

From: Sai Bhargavi Akiri <sbhargavi@bhpsnj.org>
Subject: Re: Columbia Tennis Court Questions
Date: March 13, 2025 at 9:46:03 AM EDT
To: Laura Kapuscinski <llkap@me.com>

Good Morning Laura,

As you are aware, we are in contract negotiations and are reverting back with a request for information following the board's receipt of an amended lease agreement.

Unfortunately, this decision to restrict access to tennis courts rests entirely with the Mayor, Council, and Recreation Department.

I have requested all email communications from the Township regarding the restriction of access to our public tennis courts in town. I am yet to see a formal communication restricting access to our public tennis courts.

Speaking for myself, I find it unthinkable to use our community's young people as leverage in a contract negotiation. I share your frustration and, given this debacle, I struggle to trust the Township to uphold its commitment to prioritizing field access for our students. I sincerely hope the Township reconsiders and makes the right decision.

Furthermore, I'm unsure if the Township has passed an ordinance enforcing this restriction, specifically one effective March 13, 2025, limiting access for BHPS students. Wouldn't a formal ordinance be required to implement such a restriction to public tennis courts? Since this decision is being made solely by the Township of Berkeley Heights regarding restricting access to students to public tennis courts funded by taxpayers.

Best regards,
Sai Bhargavi

Note: These are my thoughts and opinions as an individual and do not represent the opinion of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education.

On Mar 13, 2025, at 8:11 AM, Laura Kapuscinski <llkap@me.com> wrote:

Good morning everyone!

I hope this communication finds you well.

I have heard from several parents that the GL Tennis Coach has communicated that the once shared courts between BOE and BHTWP are no longer allowed for GL tennis usage.

I would like to know if the Township has followed through on the January communication with the Superintendent, effectively depriving students from using the Township-owned courts until

their lease agreement is signed.

I would like to respectfully request that someone from the Township and BOE please advise as to the legitimacy of this claim.

Please also provide any insight possible as to why the Coach would convey such specificity surrounding the reasoning behind the tennis court "usage removal" and assert that the BOE is at fault for this unnecessary and unfortunate decision from the Township.

Respectfully,
Laura Kapuscinski