

## **Press release from the Big Sky Conference**

January 21, 2022

Dear Big Sky schools and your respective school communities,

As a result of the impact of COVID-19 on our member schools and their communities, the conference has decided to pause all basketball games between Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The conference will resume games on Friday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

When our league schedule resumes, Big Sky West teams will only play teams from the West and the Big Sky East teams will only play teams from the East. The schedule for the final two weeks of the season will be re-designed and by Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, three league playoff teams will be determined from the West and East.

The league also determined that each school will have local control in regards to whether or not they will practice their respective student athletes.

Our purpose is to decrease the health risk to our student athletes as well as keep a fair and competitive balance between our schools and teams.

In addition to high school basketball, the league schools have also decided to temporarily suspend middle school/junior high contests with games to resume on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

Thank you for your understanding and hopefully the number of people affected by this virus will quickly decline and we can resume regular school activities very soon.