

From: [Kenyon, Cynthia \(MDH\)](#)
To: [Tomes, Tarek \(MNIT\)](#); [Mueller, Heather \(MDE\)](#); [Oliven, Laura \(MDH\)](#)
Cc: [Ufkin1, Tony \(GOV\)](#); [Held, Jessi \(GOV\)](#); [Tanis, Patrick \(GOV\)](#); [Huff, Daniel \(MDH\)](#); [Kimball, Nicholas \(DOC\)](#); [Ehresmann, Kristen \(MDH\)](#); [Klammer, Susan \(MDH\)](#)
Subject: RE: Games
Date: Monday, October 26, 2020 9:34:23 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.gif](#)

+ Susan Klammer and Kris Ehresmann

From: Tomes, Tarek (MNIT) <Tarek.Tomes@state.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 9:25 AM
To: Mueller, Heather (MDE) <Heather.Mueller@state.mn.us>; Oliven, Laura (MDH) <laura.oliven@state.mn.us>; Kenyon, Cynthia (MDH) <cynthia.kenyon@state.mn.us>
Cc: Ufkin1, Tony (GOV) <Tony.Ufkin1@state.mn.us>; Held, Jessi (GOV) <jessi.held@state.mn.us>; Tanis, Patrick (GOV) <Patrick.Tanis@state.mn.us>; Huff, Daniel (MDH) <Daniel.Huff@state.mn.us>; Kimball, Nicholas (DOC) <Nicholas.Kimball@state.mn.us>
Subject: RE: Games

Are there a couple of superintendents we can pull into a conversation as well? Maybe the St Paul superintendent for example?

From: Mueller, Heather (MDE) <Heather.Mueller@state.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 9:23 AM
To: Oliven, Laura (MDH) <laura.oliven@state.mn.us>; Tomes, Tarek (MNIT) <Tarek.Tomes@state.mn.us>; Kenyon, Cynthia (MDH) <cynthia.kenyon@state.mn.us>
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Subject: Re: Games

+ Nick Kimball

Hi,

Thank you for sharing this conversation. I just finished a conversation with Senators Abeler and Hoffman from Anoka-Hennepin. They are hearing from parents about sports. I walked them through the role of MDH and MDE in our guidance and how that translates into the MSHSL policy. They are worried about a number of pieces, including who owns what, but they appreciated the explanation and time. They will be reaching out to Erich Martens to discuss.

As I was talking with them this morning, Erich called and then texted to say that "districts are coming full force saying they are willing to go to distance learning but not shutting down athletics". I hope to call him at 9:45.

I believe that we need to solidify our approach to sports, who governs what, and how we communicate it as soon as possible. I know this is part of a larger framing conversation, but this is getting to an unmanageable level. I am willing to cancel meetings and set aside multiple hours within the daytime or evening hours to find consistency and clarity.

Thank you. Heather

Heather Mueller, Ed.D.

Deputy Commissioner

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C: 

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From: Oliven, Laura (MDH) <laura.oliven@state.mn.us>

Sent: Monday, October 26, 2020 9:02 AM

To: Tomes, Tarek (MNIT) <Tarek.Tomes@state.mn.us>; Kenyon, Cynthia (MDH) <cynthia.kenyon@state.mn.us>; Mueller, Heather (MDE) <Heather.Mueller@state.mn.us>

Cc: Ufkin1, Tony (GOV) <Tony.Ufkin1@state.mn.us>; Held, Jessi (GOV) <jessi.held@state.mn.us>; Tanis, Patrick (GOV) <Patrick.Tanis@state.mn.us>; Huff, Daniel (MDH) <Daniel.Huff@state.mn.us>

Subject: Games

Hi,

I am just passing on a comment that the Governor made in a meeting we just had on the Vikings. He noted that sports games/competitions are having an outsized and negative impact. He mentioned Heather's comments on the impact on learning and the St. Cloud example. He said even though he was a long time coach, he was ready to move to "club level" sports. He also noted the impact on low SES kids that are missing the same learning opportunities (when their school goes to online learning)

and enrichment when the more wealthy kids who can get it elsewhere.

I am only sharing this as a backdrop to our future conversations. He was not making a decision, but it does reflect his thinking.

Others on the call, please share if you heard that differently.

Laura Oliven, MPP (she,her)

COVID-19 Response

Minnesota Department of Health

Cell:

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