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Patrons of Greenfield R-4 Schools,

As an administrator/coach in the school district, one of our community's best qualities is the support of our school and extra-curricular programs. Our student-athletes work hard in the classroom, and on the competitive stage. As a former player, nothing was more rewarding than having family and friends present to watch a game. Unfortunately, we sometimes forget why we are at a contest. We are there to watch the student-athletes participate and to teach them life lessons through various activities.

Many outside influences can escalate our emotions, such as a missed call, other fans' behavior, past memories, etc. However, we must take time to reflect and remember why we are at the contest. Game behavior reflects on ourselves, as well as our athletes, coaches, faculty, and most importantly our school and community. It is everyone's job to represent Greenfield.

The Greenfield School District has adopted a policy written by the Missouri School Board Association that states, "If a visitor's behavior becomes disruptive, threatening or violent, the superintendent, principal or a designee of either may require the visitor to leave. The superintendent or designee may inform the visitor that he or she is not welcome back on district property or at district events indefinitely or for a specific period of time. During any period of prohibition, the visitor will not be allowed on district property. If a visitor prohibited from district property or events under this policy is on district property, district staff will contact law enforcement and/or escort the person from district grounds and inform the person of the district policy prohibiting his or her presence." (See Board policy KK-Visitors to District Property/Events)

Bad behavior by fans is becoming a topic for many school districts in the area. We are not the only school dealing with fan behavior and negativity. Why not be the school district and community that takes a stand and come together as one? Since I have been a part of this district, I have seen this community unite and rally more than once, and I know WE can do it again. It begins with a community effort to be even more supportive of our extra-curricular programs by cheering on our student-athletes in a consolidated, positive effort. Do not focus on the negatives, but rather on the positives as there are many more of them.

If there are further questions on policies, please refer to the school website and click on the "School Board" tab to take you to the link for the MSBA policies adopted by Greenfield School District.

Yours in Spirit,

Preston Hyde

