

# DEVILS LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

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Scott A. Privratsky, Superintendent  
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September 4, 2015

NDHSAA Board of Directors  
Matt Fetsch, Executive Director  
P. O Box 817  
Valley City, ND 58072

NDHSAA Board of Directors,

As the NDHSAA Football Committee begins the process of developing the guidelines for the 2017 and 2018 Football Plan, I respectfully request all NDHSAA Board Members to keep their focus on the safety of student athletes.

The risk of injury increases when younger, smaller athletes are required to compete against larger, stronger athletes for extended periods of time whether for entire games or the duration of the football season. The safest football environment is to have as little disparity as possible from the largest school to the smallest school in each division.

As the next Football Plan Guidelines are developed, your Board will be looking at student numbers as well as survey information gathered from schools. I urge each Board Member to look at the development of the next Football Plan Guidelines as an opportunity to provide the most equitable balance within all football divisions. Utilize whatever number of divisions or number of teams in each divisions are necessary to accomplish the goal of safety of student athletes.

Please consider the safety of student athletes as you develop the guidelines for the football plan for 2017 and 2018 season. Safety of student athletes should be a much higher priority than travel, ease of scheduling, or any other factor considered in the development of the plan.

I have confidence in the NDHSAA Board to develop the next football plan for the "collective good" of all student athletes. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Scott Privratsky  
Superintendent