

May 7, 2020

Dear St. Paul Student-Athletes,

Good morning!

It was hard enough meeting in the gymnasium in March with the boys' and girls' basketball and boys' swim teams looking at bewildered faces with tears in your eyes when we explained the rest of the CIAC state tournament was cancelled and your winter season had abruptly ended. Time would only prove that unpopular and controversial CIAC decision to be prudent.

With Tuesdays disheartening news that Connecticut schools will be closed through the end of the year, the CIAC has understandably announced cancellation of the spring high school athletic season.

"The CIAC's consideration for any spring sport experience has always been contingent on the re-opening of schools for in-person instruction. This morning, Governor Lamont ordered the cancellation of in-school classes for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year. Therefore, there will not be a 2020 CIAC spring sports season. The CIAC empathizes with our school communities and the experiences lost due to COVID-19. Our focus is now on completing guidelines for summer contact and resocialization of CIAC sports in the fall."

There will be no "thrill of victory or agony of defeat" on the fields, golf courses, tennis courts and tracks this spring as a promising season with high expectations for our St. Paul student-athletes will not be played.

That said, it's important to keep everything in perspective during this unsettling time in our lives. For it has become a life or death situation due to COVID-19 for many, including family and friends of St. Paul. Let us offer this disappointment and sacrifice up as a prayer for all those affected or working in harm's way to take care of others during this global pandemic.

While certainly not what you anticipated, we will recognize and are planning an alternative "Senior Night" experience for each spring team (for Senior student-athletes only) consistent with social distancing and limited assembly guidelines. We will communicate specifics once plans become finalized. In the meantime, continue to be leaders in the "classroom."

GO FALCONS!

Stay well.

Cary Dupont '72
President/Chief Administrator

David Dennehy
Director of Athletics