

# AOS 47

## Airline, Dedham and Orrington School Departments



Dear Parents, Students and Staff

11/29/21

We're happy to report that our Middle Schools' Leagues have winter athletics schedules for the 2021-22 season. This is an exciting improvement over last year as none of our leagues produced or distributed a schedule. We believe we'll be able to provide a near-normal athletic experience this winter for our athletes and community members. In accordance with the latest recommendations from the MPA, State of Maine, and CDC, the Penquis Region Superintendent's group has provided a set of guidelines in an effort to have region-wide expectations for all programs and athletic venues (the guidance will continue to be reviewed as conditions change). This is intended to be the basic level of mitigation efforts that all athletic programs will follow with the understanding that some programs may require additional strategies. **AOS 47 schools will follow the procedures** for winter athletic activities, here are some of the highlights:

- Masking will be required for everyone while indoors (regardless of vaccination status)
- All host sites will have capacity limits
- Fans and athletes will be socially distanced to the extent possible
- Pooled Testing for participants will be an available option to limit quarantine possibilities
- There will be no food/drink in gymnasiums at contests this winter (athletes may have drinks)
- Cheerleaders will participate at home events only
- When competing against teams with additional mitigation strategies we will comply with the opposing teams' guidelines.

It's important to recognize that these strategies are being utilized to allow us to keep students in school and limit required quarantines while allowing competition, keep schedules intact, and give fans a chance to cheer on their local team. We're happy to be having a winter sports season this year and look forward to all of our contests. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me or your child's School. **Thank you** for your continued support, we appreciate everyone's efforts to continue to keep our students in school!

Sincerely,

James Stoneton II, Superintendent of Schools

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