



COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL

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September 9, 2020

Dear Families of the Cooperstown Central School District,

We hope you are well. School began for students, and the excitement of a new school year with the promise of many new learning opportunities is tempered by the realities of COVID-19. The district will continue to announce new information as it becomes available. Today, I wish to inform you about the district's decision regarding the fall 2020 CCS athletic season.

Due to the realities of participation complicated and inhibited by COVID-19, the district has made the difficult decision to cancel the Fall 2020 athletics program and season. We have based our decision on guidance from the Centers for Disease Controls (CDC), The New York State and Otsego County Departments of Public Health (DOH), and information from our colleagues at the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA).

Ultimately, the district's decision will keep our students, their families, our coaches, and those with whom we compete against safer. It is our hope that this decision, combined with other cohort and safety measures, will allow our students to return to school in person by October 5th. In addition, it was recently announced that New York State will withhold twenty percent (20%) of its aid to schools, equating to just over \$1.2 million dollars for Cooperstown. Suspending the Fall athletic season until 2021, among other cost-cutting measures already initiated by the district, will help close the gap caused by this loss of aid.

We will make necessary changes as we continue to learn more, as we come to understand actual need, and as we strive to normalize school in abnormal circumstances. The district fully recognizes the tremendous disappointment this decision will cause our students, but we ask for patience and understanding as we look forward to the time when our school welcomes back our strong extra-curricular programs, including athletics, in the tradition of success that we have come to celebrate.

Stay well.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of William Crankshaw, written in a cursive style.

William Crankshaw,
Superintendent of Schools