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Cc: "John A. Hufnagel" <john.hufnagel@pcsi.ws>

Bcc:

Date: Mon, 27 Feb 2023 03:25:13 -0400

Subject: Option II for PE course

All,

I would like to ask the Board of Education and Administration to again consider 'Option II' to allow student athletes to opt out of physical education. This was previously reviewed in 2017. <https://www.bhpsnj.org/cms/lib/NJ01001806/Centricity/Domain/4/Option%20II%20Presentation-BOE%20January%2019%20Final%201-19-17.pdf>

However, at the time, the concern was that students didn't necessarily need any more study hall. It did not take into account students who many want to consider more electives or core classes. This is particularly the case with my son, Alexander. Alexander is in the Shared Time program at UCVTS for welding. This means that he only has 4 class periods at GL, because he is at UCVTS the other 4 periods. Since English and physical education are required, this only leaves 2 classes available. IN order to received the proper credits in all the other core courses (math, science, and history), he can only take core courses and no electives. If he could opt out of physical education, he could take an elective or another core course (currently, he has no history course; next year, he will have to drop either science or math). He will never have a study hall. He would like to take advantage of some of the electives that other students at GL are afforded.

The other concern was noted to be how to have students opt in and out due to their sport schedule. It did not account for students who have year-round activity, as is the case with Alexander. The purpose of physical education is to get physical activity. Alexander has been very active in Tae Kwon Do for 9 years, having earned his second degree black belt in the summer between freshman and sophomore years. In a typical week, he takes over 5 hours of class AND teaches for 8 hours. This is considerably more activity than he would get in physical education class in school. His schedule is year round – during holidays and the summer.

I ask that Berkeley Heights consider allowing students to utilize the Option II on a case-by-case basis.