



# NEW CANEY ISD

Danny Gibson  
*Head Athletic Trainer*  
*New Caney High School*

March 25, 2015

Ellen Satlof  
National Athletic Trainers' Association  
1620 Valwood Pkwy, Suite 115  
Carrollton, Texas, 75006

Dear Ms. Satlof:

New Caney ISD is proud to join and promote the Youth Sports Safety Alliance (YSSA) in their effort to address safety in youth sports.

New Caney ISD employs eight full-time athletic trainers who are available to the 2,500 student-athletes, grades 7-12. There are two full-time athletic trainers employed at each of the two high school campuses, New Caney High School and Porter High School. There is also one full-time athletic trainer employed at each of the four middle schools, New Caney Middle School, Keefer Crossing Middle School, White Oak Middle School, and Woodridge Forest Middle School.

New Caney ISD is committed to athlete safety and will work along with the alliance to continue being advocates for youth safety in sports. New Caney ISD commits to the call to action by the Youth Sports Safety Alliance and will:

- Ensure that youth athletes have access to health care professionals who are qualified to make assessments and decisions.
- 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).
- Assure pre-participation exams before play begins and, where appropriate, conduct baseline testing.
- 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.

- Insist that research into youth sports injuries and their effects be undertaken immediately and be supported by tax dollars.
- Support a national registry of sport-related catastrophic injuries and fatalities to improve safety and participation.
- Demand that appropriate emergency action plans and safety and medical protocols and procedures are in place at every sporting event and facility.
- Educate players and others that there is a difference between pain and injury; and work to eliminate the culture of "playing through pain" without assessment.
- Ensure that both general and sport-specific safety education be a priority for every administrator, coach, parent and player.

New Caney ISD would like to thank the NATA for the call to action and we are proud to join the many organizations that have pledged to answer that call. Should you require any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Daniel Gibson, LAT  
New Caney High School Head Athletic Trainer  
New Caney Independent School District