

January 17, 2024

Dear DeKalb Students, Staff, Families, and Stakeholders,

We are excited to bring Elementary Sports to DeKalb County Schools. Our leaders have worked extremely hard to design a sports program that will allow students to participate in athletics and learn essential skills they can utilize in the future. While academics is the primary source for a formal education, athletics can contribute to the total value of education in a variety of ways. We want to create an environment that will prepare students for continued physical, academic, social, and emotional success.

The goal of our program is for students to obtain knowledge of game strategies and rules, learn effective collaboration, competition, responsibility, and a sense of school pride while learning new skills. During the 2024-25 school year, fourth and fifth graders can participate in an after-school competitive athletics program for their respective schools. This new sports program does not replace other after-school activities. However, students seeking higher levels of competitions in Flag football, Basketball, Dance, Soccer, and Track and Field, can join their school team. This program will be a competitive league with scheduled practices, awards, playoffs, championships, and scheduled games between other DeKalb County Elementary Schools.

Students must also maintain academic and behavioral standards to participate in the competitive league. Participants are required to attend practices, complete all coursework, homework, and have good school attendance records. As one of the primary goals of our sports program is to improve educational outcomes for our scholars. We look forward to serving our elementary students as we help them learn and grow beyond the classroom. We hope you will join The Athletic Department on our new journey, as we provide opportunities for our students to engage in high-quality sports and athletic programming.

Sincerely,

James P. Jackson

Executive Director of Athletics