

NORTH HUNTERDON HIGH SCHOOL

Michael P. Hughes
Principal

John P. Hahola, Jr.
Assistant Principal

Dr. Richard Bergacs
Assistant Principal



Patricia Raleigh
Director of Guidance

John Deutsch
Administrator/Director of Athletics

Carol Skidmore
Dean of Students/Mathematics Supervisor

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

On Tuesday, December 20, 2011 North Hunterdon High School hosted Bridgewater-Raritan High School in boys basketball. We had some vulgar language and unsportsmanlike behaviors aimed at Bridgewater-Raritan High School players from our spectators.

The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) defines unsportsmanlike conduct to include "any person (athletic department, staff member, student-athlete, fan or spectator associated with a member school) who uses obscene gestures or profane or unduly provocative language or actions towards officials, opponents, or spectators."

Behavior exhibited by our students at the Bridgewater-Raritan basketball game is in direct violation of these expectations. While the student fan group wishes to show unity, they must accept the concerns for spectator conduct as a single unit as well. Therefore, all North Hunterdon students must be made aware that should any chant, cheer, or actions deemed in violation of the NJSIAA expectations for sportsmanship become apparent, the student fan group will be removed from the event with no refund. This pertains to all school events.

I am authorizing our staff and the assigned Clinton Township Police Officers to follow this removal of spectators should our fan group fail to comply. North Hunterdon High School will enforce proper disciplinary actions for any violations.

Bad calls, at all levels, are part of sports. It happens in every professional sport and at every level. If the pros cannot get it right all of the time, how can you expect high school officials to get it right all of the time? Please remind your sons/daughters of our concerns. Young children attend these events, and we need to set a good example.

I am asking that spectators refrain from any type of negative behavior. The teams we play are not the enemy. They are guests of North Hunterdon High School, and they should be treated with respect. Remember that participation in athletics, like other extra-curricular activities, is a privilege, not a right under New Jersey State law.

Please refer to all of our Sportsmanship Information (Read Only Section) on the link below:
<http://www.nhvweb.net/nhhs/FormsPage.htm>

Enjoy the remainder of the winter season as well as the rest of the athletic seasons. I am looking forward to a continued great athletic season.

CHEER FOR NORTH HUNTERDON – NOT AGAINST OUR OPPONENT, FANS, COACHES OR OFFICIALS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MP Hughes".

Michael P. Hughes
Principal