will be randomly paired with one another and offer gifts of either an international music playlist, a piece of virtual artwork, a Google slide show of encouraging words and images, or a list of suggestions that are easy to do and make a person feel better. SkillsUSA had their first meeting on December 8th at 2 pm. They discussed general orientation to the SkillsUSA organization, leadership positions for the Executive Board for the year, opportunities for community service, and what SkillsUSA will look like in light of restrictions due to COVID 19. Interact Club is in the process of getting blank greeting cards distributed to the students to fill out. They will drop off the cards to local assisted living facilities within the District before the holidays. This activity has been opened up to other clubs as well. DECA is competing virtually at their district competition. Students will test next week. They will need to have their videos for their role plays done by January 9th. From there, they will learn if any students will advance to states which will also be held virtually. Peer leaders met on google meet, played get to know you games, and participated in a public speaking workshop on December 7th. Along with the Interact Club, they will be writing greeting cards to local assisted living facilities. Student Government has had two virtual meetings with nearly 20 students from all grades participating. The senior class now has a full Board of hardworking, creative officers to lead the class and school this year. Student Government is planning some Whittier Pride Spirit days before the holiday break to continue to build community at the school. Students will be encouraged to wear their maroon and gold best and submit photos for a "We Are Whittier" video that they hope to distribute through social media after the break.

Students are also working on ideas to celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. in January. Alyssa also reported that Whittier reopened in-person learning this week after remote learning for two weeks. She stated she is excited to be back in class.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Personnel Action

The Superintendent, Maureen Lynch reported on the hiring of an articulation agreement coordinator. She also reported on the resignations of a vocational teaching assistant, an HVAC instructor and Director of Pupil Personnel for retirement purposes.

Budget Update

Ms. Lynch reported that they are meeting with Department Heads and Administration to finalize department submissions to build the FY22 budget.

MCAS Update

Ms. Lynch reported that the MCAS for juniors has been postponed and no new information is known at this time. Grade 10 students will take the English and math MCAS in May 2021 and grade 9 students will take a paper MCAS exam in June 2021. The Class of 2021 has a 100% MCAS pass rate.

Superintendent's Update

Ms. Lynch provided an update. On Friday, November 13, 2020, Ms. Lynch attended the remote MAVA BESE public comment meeting. There continues to be concerns about the amount of seats available for vocational education and not being able to meet the level of interest. On Thursday, November 19, 2020, she attended the remote MAVA Superintendents'/CTE Directors' meeting and the Commissioner's meeting. On Tuesday, December 1, 2020, she attended the remote MassHire Merrimack Valley Workforce Board meeting. On Friday, December 4, 2020, she attended the remote MAVA Officer's meeting. On Tuesday, December 8, 2020, she attended the remote Merrimack Valley Superintendents' Association Roundtable meeting. On Wednesday, December 9, 2020, she attended the remote Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce board meeting and the Commissioner's meeting. On Friday, November 20th, because of the rise in COVID cases in the community, Whittier moved to remote only learning until December 8th. Ms. Lynch reported that a dashboard has been developed and is located on the Whittier website that will be updated daily with positive COVID cases, number of students in quarantine, and whether there was any in-school transmission.

Mr. Williams showed the dashboard and how to locate it. Mr. Williams also showed the Whittier Tech Foundation page. Ms. Lynch stated that the Foundation is collecting money for the Holiday Fund again this year. This year students will receive gift cards and Whittier wear because they are unable to do the shopping that has been done in the past. Ms. Lynch stated that everyone is aware that there is currently a second surge of COVID 19. Research shows that there is limited transmission in school and therefore it is safe to have students in the building. Ms. Lynch stated that having students in the building participating in vocational training programs has to be the priority. She stated that interactions with others needs to continue to be limited and students need to continue to stay in their cohorts. Ms. Lynch reported that the communities in the Whittier District are currently coded as follows: 5 cities/towns are in the red; 4 cities/towns are in the yellow; one town is in the green; and one town is in the gray. Ms. Lynch stated that as a school district they understand the importance of extracurricular activities and athletics to students. Based on the information to date, there are many concerns about moving forward with competitive athletics this winter. The number one goal and priority is to provide a vocational and academic education to students. Hopefully after the 2nd quarter, students will be able to come back for more in-person vocational time and be able to have a spring athletic season. Mr. Irving asked if school committee members can take advantage of COVID testing at PMA through the school. Ms. Lynch stated she will check with the nurse's office.

Ms. Lynch reported that there have been generously donated items to benefit Whittier's educational, vocational and extracurricular activities in the amount of \$101,650.00 as outlined in a memorandum from the Business Manager dated December 1, 2020.

By motion of Mr. Irving, seconded by Mr. Fichera to accept the donations listed in the memorandum from the Business Manager dated December 1, 2020.

Unanimously approved by roll call vote

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Chris Laganas, the Principal provided a principal's update. He reported that Whittier has pivoted back to a hybrid learning model the week of December 7th. Mr. Laganas thanked everyone for their flexibility. He stated that as Whittier moves back to the hybrid schedule students and staff must continue to stay six feet apart at all times, including mask breaks, and to strictly follow all safety protocols. He reported that the entire teaching staff did an amazing job on setting up videos for Whittier's virtual parent/teacher night that was launched on Thursday, December 3rd at 6 pm. The link for parents/guardians to view the videos was sent via email to the parents. In the videos the teachers discussed schedules/routines, class syllabus, expectations, usage of powerschool and email addresses to set up individual meetings. Kevin Welch, Whittier's cafeteria manager has set up remote Monday's pick up sites for breakfast and

lunch every Monday in December (12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28) from 10 am to noon at the Poet's Inn entrance. Meals will be provided for 7 days for families in need. Virtual Clubs have started and students are signing up. These clubs are important for the student body's social emotional connections. The Wildcat Conditioning club was successful. Approximately 75 students participated between the two cohorts. Mr. Laganas thanked Coach Little and Coach Bradley for putting it all together. They are looking at implementing some intramural type of activity for students for the winter.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Kara Kosmes, the Business Manager provided FY21 budget line item transfers in the amount of \$873,216. The transfer will balance the salary account appropriations so that they reflect the current deployment of staff, adjust for teacher contractual salary lane changes and align to any increases that were approved by the School Committee after the FY21 budget was finalized.

By motion of Ms. True, seconded by Mr. James to authorize budget line item transfers in the amount of \$873,216.00 as outlined in the Business Manager's memorandum of December 1, 2020. Unanimously approved by roll call vote

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Murphy went over the annual agenda items for January.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The Executive Subcommittee has not met. They will meet on January 13, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

The Instructional Subcommittee has not met.

The Plant Operations Subcommittee has not met.

The Salary & Negotiations Subcommittee has not met.

The Policy Subcommittee has not met.

MEETING DATES

The Executive Subcommittee meeting is January 13, 2021 at 5:30 pm. The Regular School Committee meeting is January 13, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Irving provided an update on the resolutions that were discussed at the MASC/MASS virtual meeting on November 7th. He reported that there were 10 resolutions and all were approved except for one.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session posted.

By motion of Mr. Irving, seconded by Mr. James to adjourn at 7:09 PM.
Unanimously approved by roll call vote

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Rand
Recording Secretary



Lisa Rand <lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Winter Sports

1 message

TRINA MONTEJUNAS <brtri829@comcast.net>

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 10:10 AM

To: "lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us" <lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Cc: "claganas@whittiertech.org" <claganas@whittiertech.org>, "kbradley@whittier.tec.ma.us" <kbradley@whittier.tec.ma.us>, "Principalsoffice@whittiertech.org" <Principalsoffice@whittiertech.org>, "mlynch@whittier.tec.ma.us" <mlynch@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Good morning Chairman Murphy, Superintendent Lynch, Principle Laganas and members of the Whittier School Committee,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming winter sports season at Whittier Tech. I understand that the winter sports season may be in jeopardy of being canceled due to the Covid-19 virus, I urge the School Committee members, Superintendent and Principle to please consider allowing a winter sports season. These kids have lost so much this year and it would be terrible if they lost winter sports and it would be extremely disappointing. My son Connor is a senior in the Carpentry shop and the current Captain for the Amesbury/Whittier hockey team. Connor has worked very hard over the past three years to maintain a high GPA and has been a three year starter and one of the top players on the team and in the league. Understanding that the students health and safety are the most important items to be concerned during the pandemic, they still deserve to participate in sports with their teammates and friends. Study's have shown that playing sports does not present a higher risk of contracting the Covid-19 Virus. A study was conducted by the University of Wisconsin and the findings were that high school sports did not cause a large increase in Covid-19 cases. Over the course of two months 30,000 athletes participated in the study and 271 of them contracted the virus but only one of them got it due to playing the sport. With the protocols and rules put in place by the CDC, USA Hockey, MIAA and the Governors office student athletes are required to wear masks and adhere to social distancing protocols such as not sharing water bottles, limiting the amount of players and coaches on benches and maintaining space from each other on the ice during practices, which will be reinforced by coaches. I feel that having sports provides a safer environment for the students than when they are allowed to be out of school with no structure from school or sports and allowed to roam free and not adhere to CDC and school Covid-19 social distancing requirements. Even with the recent uptick in Covid-19 cases at Whittier, per the weekly school communications none of the positive cases have been related to in school contact. As we all know sports are much more than just students participating in athletics. Sports builds character, teaches team work, teaches how to deal with adversity and success. If the winter sports season is cancelled this will not only end the season for the Whittier hockey players but could also end the season for Amesbury too because they may not be able to provide enough players for a varsity team. These student athletes, not just the hockey players, but all of the Whittier Athletes deserve to participate in their sports, especially the seniors. These young adults have lost so much so far let's let them have something to remember their final school year.

I ask you all to please strongly consider to allow these students to play sports. All other schools in our area are being allowed to play winter sports and I believe all of the schools in the Cape Ann League and Commonwealth Conference are also playing. It would be a real shame if Whittier was the only school that isn't participating.

I look forward to hearing the outcome of your decision, hopefully a positive one for the students and I am available to speak to you if you would like to discuss further.

Regards,

Brian Montejunas



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Fw: Let Them Play

1 message

Katherine Richard <katferr1@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: Katherine Richard <katferr1@yahoo.com>
To: "Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us" <Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us>
Cc: Mike Richard <mikejrichard@yahoo.com>

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 1:17 PM

Good morning Chairman Murphy, Superintendent Lynch, Principal Laganas and members of the Whittier School Committee,

I am writing in support of the upcoming winter sports season at Whittier Tech. I understand that the winter sports season is in jeopardy of being canceled due to the Covid-19 virus. My son Cameron Richard is a sophomore at Whittier and we are also Amesbury residents. This year has been so difficult for our son, he has struggled with the remote learning and not being able to socialize with his friends. He has always been a good student but I have heard him say things like 'I hate school'. This is crushing to hear as a parent. He has been playing hockey since he was in Kindergarten and he needs to have some normalization in his life right now, something to look forward to, something to let him know that things are going to be okay.

If the winter sports season is cancelled this will not only end the season for the Whittier hockey players but could also end the season for Amesbury because they may not be able to provide enough players for a varsity team. Student athletes, not just the hockey players, but all of the Whittier Athletes deserve to participate in their sports, especially the seniors. The MIAA has been thoughtful in postponing the start of the winter season, putting in mask requirements and other sport specific regulations for this season, games are not scheduled until after the holiday season and the season has been reduced to six weeks.

I am asking you as a parent to allow Whittier students to participate in the winter sports season. It would be so disappointing for both the Whittier hockey players but also the Amesbury hockey players if winter sports were cancelled.

Regards,

Katherine & Michael Richard



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Winter Sports

1 message

Jason Burnham <jason@capecodshell.com>
To: "Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us" <Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 1:38 PM

Hello All,

I will start by saying my child does not attend Whittier but your decision regarding winter sports will directly affect him. I understand that the winter sports season may be in jeopardy of being canceled due to the Covid-19 virus, I strongly urge the School Committee members, Superintendent and Principal to please consider allowing a winter sports season. These kids have lost so much this year and I am watching it take its toll on my son daily, I am afraid of the impact of losing the sport he loves would be compounded with everything else that he has already missed out on since the pandemic first broke. My son plays for the Amesbury/Whittier hockey team and if the decision for Whittier is to cancel winter sports Amesbury would not have the numbers to put a team on the ice alone, your decision has a far reach. Understanding that the students health and safety are of the outmost important, with the protocols and rules put in place by the CDC, USA Hockey, MIAA and the Governor's office student athletes are required to wear masks and adhere to social distancing protocols such as not sharing water bottles, limiting the amount of players and coaches on benches and maintaining space from each other on and off the ice during practices and games and that's just a few of the guidelines set forth. Hockey for most is a year-round sport and they have been practicing and playing under the governors guidelines successfully for some months now. Studies have shown that playing sports does not present a higher risk of contracting the Covid-19 virus especially when done so under the stringent guidelines set forth. When I look back at my high school days as a former student athlete, the sports are some of my fondest memories. There isn't many, if any, plays or goals or hits or touchdowns that I can recollect but I could recite to you all of my teammates names and the fun times had along with the camaraderie that still exist to this day. Text is just a fraction of the value of school, sports and social clubs are just as important in my opinion. I truly appreciate your consideration and I strongly hope that the decision is made in concert with the other schools of the Cape Ann.

Best regards,

Jason Burnham

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Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier Tech Winter sports (For Public Comment)

1 message

Tim Jezowski <timjez27@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 2:40 PM

To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us, Doug Joslin <lexcon1775@gmail.com>

I am writing to you in regards to the upcoming winter sports season at Whittier Tech. Our son is a Freshman at Whittier Tech and has been playing hockey on a local team for the past seven seasons. It's been quite a year during this pandemic and normalcy is nowhere to be found. We are very fortunate and thankful that Whittier has been running on a mostly hybrid learning schedule. With hybrid, it has definitely kept the mental health of all children in check and also offered a glimpse of anything close to normalcy. This has all happened with hard work and coordination of the entire administration, and we are eternally grateful for this. We understand and respect the need to be safe and keep in school learning at WT at the highest priority. However, other vocational schools, notably Essex Tech, have figured out how to safely manage their program. For WT, hockey is not on campus, and hockey is being allowed at Amesbury, who WT has partnered with for years. In Georgetown, the Board of Health shutdown athletics ON CAMPUS, but are permitting athletics (with school approval, which they have) to take place off campus. One would believe that WT could do this for hockey. Furthermore, of all the hockey players in the school, most if not all, play on travel teams under less strict guidelines, and without the stringent safety protocols put in place by the Cape Ann League and MIAA. I truly believe winter sports at WT can occur based on these protocols and guidelines put in place by the Cape Ann League and MIAA. Please give these athletes another glimpse of normalcy and allow winter sports at Whittier Tech.

Best regards,
Tim & Jennifer Jezowski
Amesbury, MA
978-697-3867



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier Winter Sports

1 message

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 3:23 PM

TRINA <ajtara1@comcast.net>

To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

Cc: mlynch@whittiertech.org, Principalsoffice@whittiertech.org

Good Afternoon Chairman Murphy, Superintendent Lynch, Principal Laganas, and members of the Whittier Tech School Committee,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming winter sports program at Whittier Tech. I understand a decision will be made soon, and I'd like to strongly advocate for this to be approved. Having worked for the Department of Mental Health and on a child psychiatric unit for many years, I believe we need to focus on the mental health of our students. Sports can be an integral part of the identities of so many student athletes, and to take this away would leave room for dangerous patterns to settle in. Anxiety and Depression are at an all time time high, and unfortunately, a lot of kids still don't know how to talk about their mental health or have a support system that allows them to feel safe enough to discuss it. Team sports can help students who may be struggling with socialization, and can teach them how to work with others while developing leadership skills. For students who are dealing with adversity, struggling with self esteem, or various other mental health issues, team sports can serve as an emotional outlet to release stress and frustration without becoming self-destructive. And at a time when so many of us are sitting around, stuck at home, the physical aspects of sports can help students stay healthy and keep exercising.

I strongly urge you to advocate for these athletes to play the sports they love. I'm confident in all the guidelines that have been put in place for the safety of the players, and that students and parents will have no issues following them. Thank you so much for your time and consideration in this matter.

Finally, my son is also a student athlete at Whittier Tech, and it would be unfortunate for him, and his classmates not to be able to play this year. Especially the incoming and outgoing classes, who would be missing out on such important seasons in their athletic career.

Sincerely,

Katrina Duggan

Sent from Xfinity Connect App



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier Winter Sports

1 message

Doug Joslin <lexcon1775@gmail.com>
To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us
Cc: Susan Joslin <suejos2@gmail.com>

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 4:20 PM

Good Evening,

I am writing you to express that we understand the challenges you face keeping students and faculty safe and my desire to see you approve winter sports. I do not believe that covid safety and hockey are mutually exclusive. It would appear that many programs in the area have come to that same conclusion. My own son is currently playing hockey and I have been impressed with the steps parents and student athletes have taken to protect the continued participation in the sports they love.

My son has played hockey since he was five years old and it is one of his favorite things. He has worked hard to become a better player and student through the years and he is working his butt off to make varsity as a freshman knowing he has set a challenging goal. Please don't take hockey away from him and others like him. Everyone is aware of the risk and everyone that I have seen in the hockey world has done everything they can to mitigate that risk in an effort to keep hockey going for these kids. I have spent my entire career in public health and understand that every choice we make involves some risk. However, I don't feel that hockey is different from other choices we make in this pandemic and that we can use the same common sense precautions. We know you can't eliminate risk, but risk can be managed, so let the kids play.

Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good. You can allow the kids to play while simultaneously expecting everyone to adhere to the most stringent safeguards. I wouldn't accept anything less from those around my family.

Please be courageous enough to give these kids some sense of normalcy and the ability to play the sport they love for the school they love. I've not met a hockey parent who doesn't understand the risk while still wanting to see their kid play. I don't know a parent who won't follow safeguards (even ones they don't personally understand) to preserve this winter sports season. If I ever meet a parent that isn't doing everything asked to keep our kids safe, I am confident that the rest of us would be the first to call them out on their choices. Sports parents will be your partners in safety. We want them to play.

You will have my support and appreciation for allowing winter sports this year. I understand there are competing interests in all public decisions but I hope you will find this one easy. Let them play.

Respectfully,
Douglas and Susan Joslin
Amesbury, MA
781-715-5732



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier Tech Winter Sports

1 message

Sarah McDavitt <mcdavitts13@gmail.com>
To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 5:01 PM

To whom this may concern,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming winter sports season at Whittier Tech, as parents have been made aware the season is in jeopardy of being canceled due to Covid19. My son, Dylan Flett, is a Freshman at Whittier and has been playing youth hockey for the past several seasons, recently finished midget minor level while waiting for HS hockey to start. Attending Whittier has been something he's looked forward to before it even became a reality. Starting the next chapter in high school, meeting new friends, exploring the trades and of course, having a joint hockey team with Whittier and Amesbury kids. When he's not playing hockey, he enjoys golf and Lacrosse (something he hopes to continue for Whittier). This was supposed to be such an exciting year for my kid, for SO MANY kids! They have lost so much this year, it would be a huge disappointment to cancel winter sports. They need peer interaction, extracurricular activities, something to look forward to and celebrate for a multitude of reasons. The state of Massachusetts has seen an increase of positive covid cases over the past month and of course safety is number one priority. I work in healthcare and from what I can see, the heavy increase remains isolated in our hospitals and nursing homes. Whittier has been fortunate enough to start the school year in a hybrid model. Although it hasn't been "covid free", as a parent choosing to send my kid to school, I feel completely confident and safe with the protocols in place. Schools across the state have figured out a way to safely manage not just in school learning, but sports programs as well. The protocols put into place by the CDC, MIAA, USA Hockey and other organizations require all athletes and coaches to wear masks, maintain social distancing, refrain from sharing water bottles/snacks, etc. So far, it has worked! I am hoping the school committee will take into consideration the importance of having a winter sports season at Whittier Tech. Put yourself in a high school senior's shoes. Don't take this away from any of them!

Thank you for your time,

Sarah McDavitt, BSN, RN

781-799-0258 - cell

mcdavitts13@gmail.com



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier sports are needed!!

1 message

Lara Heline <lheline@yahoo.com>
To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 9:28 AM

Hello

I understand there's a school committee meeting tonight and they are voting on winter sports. Please offer winter sports as these students need this outlet even more so this year. With the hybrid and remote learning they are sedentary and really need to get their bodies moving in this cold weather to feel better physically and psychologically. So many students turned out for the conditioning including my 9th grade son. They really enjoyed that and need winter sports! My other son goes to Essex Tech and the fall sports worked out great and now they are offering winter sports in a safe manner.

Thank you
Lara Heline



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier Winter Sports - HOCKEY

1 message

Nicole Acres <nacres@showreadyevents.com>

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 12:02 PM

To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

I am writing to request that you follow the guidelines laid out by the MIAA and approve winter sports as you did with the fall sports program. These kids have endured self isolation for an extended period of time and it has been proven that sports builds friendships, character and integrity. Without the approval of these sports the children suffer even more than just dealing with the Covid virus. I implore you to allow these kids to play!!!

Thank you for your time,
Robert Acres



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

HOCKEY - Whittier Winter Sports

1 message

Nicole Acres <ndmarco21@gmail.com>

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 12:14 PM

To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

I understand that the winter sports programs may be in jeopardy due to the Covid virus. I am writing to implore you to allow these children to play. I have a nephew who goes to Whittier and plays on the Amesbury/Whittier hockey team. He happens to be one of the two goalies on the team. Watching these kids play and the comradery that they show is truly amazing. To take this away from them, after everything they have already lost, would be damaging to their already limited contact with their friends and teammates. I ask that you follow the MIAA guidelines set forth and allow these children to play. Surrounding towns have already allowed these sports to go forward. Let the choice to play or not be left to the individuals families

LET THEM PLAY!!!!

Sincerely,

Nicole Marcotte-Acres



Lisa Rand <lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Whittier Winter Sports -HOCKEY

1 message

Helen Marcotte <helendonm@comcast.net>
To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 12:24 PM

I am writing to you as a grandparents of a Whittier student who plays on the Amesbury/Whittier hockey team. I understand that the winter sports program may be in jeopardy. I ask that you follow the MIAA guidelines set up for winter sports as was done for the fall sports programs. Nothing gives us more pleasure than to watch our grandson and his teammates play their sport. It has been proven that sports builds character, integrity and friendships which is vital during their adolescent years. Surrounding towns have allowed the sports to go forward following the Covid guidelines of wearing masks, not sharing water bottles, limiting the number of children on the benches or sidelines and maintaining social distancing. I urge you to allow these children to play the sports that they love. After having to give up so much this year, please do not take this away from them also. Let the choice to play or not be up to the parent who may have reservations.

Thank you for your time,

Don and Helen Marcotte



Lisa Rand <lrاند@whittier.tec.ma.us>

Winter sports

1 message

matt brown <brown_matt85@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: matt brown <brown_matt85@yahoo.com>
To: Lrand@whittier.tec.ma.us

Wed, Dec 9, 2020 at 6:24 PM

Good evening, I am writing this to you to ask for your support and letting the students of Whittier Tech have their winter sports season. If it safe enough for the students to be in person learning/ hybrid schedule than how could one argue that winter sports are any more risky than in person learning? To cancel winter sports would be devastating on so many levels. Plenty of local programs have continued to operate safely and our school with the proper protocols can successfully do the same. Please! Make the right decision and do not take anymore away from the so many kids that need sports in their lives. Thank you, Matt Brown

Sent from myMail for iOS