



Bristol Township School District

5 Blue Lake Road, Levittown, PA 19057

215-943-3200

September 10, 2020

Dear Bristol Township School District Community,

After the Bristol Township School Board voted on August 25 to not approve the Suburban One League (SOL) fall sports schedule, student athletes felt that their voices were not heard. A town hall meeting was scheduled and held on August 31 for the board to hear from representatives from each team and to consider written public comments from students, coaches, parents and community members that were submitted prior to the meeting. After the town hall event, the Bristol Township Board of School Directors decided to hold a special board meeting Wednesday, September 9 to reconsider their previous action.

The vote to rescind did not pass, so the decision to forgo the current fall sports season was reaffirmed. The Board's decision was based on concerns about the safety of athletic competitions conducted during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. While the Board would love to see the students compete in athletics safely, they know that this is the best decision to keep students, coaches, directors, staff members and their families safe.

The athletic department will once again be working with coaches to develop plans for keeping students active and engaged through voluntary off-season workouts. Additionally, the Board has instructed the athletic department to continue to pursue alternative options for all of our students to have opportunities to compete, and we are hopeful that the PIAA will follow through on its stated intention to provide a platform for those opportunities for all students.

This was a very difficult decision and we thank you again for your understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melanie Gehrens".

Dr. Melanie Gehrens
Superintendent of Schools
Bristol Township School District