

# Marana High School

12000 W. Emigh Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85743

Phone: 520-616-6400  
Fax: 520-616-6426



**April 1, 2020**

## **Hello Track & Field athletes & parents,**

It was not supposed to happen like this. Seasons always come to an end – but never this abrupt and never leaving us with the feeling of unfinished business. I have been involved in high school athletics from the day I started high school myself (a long time ago...) and I have never seen anything like this. I am not aware of seasons or championships being cancelled other than the WWII era, almost 80 years ago. No one really knows how to handle it and no one really knows when it is going to get back to normal. While we are disappointed with what has transpired remember that often we cannot control our external circumstance but we can control are our attitude and our efforts. I will still be coaching and I recommend you keep training, remotely and alone of course.

**Athletes** – some of you have been working for four years leading to this culminating season; and having that season cancelled causes a wide range of emotions. I know that I am feeling a mix of hurt, anger, sadness as well as positive feelings of pride and a sense of calm. Competition is such a huge part of our program; when it is removed and the competition on the biggest stage is cancelled it causes the negative feelings to arise. The coaches and I agree that we had a very real chance of having at least four athletes seriously compete for the state championship in their events, and that's not to mention the relays. However, after our video conferences Monday I feel proud and at ease because of you all. You are handling this situation with such maturity; you are exemplary members of your generation. All over social media, you see the selfish reaction from many, but I did not see that yesterday. You all provide the light at the end of the tunnel. I am more confident than ever that you will be successful in life no matter your path and that we will all be fine when this passes.

**Seniors** – I am so sorry that this is how your time in our program has ended. You were supposed to leave with a bang; instead, you sacrificed those opportunities for the greater good of our community. I not only have no words to describe how bad I feel that your efforts over the last four years will not be showcased like you deserve, but also have no words to describe the pride I have in how you're handling it all. You are a special class that we will be talking about for years to come referencing your mental toughness and selflessness. We as coaches are so proud of you and have loved coaching you! Thank you for your dedication over the years.

**Parents** – the coaches and I have been telling your athletes all season how much we are enjoying coaching them. This is a collection of nice, polite and hardworking kids. This season has been so enjoyable and this speaks directly to you and the commitment you have made to raise great kids. Thank you.

## **Some FAQs that have come up in the last few days:**

1. How do we turn in uniforms?
  - a. *MHS admin is working on how to best facilitate this process. I will let you know as soon as I have a definitive answer.*
2. What is happening with Varsity letters?
  - a. *The coaches and I are working on a fair method to award letters to athletes that likely would have earned enough points to do so in a full season. More details to follow soon.*
3. What is we have items in lockers that need to be collected?
  - a. *MHS admin is working on how to best facilitate this process. I will let you know as soon as I have a definitive answer.*
4. Can we keep training?
  - a. *YES! I will keep posting training until through May 9<sup>th</sup>, which would have been the state finals.*

I'll be sending more communications as we progress through the school closures.

Sincerely,  
Camron Dozier  
MHS Track & Field Head Coach

Dr. David Mandel, Principal  
Ms. Sarah Parish, Associate Principal  
Mr. Ben Rorem, Associate Principal  
Mr. John Deeb, Associate Principal  
Ms. Caitlyn Kauffman, Associate Principal  
Ms. Sarah Whaley, Dean of Students & Athletic Director