



# Spearville Middle / High School

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Oh my goodness, this has been one of the longest basketball seasons that I have ever been involved with, and it has barely begun! As you are all probably aware by now, the KSHSAA Board of Directors met on Tuesday, December 8 to reconsider their decision on no fans in attendance. After much deliberation, the decision was reached to allow **two (2) parents/guardians per participant(s) family** to begin attending events on Thursday, December 10, 2020. The purpose of this letter is to make sure that everyone is on the same page regarding this decision, and what it will mean in our district.

Two (2) parents/guardians per participant(s) family. What does this actually mean? The push to allow parents/guardians to attend games was based on a student safety issue. Many parents, and schools, were concerned about the safety of students in the event of an injury or accident during a game. By allowing two parents/guardians to attend, this safety concern has now been corrected and parents are now in the gym to help make decisions in the event of an injury. Unfortunately, it does not open up attendance to full families. In the event that both parents are not able to attend, that does not mean that a grandparent or sibling can attend in their place. Only parents/legal guardians will be allowed to attend. Even if a family has three (3) students on a team, they will only be allowed to bring two (2) parents/guardians. They will not be able to bring six (6) people to the game.

USD 381 is creating a parent Pass List to be used at each game this winter. Please be aware that this list may be reduced to one parent / guardian or none at all at some of the schools we travel to. It has been decided that this Pass List will have the same parent information that is listed in our school information system (PowerSchool). Unless step parents are listed in PowerSchool, they will not be able to attend. We realize that this may not be a popular decision, but it is the decision that was reached by the KSHSAA Board of Directors on Tuesday. Remember, this decision was made to correct a student safety issue, not to open up attendance at games.

For those parents/guardians who will be in attendance, face coverings will be mandatory at all times. This is not a local decision any longer. The KSHSAA Board of Directors voted at a meeting on November 24, 2020 requiring masks at all times while in attendance. Failure to wear a face covering in the manner intended may result in removal from the event and may also result in exclusion for future events. The wording of the KSHSAA decision can be found below.

- ***Face Coverings:*** *All participants (Including but not limited to athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, support staff and all others attending/participating in school activities) shall wear a face covering in the manner it is intended to be worn (for purposes of COVID-19 risk mitigation) while at the event venue and for the duration of the event. The only exception is provided for athletes during the time they are competing and for officials during active play.*

Our ultimate goal is to give students every opportunity to participate in winter sports for the duration of the season. We ask that everyone please do their part to help make this happen. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Kevin Rueb  
Principal