

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



BOSTON LATIN SCHOOL FOUNDED IN 1635

MICHAEL CONTOMPASIS
INTERIM HEAD MASTER

JERRY HOWLAND
INTERIM ASSOCIATE HEAD MASTER

ALBERT D. HOLLAND
SPECIAL ASSISTANT

SHERRY M. LEWIS da PONTE
ELIZABETH M. McCOY
JONATHAN MULHERN
CYNTHIA WEBB
BETHY VERANO
ASSISTANT HEAD MASTERS

February 15, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The BLS Administration and the Athletic Department would like to make you aware of changes to the policy regarding absences from athletic events during school breaks; including but not limited to April vacation.

Last year, a policy was enacted that if a student-athlete missed athletic games or practices for a non-school sponsored trip (i.e. Bahamas, College Visits, Family Vacations), that the individual upon returning, was suspended for the next three contests.

Moving forward, if a student-athlete decides to go on a non-school sponsored trip without an educational purpose, he or she should not try out for the team. Many of our programs have to cut student-athletes on a regular basis. It is not fair for those who honor commitments to lose positions to those who do not honor commitments, regardless of playing ability. Within that same policy, a position was taken on school-sponsored trips. Students who go on trips sanctioned by the school are not subject to penalty upon return. This is consistent with the policy and message conveyed last year.

With that said, a student-athlete's role or position on the team or program can be affected due to missed games and practices. In simple terms, a player can outperform a missing player during this time and then a coaching decision will be made as to which player gets the majority of the playing time. Playing time must be earned upon return.

This new policy will be enforced by all coaches, the Athletic Department, and the Boston Latin School Administration. The goal is to instill in our student-athletes the importance and value of commitment to the individual athlete, the athlete's team, and the athletic program at the Boston Latin School.

Sincerely,

Michael Contompasis
Head Master