



## Senate of Pennsylvania

August 7, 2020

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi  
Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Assn., Inc.  
500 Gettysburg Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-0708

Dear Dr. Lombardi:

It is our understanding that you will be voting today, August 7, 2020, to cancel youth interscholastic sports competitions for the remainder of the year. We are imploring you not to cancel, but rather, to continue with your plan to return to safe sports competition. As you have provided a safe reopening plan, the decision should now rest with local school districts and parents to choose if they would like to opt out of sports this year.


As you know and as you stated last week, the role of sports and school activities are essential to the health and mental well-being of many students across Pennsylvania. Sports and school activities are part of the fabric of many children's lives and they depend on that to help get through the many stresses, including Covid-19 being placed upon them.

We understand the position you have been placed in by the Governor's recommendation to cancel youth sports. However, the importance of sports to the overall well-being of children that you laid out last week still remains and should not be discounted. Even in the Governor's own press release, his administration stated that the decision to cancel sports should be at the local level.

Once again, we ask you not to cancel youth sports for the remainder of the year and to continue forward with the plan you deemed safe last week. If a decision to opt of sports competition should be made, it should be made at the local school level and with parents.

Thank you,

  
JAKE CORMAN  
MAJORITY LEADER

  
WAYNE LANGERHOLC, JR.  
CHAIR, SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE