



STEPHENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



YELLOW JACKETS

ATHLETIC DEPT.

HONEYBEES

JOSEPH GILLESPIE

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

PH# 254-552-6417
FAX# 254-965-4364

WEB PAGE: WWW.SVILLE.US

LISA HUGHES
SECRETARY

MIKE CARROLL

ASST. ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER

February 13, 2014

Ellen Satlof
National Athletic Trainers' Association
2952 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas

Dear Ms. Satlof:

Stephenville ISD is proud to promote and join the Youth Sports Safety Alliance in their effort to address safety in youth sports. Stephenville ISD employs two full-time athletic trainers who are available to all athletes, grades 7-12. The full-time athletic trainers work primarily at the high school

Stephenville ISD is committed to athlete safety by working along with the alliance to continue being advocates for youth safety in sports. Stephenville 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.
- Ensure 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.

Stephenville 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.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Carroll M Ed, ATC, LAT
Head Athletic Trainer/Assistant Athletic Director
Stephenville ISD