

Ms Ellen Satlof
Public Relations Manager
National Athletic Trainers' Association
1620 Valwood Parkway, Suite 115
Carrollton TX 75006

Dear Ms Satlof

Maxwell Public School is proud to promote and join the Youth Sports Safety Alliance in their effort to address safety in youth sports. We have enjoyed a relationship with Great Plains Health for 10+ years. We have worked in conjunction with the Certified Athletic Trainers and Sports Medicine Staff at Great Plains Health to increase the care our athletes receive on and off the field.

The Wildcats athletic department is committed to athlete safety. By working along with the alliance to continue being advocates for youth safety in sports, we will support the call to action by the Youth Sports Safety Alliance and will:

Our coaches and staff are supportive of your call to action to provide:

1. Ensure that youth athletes have access to health care professionals who are qualified to make assessments and decisions.
2. Educate parents, athletes, coaches, teachers and others about the signs and symptoms of sports injuries and conditions (e.g., brain injury, heat illness and exertional sickling).
3. Assure pre-participation exams before play begins and, where appropriate, conduct baseline testing.
4. Ensure that sports equipment, uniforms, playing surfaces and environmental conditions are checked for safety and best conditions. Write to state legislators and members of Congress, expressing concerns.
5. Insist that research into youth sports injuries and their effects be undertaken immediately and be supported by tax dollars.
6. Support a national registry of sport-related catastrophic injuries and fatalities to improve safety and participation.
7. Demand that appropriate emergency action plans and safety and medical protocols and procedures are in place at every sporting event and facility.
8. Educate players and others that there's a difference between pain and injury; and work to eliminate the culture of "playing through pain" without assessment.
9. Ensure that both general and sport-specific safety education be a priority for every administrator, coach, parent and player.

Thank you to the National Athletic Trainers' Association for sponsoring the Alliance and issuing the call to action. Should you require any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Aub Boucher, High School Principal
Maxwell Public Schools
P.O. Box 188 – Maxwell, NE 69151
(308) 582-4585