

## Athletic Reform Feedback (unfiltered and unedited)

### League Structure

Date/Place	Feedback Details
11/3—online feedback survey	<p>I think it would be the right move to join the W.P.I.A.L., BUT NOT IF SCHOOLS HAVE TO COMBINE FOR ATHLETIC PURPOSE. We should go in to the W.P.I.A.L. in the classification their enrollment qualify them in. ( Pittsburgh Langley would play in AA ) We might then start to change the district wide rivalries that cause so many problems at our events. Instead of our kids always playing against each other and wanting to prove which community is tougher, they might just find a reason to cheer for a city team playing in a different classification. But I think the number one reason that we enter the W.P.I.A.L. in different classification is that we are giving more students an opportunity to experience what it is like to be a part of something special. If we combine some of our school just to have 5 mega sports programs we are depriving some students who might not be good enough make one the 5 mega teams. If we have our schools play in their enrollment classification we are giving more students the opportunity to play sports at the collage level. We also give students who might develop at a slower rate a chance sharpen their skills. If we are really want to improve the athletic's in the district we must give our students the opportunity to begin their athletic experience at much early age. One of the reasons other school districts are so far ahead of our programs is that they start their students playing in the second and third grade. Starting our students at the early grades, it will help us to get our student to understand what it takes to be successful. Thank You for your Time</p>
11/5/10—online feedback	Join the WPIAL
11/5/10—online feedback	Let's start playing the suburban teams, ASAP

11/5/10-online submission	I believe the best idea for moving pittsburgh athletics forward is to join the wpial, which would require consolidating schools and resources and adding JV programs for baseball and better teams for other sports. The facility upgrade at Cupples Stadium was reassuring-done well and used frequently. There are certainly other facilities that need to be addressed, but consolidating teams should allow for a bigger impact through that capital investment.
11/5/10-online submission	<p>Another idea is to combine and compete in the WPIAL as one school. If that is not possible the district could think about combining into 2 or 3 total high schools and then compete in WPIAL.</p> <p>Just some thoughts.</p>
11/5/10-online submission	I agree that joining the WPIAL in athletics would enhance the student athletes experience. However, I am against having schools with Joint venture teams competing. There should be no reason to have to combine Perry and Oliver's sports teams to join the WPIAL. You should leave the teams as they are now. 1 school, 1 team. Combining teams will take away some of the natural city rivalries that have been a tradition since the 70's and before.
11/27/10-online submission	<p>The competition level in the Pittsburgh City League is very low for football. For instance, this years Perry Commodore team was made better by scrimmaging Central Catholic and North Allegheny and playing regular season "road games" against North Hills and Wheeling Central Catholic. Not only do the players get better, but the coaches do as well. If you want the PBS to instantly become a much stronger and more attractive school district for "prospective" Pittsburgh residents.</p> <p>Consolidating and joining the Wpial IS A NO BRAINER! The idea of being worried about the competition level in the WPIAL is hillarious. Bring in on! Don't we want our kids to strive for their very best on and off the field. Let's do this and stop selling our coaches and players short.</p>



## Coaching

Date/Place	Feedback Details
11/5/10–online submission	<p>I also think that the Board should be able to fire coaches whose teams do not perform or are problematic in the classroom. In return for higher risk, coaches should be paid more like wpial coaches, including playoff pay. It is unfair to expect coaches to work an extra month but not reimburse them for that. If the board believes in merit pay for teachers then it is reasonable to bonus coaches based on playoff success. This would also motivate coaches to work harder in season and out of season to improve their teams and improve themselves.</p>
11/5/10–online submission	<p>I have believed for years that the city needs to get away from the policy of only hiring teachers that work in the school district. I have attended many, many girls basketball games and find some of the coaches to be an insult to the young ladies. A number of these student-athletes have talent beyond the high school level, but do not have the coaching to develop them to their fullest level. Many of the public schools will hire outside the district. These coaches not only spend time with their team in-season but countless numbers of hours during the off season, including the summer, developing their teams skills.</p> <p>I have spent summers with a number of these girls in AAU ball and they want to be pushed and taught the game properly. I'm pretty sure from watching some of the other sports that a lot of the coaches are doing the job for the extra money. The kids know it and express concern over these same issues. I really think if these positions were open to the public, you would see the quality of coaching and play on the court/field increase greatly. In turn, I believe grades would rise as well as self esteem. More kids would choose to do battle on the field/court, rather than on the streets</p>



Participation: Female & Overall

Date/Place	Feedback Details
11/5/10—online submission	<p>Elementary schools should have athletic programs. My daughters currently attend Minadeo and the only thing really offered is co ed soccer (starting for 4th graders) and I believe track for the older kids. Younger kids would love to have an opportunity to expend some energy as well by learning not only soccer and track, but basketball, volleyball, softball etc. It seems a shame that the younger kids are not being given opportunities to participate in athletics.</p>
11/5/10—online submission	<p>Start programs in middle school so that by the time they are in high school they are not just learning the sports and systems.</p>
11/7/10—online feedback	<p>Pittsburgh Public Schools have got to do a better job of emphasizing that gender equity is not a concept--it is Federal Law. You paid a consultant \$10,000 to tell you that girls who play, or consider playing high school athletics are marginalized (except in girl's basketball)in your system--you must provide the cultural support that allows other girl's teams to survive. If young women believe that the system is sending a message that boy's sports are more important than girl's, why should they participate?</p> <p>It is well documented that young women who grow up with positive athletic experiences (like young men) are better prepared to enter the workforce and lead. They are also healthier and have lower health care costs due to learning the value of physical activity at an early age.</p> <p>This attitude must carry over to the coaches you hire to lead and to the medical and academic support you provide these young women. They count as much in our society--they deserve no less.</p>
11/16/10—online feedback	<p>Ensure consistent youth sports organization outreach and accountability sounds great, but there is no mention of anything on the elementary level in the district. There is a one day championship in track and a one day championship in swimming. There is a small league of basketball teams, but the district has little to no involvement in it.</p> <p>Take for example the Shaler School district, they start the wrestling program in Kindergarten. Its no wonder they are one of the top schools in Wrestling each year around here. Same goes for</p>

	<p>other sports. They dont wait to expose them to the sport.</p> <p>So why do students in Pgh Public have to wait usually till 6th grade to participate in sports? We wouldnt wait till 6th grade to have them start reading would we? No. We have to build the foundation early.</p>
11/30/10—online feedback	<p>As the district moves ahead to update the athletics programs, please consider adding choices like fencing and rowing. I know my middle school daughter would be realy excited to have fencing as an option.</p> <p>Thanks</p>

## Connection To Academics

Date/Place	Feedback Details
11/5/10— online submission	<p>one thing that all student athletes are academic eligible to play sports going to classes, doing homework, keeping grades up, any off field bad behavior meaning just because athlete cause they can't be punish expect to be excuse from what ever sports played.</p> <p>there also should be a college athletic club where as they can track grades, attendance, counseling, tutoring, life skills classes, etc.</p>
11/29/10— online feedback	<p>All Pittsburgh Public School students must be made aware that academics and attitude is above all else when trying out for any athletic team...Most students feel they will grow up and become this great football person, or the best basketball person in the United States...that may be the truth. However, students must be aware while in school-- grades, homework, and citizenship grades should be above all else. Students need sports in school it give them something to look forward as an outlet to express themselves...I am in complete agreement there should be all kinds of electives in a middle school and high school. Every student should be given a choice to apply to any athletic team but, to stay on the team their grade in any subject or elective should be above a "C" or better. Absolutely no "Unsatisfactory grades in citizenship! If the student cannot keep his/her grades to a "C" or better; place the student on probation for a length of time until he/or she demonstrates improvement...They may be bench during the time of the probational period. It is time for the Pittsburgh Public School to maintain a certain level of awareness for jobs in Pittsburgh are becoming limited in the City...We need our students to be positive, prepared, polite and productive citizens for their future.</p>



Transportation & Scheduling

Date/Place	Feedback Details

## Facilities & Equipment

Date/Place	Feedback Details
11/5/10—online submission	<p>I feel athletics is just as important part of school as reading, writing and arithmetic. As a graduate of Schenley High, I know that the city schools don't spend as much on athletics as other school districts do. While you might have to search for the money, search for it. These kids deserve to have the opportunities to play sports and to have the best equipment.</p>
11/8/10—online submission	<p>Pittsburgh Milliones 6-12 University Prep needs a gym and locker facilities that meet a High Schools needs. They Gym that we have now is extremely unsafe. There are concrete stairs on the floor of the gym. It is only a matter of time before a student falls and hits their head and becomes seriously injured. The gym is also not the correct size for the class sizes that we have. There is not equipment room on the floor with the gym. This is a High school and the students deserve to have facilities that meet their needs.</p>

Sportsmanship

Date/Place	Feedback Details

Wellness

Date/Place	Feedback Details

Miscellaneous

Date/Place	Feedback Details
11/5/10—online feedback	I am a former PIAA Official and Youth Coach. I have a son that is playing div.I football and I serve on a state parent advocacy council. I would be very interested in helping out with your upcoming project with your city athletic program.
11/6/10—online feedback	Can't fit the phone # with area code into the phone field.
12/3/10—online feedback	City League Fans and I have been talking about these same proposed changes for years. Everyone is excited about this. Just do it all the way.