



February 24, 2015



To the Youth Sports Safety Alliance,

This letter is being written on Behalf of Oak Park High School to show their support to the Call to Action of the Youth Sports Safety Alliance.

Currently, Oak Park High School, a part of the North Kansas City School District, has an athletic trainer to cover the student-athletes participating in sports. Oak Park believes in promoting healthy behavior for all students and staff. We provide baseline ImpACT testing for all student-athletes that participate in high risk sports, as well as follow a thorough and efficient return to play protocol for athletes that do sustain a concussion. The athletic trainers and nurses we work with are able to help with education on the signs and symptoms that are associated with sports related injuries and illnesses, and also aid young athletes and their families in referral to other healthcare providers if needed. Oak Park offers a day of pre-participation examinations for athletes prior to competition at a reduced cost. We establish and ensure that all of our venues are safe to compete in, and emergency action plans are established and understood. Oak Park encourages the education of coaches in the understanding and management of athletic injuries. We were awarded the Safe Sports School Award 1st team designation in 2014. The coaching staff, and those involved with sports ensure that sports equipment is maintained and checked thoroughly and regularly. The major focus of school health for us is the prevention of injury and illness and the early detection and correction of health problems. Each sports team is designated with a first aid kit. We have 3 AEDs located throughout the school for use in an emergency situation. Our Athletic Health Care Team, comprised of the athletic trainer, school nurse, activities director, and coaches are prepared to coordinate, supervise, and deliver care utilizing the healthcare process of data collection, assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluation.

Oak Park High School looks forward to the opportunity to join the Youth Sports Safety Alliance, as well as continue to serve the young athletes of the region. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Whetstone

Joe Whetstone, ATC, LAT, ITAT, NASM-CES, PES
Mosaic Life Care
Athletic Trainer, Oak Park High School

Cc: Casey Vokolek, Activities Director / Assistant Principal

Mark Maus, Principal