

JOHNSON COUNTY SCHOOLS

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BOB HUTCHISON, Chairman
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PAUL GREER, Member
WILLIAM FRALEY, Member
WILLARD BURTON, Member

To the Johnson County & Paintsville Community:

It has come to my attention that the Paintsville High School Baseball Field was damaged over the weekend, and there were "JC" signs spray painted, as well as district runner up medallions belonging to members of the Johnson Central High School Baseball Team left on the field. The incident is being fully investigated by both the local police department and our school administration. This type of behavior is not condoned, and it will not be tolerated by the Johnson Central High School Baseball Coaching Staff, the administration of Johnson Central High School, nor myself. We will be fully cooperating with authorities to make sure this matter is handled correctly. It is always the expectation of this school system that all students, especially students of extracurricular activities, maintain a respectful standard of behavior and represent their school and team in the highest possible manner.

While this type of behavior is frustrating, inexcusable, and must be dealt with, I urge each person who is impacted by this situation to think before reacting. Let's not forget, we are dealing with kids...and kids make poor decisions, kids don't think before acting, kids often do not see beyond themselves...it is our responsibility as parents, as a school, and as a greater community to help our kids, to model and guide our kids, to teach our kids the right way, even when they do mess up- because they will.

Let me close by saying that I am deeply disappointed in the fact that Paintsville's field was damaged and that anyone associated with Johnson County Schools was responsible. We will work to make sure that the situation is rectified and that all involved will learn from their mistakes. Again, I want to remind you and ask you to offer grace whenever possible. Hopefully, we can grow from this unfortunate situation. We are all Eastern Kentuckians, we are all from Johnson County, and we should do all we can to teach our students to rise above.

Sincerely,



Thom Cochran
Superintendent