



Athletics

We are excited about the 2023-2024 school year! **We are asking for your support in modeling good sportsmanship and positive behavior at all athletic events.** We have made a commitment to promote good sportsmanship by student-athletes, coaches and spectators at all athletic events. I want to reiterate the expectations that are outlined by the district as well as what is discussed with parents at the beginning of the season parent meetings. As specifically stated in our Parent/Coach communication guide:

RISD strives to provide athletic experiences that are enjoyable and rewarding to athletes, parents, and others who attend athletic events. Good sportsmanship by all participants is paramount to the achievement of that goal. Visitors to athletic competitions and events must demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times. Enthusiastic and appropriate participation from spectators heightens the experience for all and is encouraged. Inappropriate conduct diminishes the experience for all and will not be tolerated. Spectators shall not yell or scream at athletes, coaches, or officials, or "coach" players from the stands or sidelines. Such behaviors distract athletes and coaches and disrupt play. In extreme cases, officials may penalize a team whose fans are out of control. Spectators who fail to demonstrate appropriate sportsmanship and conduct will be warned. Repeated failure to adhere to these expectations may result in ejection from one or more events and/ or removal of the privilege to attend any sporting events.

As a district, we appreciate competitive spirit, but when it detracts from the experience that we are providing for our students and our staff, we have lost sight of the definition of sportsmanship. Citizenship, caring, fairness and respect are lifetime values that are taught through interscholastic activities and are principles of good sportsmanship and character. With these principles, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations and grateful acceptance of the results. **Fans are not allowed on the sideline, track, gym floor, bench area, etc. during the athletic event. I will reiterate the above expectations that any spectator who does not demonstrate these values, as deemed appropriate by the administrator on duty, will be issued a warning. A subsequent infraction may result in the removal from future sporting events for the remainder of that season.**

As representatives of our schools, we need to all lead by example and promote the ideals of good sportsmanship to our students. We appreciate your support and look forward to a great year. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Respectfully,

Leslie Slovak
Executive Director of Athletics RISD