

EXPECTATIONS OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

1. Support your student athlete's effort toward success, regardless of the outcome, playing time or wins and losses.
2. Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of your student athlete.
3. Become familiar with, and review the rules and regulations of the school, the sport and the PIAA with your child.
4. Communicate any concerns in a timely manner, according to communication protocol.
5. Treat all athletic personnel with courtesy and respect, and insist that your student athlete do the same.
6. Treat officials with respect and demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.

Research indicates that students involved in co-curricular activities have a greater chance for success during adulthood and perform better academically during their middle school and high school years. Many character traits required to be successful participants in athletics are exactly those that will lead to success in life after high school. We look forward to partnering with you in your child's success.

Mike Yoder
Athletic Director
717-299-0823, extension 365

ABOUT BLAZER ATHLETICS

The interscholastic athletic program at Lancaster Mennonite High School is a student-centered educational program that contributes to the development of social, spiritual, emotional and mental aspects of both the participants and the school community.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS BASIC BELIEFS

Athletics are a microcosm of life and life-long learning occurs through the rigors of competition, therefore levels of competition will be provided that allow for both winning and losing experiences.

Christians should do their best in every endeavor, so we expect to field quality teams that strive to win each contest.

Christian values and principles should never be compromised for the sake of winning a contest.

Athletics, academics, family, and church activities are balanced through careful scheduling, adherence to established academic standards for athletes, and by parents, church, and school assisting students in making wise choices.

We will operate a quality athletic program, complying with all PIAA rules and regulations unless they contradict a basic belief.

Parent/Coach Communication Plan



LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL Athletic Department



**A guide for
parent communication
with coaches**

Lancaster Mennonite Parent/Coach Communication Plan



Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing communication and under-

standing of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to our student athletes. To be successful, communication is vital and requires involvement, dedication, sacrifice, and commitment from parents, student athletes, and coaches.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

1. Coach's and program's philosophy.
2. Individual and team expectations.
3. Location and times of all practices and games.
4. Team requirements, i.e., practices, special equipment, off season conditioning.
5. Procedure followed should your child be injured during practice or games.
6. Any discipline that may result in the denial of your child's participation.
7. Team selection process (Varsity/JV, Freshman/8th grade, etc.)

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach, not the community.
2. Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations..
4. Coach should be made aware of medical/injury issues of the student-athlete.
5. General support of the overall mission of the program.

While your child is involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding and inspiring moments of their lives. It is also important to understand that there might also be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

It is very difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe is best for the team and all athletes involved. There are certain areas and issues that can and should be discussed with your child's coach:

1. Treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve and develop.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

Other things should be left to the discretion of the coach.

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH

Please encourage your child to speak directly with the coach. Often, concerns can be resolved at this level.

1. Call or email the coach to set up an appointment.
2. If you are having difficulty getting a response from the coach, please contact the AD to request arrangement for a meeting.

IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DOES NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
2. In order for a proper communication plan to succeed, it is important that the proper "chain of command" is followed:
 - a. Discussion between the student-athlete and coach.
 - b. Parent/Coach discussion or meeting with the Athletic Director

