



6/30/2020

Greetings YMLA Scholars, Families, and Stakeholders:

We hope this finds you in good health and spirits. In an effort to make the best decision for our campus, community, and our scholars, much communication has taken place during the last two years. It has been decided and mutually agreed upon, by the coaches and administration of YMLA and the Fort Worth ISD Athletic Department that it is in the best interest of the campus to discontinue our middle school football program.

This decision has not been made lightly, as we are aware of the impact that this will undoubtedly have on many 7th and 8th grade scholars. In the interest of transparency, here are some of the reasons, agreed upon by all parties.

- The lack of a high school football program leads to a school wide and disruptive mass exodus of students between 8th and 9th grade.
- A concern of continuing to attract the quality, quantity, and willingness of the coaches who would be asked to coach middle school football, while keeping our young men safe.
- Difficulty having and sustaining the appropriate number of players to safely field a team.

Going forward, we will continue to offer the same sports in middle school that are available in our high school programs, which include basketball, track and field, and soccer. If you have any questions, you can reach me directly through email at Rodney.white@fwisd.org.

Sincerely,

Rodney White, Principal

Paul Laurence Dunbar Young Men's Leadership Academy