

## **Safeguarding and Safe Sport at St Johnsbury Academy**

Dear Parents,

We hope this message finds you well. As we embark on another exciting season of high school sports, we want to reaffirm our commitment to the safety and well-being of all our student-athletes. Safeguarding and promoting a safe sporting environment are our top priorities, and we are dedicated to ensuring that every participant has a positive and secure experience.

Key Aspects of Our Safeguarding Policy:

1. **Education and Training:** All coaches undergo comprehensive training on child protection and safe sport practices as part of the hiring process (Vector Safe School training platform). This training helps them recognize, prevent, and respond appropriately to any issues of concern.
2. **Background Checks:** We conduct thorough background checks on all individuals working with our student-athletes to ensure a safe and trustworthy environment as part of the Human Resources process.
3. **Open Communication:** We encourage open lines of communication between students, parents, coaches, and administrators. If you or your child have any concerns, please feel free to reach out to us immediately.
4. **Reporting Mechanisms:** We have established procedures for reporting any incidents or concerns. These reports can be made confidentially, and we take all reports seriously, investigating them promptly and thoroughly. They should be addressed directly to the Director of Athletics.
5. **Support Services:** We provide access to support services, including counseling and guidance, to assist students who may need help dealing with any issues they encounter.

Your support and vigilance are crucial in maintaining a safe environment for our student-athletes. Together, we can create a positive and nurturing atmosphere that allows our young athletes to thrive and achieve their best.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

Best regards,

Troy Engle  
Athletic Director  
St Johnsbury Academy  
[troy.engle@stjacademy.org](mailto:troy.engle@stjacademy.org)  
(802) 745-9984