

### Internal Announcement

Our High School football team is scheduled to play against Mt. Carmel this coming Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> in the District IV Quarterfinals. Due to a bevy of injuries, Bloomsburg's potential roster has been decimated to a maximum of seventeen players able to compete in this game. With this amount of injuries it is in the best interest of Bloomsburg's student-athletes to forfeit the contest to Mt. Carmel for reasons concerning their safety.

As of Tuesday morning, the 29<sup>th</sup> of October, we have available seventeen players. In reality, this number could only drop. Football is, by nature, a physical sport, and it is our belief that we cannot safely field a team to compete. We certainly regret the timing of this decision as we fully intended to compete in the District IV playoffs if we qualified. Unfortunately, we lost seven more players to injury last Friday night against Central Columbia. Only one of these players is even questionable to play for this coming game. The other six have been fully evaluated and will not be able to compete.

These numbers cause a great range of problems. First, our team would be forced to move players into positions with which they have little or no familiarity. This in itself creates concerns of safety especially when playing at this level. Secondly, the volume of injuries would lead to highly inexperienced players to be thrust into positions for which they are not ready due to their lack of experience. These situations create conditions under which we administratively have serious concerns for our players' safety.

While the Bloomsburg Area School District regrets this decision, it has not been made lightly. We hope that everyone involved understands and recognizes that primary concern in this matter is for the safety and well-being of our young student-athletes.