



7-1-26

Springville Families/Students and Community:

The following letter serves as initial communication from Springville CSD on a recent change at the legislative level that will impact school activities across the state.

As you may have heard, during the 2026 legislative session in Iowa, the state passed House File 2591 that has a provision that makes it legal for 8th grade students to participate in high school activities. Since the signing of this change earlier in June, the state, IHSA, and the IGHSAA have been working to get emergency rules and guidance in place for its official start date of August 1, 2026. While this is a change in the state of Iowa, this is something that already is occurring in several states which will help our state navigate its implementation.

At Springville, we will be starting the process of using the guidelines from the state to evaluate next steps for our school to ensure we are ready for August 1st. While we will not create a blanket policy that places all 8th grade students in high school activities, we anticipate there will be certain situations that would be appropriate for specific athletes. Our goal will be to focus on what creates the best possible experience as well as consider what's in the best interest of the individual student and the teams. Additionally, we want to develop appropriate processes and policies that help us achieve our goals.

As mentioned above, we'll be using guidance from the state as we develop Springville's policies on this. To ensure that you are as informed as possible on the guidance from the IHSA/IGHSAA that we will be using, I have linked that below for your review. This information does a great job of answering some of the practical questions school, communities, and families may ask. With this being new, please know that as different questions and situations come up, further guidance may be added or adjusted.

Please click here for the guidance: [IHSA/IGHSAA HF2591 Guidance](#)

Thank you for your patience as we work on this change. We're confident we'll be able to get policies and processes in place soon and look forward to making this change a positive one for students and families of Springville CSD. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Again, thank you for your support of Springville activities and athletics!

Nick Merritt
7-12 Principal