

Oak Ridge High School

February 2, 2015

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

Dear Ms. Satlof:

Oak Ridge High School proudly promotes the Youth Sports Safety Alliance in their efforts to ensure safe and healthy participation for all young athletes. Oak Ridge supports the Youth Sports Safety Alliance's efforts by adhering to the objectives the Alliance has set forth to raise awareness, promote education, and improve medical care.

In an effort to ensure access to qualified health care professionals, Oak Ridge High School employs two state licensed and nationally certified athletic trainers (AT) who work closely with a team orthopedist. The athletic trainers provide comprehensive medical care for practices and competitive events for all of the school's sports teams. They also perform in-house rehabilitation when appropriate. They organize and oversee annual pre-participation physical screenings, conduct baseline concussion testing, develop and distribute emergency action plans and medical protocols and procedures. In addition, the ATs function as liaisons between coaches and doctors, athletes and doctors, and parents and doctors. They are the prime source of education for coaches, administrators, parents, and athletes for all topics related to sports safety, including concussions, heat illness, skin disorders, and conditions such as asthma or exertional sickling.

Oak Ridge High School also supports legislative efforts to promote all aspects of youth sports safety including a national registry of sport-related catastrophic injuries and fatalities. We also recognize the necessity of research into youth sports injuries and the importance of funding for continuing research and solutions that ensure the safest possible sport experience for all young athletes.

Oak Ridge High School is pleased to join with other schools, organizations, and health care professionals to help advance recognition of the necessity of youth sports safety.

Sincerely,

Antony M. Fisher Director of Athletics Oak Ridge High School