



# AMADOR COUNTY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent, Amy L. Slavensky, Ph.D.

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**PREPARE, SUPPORT, INSPIRE!**

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Dear Amador County Public Schools Families & Staff,

I'm reaching out with an update about high school athletics. As you know, due to the pandemic which was declared in March, our student athletes lost their spring athletic season. As we move into the summer months, there have been many questions throughout the state as to whether or not our students will be able to participate in fall sports.

This decision is guided by Amador County Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF). CIF is the governing body for high school sports in the state and responsible for over 1,500 member schools including the 198 Sac-Joaquin Section member schools of which Argonaut and Amador High Schools are a part. This decision is also guided by our focus on students' social-emotional wellness, safety, and physical health. As a mom who raised two student athletes (soccer, baseball and swim), each of them competing year round for ten years, I know just how important this is, supporting many lifelong qualities such as perseverance, physical fitness and overall health.

The good news is that last Friday, the CIF Sac-Joaquin Section released their guidelines for return to athletic participation in phases. The CIF guidelines emphasize that participation must be in accordance with local county health office orders and guidelines. For more information about this, you may go to: <https://cifstate.org/covid-19/index>.

Our high school principals and athletic directors have been working this week to develop their plans to begin summer conditioning this month, following the CIF guidelines. More information will be sent directly to our student athletes and their families from their athletic directors and coaches.

We are still unclear as to what fall sports may look like, but this is a good step. In addition to releasing guidelines, CIF also announced that it is prepared to offer alternative calendars if it is determined by July 20 that fall sports may not start as scheduled due to ongoing public health and safety concerns. The July 20 date is not random, but has been determined by CIF as the date that offers a reasonable time frame for high schools in California to prepare for a fall season, if there is a normal fall season.

I am hopeful that as the July 20 date approaches, a decision can be made to allow us, and our student athletes and their families, time to prepare for the fall season. While alternative fall schedules have been discussed, the decision on July 20 will provide answers as to the direction of the upcoming athletic season. Please watch for an update and information on the July 20 decision from CIF. Thank you once again for your patience as we continue to navigate these very unusual times together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Amy Slavensky, ACUSD Superintendent of Schools