



NAVAJO PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Yideeskáágóó Naat'áanii: Leaders Now and into the Future

Dear Athletes, Parents/Guardians:

I am privileged to serve as the new head football coach for the Navajo Preparatory School (NPS) Eagles. This next season will be my 12th year coaching high school football. Our pre-season (two days) starts on Monday, August 5, with a mandatory parent meeting on August 4 at 2:00 pm in the Eagle's Nest. All players will need to stay in Residential homes to attend meetings, player expectations, lifts, and team bonding.

Please ensure physicals are done before the first practice. Players are required to get a physical done on RankOne. Please do not wait until August when appointments become hard to schedule.

- We will also send out **team app** for communication: team and parent communication
- Hudl App allows players to watch weekly film and
- First down playbook (maybe) or Readylist team app (maybe)

This letter describes the purpose of the Eagle football program and why you should encourage your son/daughter to participate in football next season. Even if your child has never played football, I would like you to consider the powerful impact we are trying to make on your child's life. I love coaching kids with no experience and seeing them grow over the years. I also firmly believe that having kids as dual sport athletes is beneficial.

The purpose of Eagle Football is to complement the educational goals of Navajo Prep by emphasizing each athlete's physical, mental, and character development. To fulfill this purpose statement, the football program will "teach athletes essential traits needed to be successful in football and life." Eagle football coaches believe that success in football requires growth in each athlete's body, mind, and heart. This philosophy acts as the basis for our program.

My coaches and I are trying to give your child mentorship to guide them toward becoming better, growing, and mature by providing long life lessons. I believe that we all need to continue to grow as people, whether as adults or children. Learning the game of football, as with life, is a sign of his maturation and development physically, mentally, and in the process. We will assist your child's character development. Parents should be the primary means of developing character and mental skills, but coaches, just like teachers, can help parents teach essential attributes. Football is an excellent venue for learning beneficial traits such as **HARD WORK, DEDICATION, COMMITMENT, SACRIFICES, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**, which are the pillars of our program. I want to use football as a way to make a difference in the lives of my players. I want to prepare my players to enter the world, raise families, succeed, and contribute to the community's common good.

A primary goal in this pursuit is to create a team. Creating a team is more complex than teaching kids how to cooperate with others; its having kids learn a specific skill. It's understood that they must lose some of themselves for a team to thrive. Our focus is on the team. I want players to understand what it means to sacrifice for a team and achieve related goals that the coaches and players set.





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One of the main attributes we are trying to instill in our athletes is commitment. Commitment is so essential in all areas of life. We want our athletes to be committed year-round to improving themselves. For the players, commitment means being held accountable by their teammates, following rules, and pushing themselves through hard work for the team's benefit. It's not enough for players to show up and go along for the ride. We want them to be dedicated to pursuing what it takes to be successful in football, life, and academics. We expect players to commit to the off-season program, maintain high academic standards, attend all meetings and summer camps, and follow the advice of their coaches.

For the athletes, the commitment is a promise that they will be there for each other. If they strive for it, they will learn how to be committed to a team; they will be able to say, "I was there for you, honestly." Their shared commitment will create brotherhood and K'e among the players. Players will gain camaraderie, discipline, and lifelong friendships while playing a game.

I will model what I expect from my athletes. I am not following the saying "do as I say, not as I do." So when I expect athletes to train and lift weights in the off-training season, I will lead by example and maintain healthy nutritional habits while emphasizing proper nutrition. I will model positive character traits and adequate communication, emphasizing education, leadership, and serving others. I will model the characteristics that the football program is trying to develop in the lives of each athlete. This will be the standard for the coaching staff and me; we will be good role models to your child.

Players will always have safe equipment. We strictly abide by NMAA rules to reduce the chance of injuries with proper tackling and concussion protocols. The NMAA allows unlimited access to State High School Associations (NFHS) hands as they set such rules to make the game safe.

I will push them as head coach and have high expectations to build a positive and winning culture. My job is to teach them how to play the game at a high level and hold them accountable.

Thanks for your dedication and support of Navajo Preparatory School athletics and the Eagle football program.

Sincerely,

Roderick Denetso 24-25
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Current Practice Times (June 2024-until changed)

- ALL: Mon-Fri, 9:00-11:00 am (Coach Sorenson)
- ALL: Mon-Fri, 4:30-6:30 pm (Coach Pioche-Lee)
 - Tues & Thurs, Agility & Field Work
- **Monday, June 23: Full-Team Practice, 5:00-8:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, June 25: Full-Team Practice, 5:00-8:00 pm**
- **Saturday, June 29: 7 on 7 & Big Man Lineman challenge, Wingate High School**
- **Weekly 7's with Aztec and Bloomfield (TBD)**

"All summer workouts are recommended"

2024 Eagle Football Schedule

Friday, August 23, 2024, Shiprock Home, 7 pm
Friday, August 30, 2024, Wingate Away, 7 pm
Friday, September 6, 2024 Pinon, AZ Home 7 pm
Thursday, September 13, 2024, Crownpoint Away, 7 pm
Friday, September 20, 2024, SFIS Away 7 pm
Friday, September 27, 2024, Laguna Acoma Home, 7 pm
Friday, October 4, 2024 Bye
Thursday, October 10, 2024, Cuba Home 7 pm
Friday, October 18, 2024, Hozho Academy Away 7 pm
Saturday, October 26, 2024, McCurdy Away 1 pm
Friday, November 1, 2024, Newcomb Home, 7 pm
November 8, 2024, 1st Round of State
November 15, 2024, Quarter Finals of State
November 22, 2024 Semi-Finals of State
November 29, 2024, State Championship Game

3 seasons of football:

Season 1: August to November (FUN) Season 2: January to May (Work) Season 3: May to August (work)

