

June 2017

Dear Parents:

Any student participating in athletics MUST have a current physical (taken after May 1, 2017) before they will be allowed to practice/tryout for any athletic team (this includes cheer or dance). We encourage you to see your child's physician to schedule the necessary sports physical and to insure your child's immunization are current.

In April of 2011, the Concussion Awareness Act was signed into law with the intent to protect the youth participating in athletics across the state from the dangers of concussions that are often unrecognized, undiagnosed, and/or mismanaged. To comply with this Concussion Awareness Act, parents of students participating in athletics, as well as the student athlete, must read and sign the Head Injury/Concussion Acknowledgement Form.

The following forms are available through the Gross Catholic website at (www.grosscatholic.org)

- (1) History Form **(kept on file in doctor's office)**
- (2) Physical Examination Form **(kept on file in doctor's office)**
- (3) Clearance Form **(returned to school)**
- (4) Parental Consent Form **(returned to school)**
- (5) Head Injury / Concussion Form **(returned to school)**

If your student plans to participate in a fall sport, football, softball, volleyball, cross-country, girl's golf or boy's tennis or for cheer or dance, they need to obtain a ***Permit to Participate Card*** before they can start practice. Practice will begin on August 7th for all Fall Sports (football, softball, boys' tennis, girls' golf, volleyball and cross-country). More information on try-out dates and times will be in the Back to School Newsletter, which will be mailed approximately the first of August. In order to receive this card, the student must (1) have taken a current physical and have the completed Clearance Form on file at Gross Catholic, (2) sign, date and return to Gross Catholic, the Parental Consent Form, (3) sign, date and return to Gross Catholic, the Head Injury/ Concussion Acknowledgement Form and (4) qualify academically. Students who have all the necessary requirements may obtain their *Permit to Participate* card from the school office starting the week of July 24. **(Office hours are 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM)**. Due to repairs in our building, the entire school building will be closed July 31 – August 2, therefore, please plan ahead and make sure your student gets their Permit to Participate Card before practice begins on Monday, August 7th.

All athletes must be insured and **have proof of insurance on file** in the Activity Director's Office before they are allowed to practice. Please check with your carrier to verify coverage. If coverage is needed, the school offers supplemental accident plans you may purchase, which cover athletes in grades 9 through 12 who participate in interscholastic sports. However, if an athlete participates in football and they are not covered by other insurance, Football Coverage must be purchased (most policies cover football injuries). Brochures for the supplemental accident plans are available in the school office.

If you have any questions, regarding this process, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Mike Dempsey
Activities Director