

**From:** [Kenyon, Cynthia \(MDH\)](#)  
**To:** [Erich Martens](#)  
**Cc:** [Griffith, Jayne \(MDH\)](#); [Banerjee, Emily \(MDH\)](#); [Klammer, Susan \(MDH\)](#)  
**Subject:** Follow-up to MSHSL meeting last night  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 30, 2020 3:19:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)

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Hi Erich,

I've cc'd Susan, Jayne, and Emily on this email as they are really are the ones that are closer to this than me. As such I'll let them take it from here to follow-up with you further if you have questions.

In follow-up to the call, we wanted to ask two things. First, I thought your talking points about holding strong to no spectators for indoor sports were really nice, would you mind sharing those with us? Then we can make sure we are messaging the same thing. Second, on the concept of messaging, you had asked if there were ways you could help support MDH, this group did come up with a request.

We have been running into more frequent issues where athletic directors/coaches/parents are not only disregarding public health's recommendations around quarantine so their child can play, but they are also doing this with the school nurses (with increasing reports of very forceful and sometimes verbally abusive language) and specifically citing a desire to remain part of their extracurricular sporting activities. It is putting the school nurses in an exceptionally challenging position and making it difficult for all to implement control measures in the school. Additionally, we have heard of reports of students/parents refusing to get tested so they don't have to be out and/or their close contacts/teammates don't either. Again, this behavior is undermining the hard work of many to create a safe learning environment by making it hard to control the spread and likewise the impact on the community. We would welcome the opportunity to work with you to explore ways to message this, but feel that having strong messaging coming from you around this would be incredibly helpful.

**Cynthia Kenyon, MPH**

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*Please note that information provided in this email is only as current as today's date. Information and guidelines are changing rapidly in the COVID-19 response.*

