August 12, 2020

Dear Lake Wales Charter Schools Community,

Last week the Lake Wales Charter Schools Board of Trustees made a unanimous decision to suspend fall sports because of the current COVID-19 virus situation until further notice. Their decision was based solely on protecting the health and well-being of the young men and women athletes who attend our middle and high schools. Since then, there has been lots of discussion about the full implication of their decision. Questions regarding if the decision included fall and spring sports, if athletes could continue sports conditioning, how would the decision impact senior athletes that aspire to compete at the college level were among the questions asked.

On Friday August 14th the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) will host an emergency meeting to discuss high school sports for the 2020-2021 school year. It is our understanding that the FHSAA will offer a set of recommendations for high school sports as a result of their meeting. The Lake Wales Charter School Board of Trustees are poised to receive the recommendation offered by the FHSAA and use the recommendations as guidance for making decisions about sports for the 2020-2021 school year.

We strongly support the opportunities our student athletes have participating in a variety of sports in Lake Wales. In fact, our sports programs have been recognized by the state the past two years. For some of our athletes, their involvement will not only provide personal satisfaction but may also lead to opportunities to compete at the next level. As we consider the challenges posed by the COVID virus, please know that your child’s safety and well-being is a priority. We appreciate your continued support as we work together to get through this difficult period that we are facing.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jesse L. Jackson
Superintendent