

February 21, 2022

Brad,

After much processing and conversation with our stakeholders and leaders, most importantly our students, I am informing you that I have made the decision that St. Louis Park High School will not compete directly with New Prague High School as a result of the racist experience our boys hockey program was subjected to on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at New Prague. My decision was also influenced by the other incidents of racism involving New Prague High School athletics in the last month involving other conference schools.

This decision not to compete will last at least through the 2022 spring season and is open-ended after that, and will continue until the harm that was caused is repaired and we are assured that any of our stakeholders, most importantly our students, will not be victimized by racism by any New Prague stakeholder in the future. We also plan to remove the New Prague banner from our gymnasium until the harm is repaired and assurances are to our liking.

Please know that I do not take this decision lightly. As I said when New Prague High School was applying to the Metro West Conference, "I will not stand for your community and students to have teachable moments at the expense of our students.". Therefore, I will not tolerate or allow our students to further experience any racism while participating in athletics against New Prague High School.

Sincerely,

Andrew Ewald
Athletic Director
St. Louis Park High School

Cc: Astein Osei, Superintendent of Schools, St. Louis Park Public Schools
LaNisha Paddock, Principal, St. Louis Park High School
Scott Larson, Executive Secretary, Metro West Conference