



Department of Academic Competitions

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October 3, 2022

Dear CPS Chess Parents,

For the 2022-23 chess season, we will maintain the policy created by Academic Competitions and Renaissance Knights to limit the number of accompanying adults attending in-person tournaments to designated school chaperones, staff and security only. Parents/guardians will not be permitted. We implemented this policy during the pandemic out of concern for the health and welfare of the students and staff.

This policy has proven to be extremely successful as Academic Competitions provide transportation to the tournaments for Academic Chess schools that request it, and schools have the autonomy to designate their chaperones. In addition, breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided.

To celebrate the students' accomplishments, parents are welcome to attend the awards ceremony. Parents will be informed of the time of the awards ceremony and will be allowed into the building 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.

We will continue to utilize strategies that promote the health and safety of our students at all our events.

Thank you for your understanding and your continued support of the CPS chess program.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sylvia Nelson Jordan".

Sylvia Nelson Jordan

Additional context:

- Chess is not a spectator sport. Parents are not allowed in the playing area. IHSA and US Chess prohibited spectators at their tournaments
- When we have 500 players at a tournament, the numbers increase to more than 1000 people when parents and siblings accompany them
- Space is a barrier when trying to accommodate the large number of parents & siblings in the school
- The additional bodies require more staff and security
- Lunch is provided for players and coaches but not parents. With increase in crime this is a concern that parents who are not familiar with the school area would have to go out to purchase lunch
- We want to alleviate past issues of parents taking their children out to lunch or leaving early without notifying staff, causing staff to believe there was a missing child when they did not show up for their match.