## Highland Park Athletic Department

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"When you play one of us, vou play all of us."



JOHNNY RINGO ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Dear HPISD Parent,

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Highland Park ISD is committed to offering excellent academic and extracurricular programs to its students.

As you may know, the state's decreased funding for HPISD and other school districts has caused a continuing statewide budget crisis. HPISD is working to continue to offer the same opportunities for students while making the necessary cuts to balance the budget.

HPISD's Athletic Commitment to Excellence (ACE) fee, which has been in place since 1994-95, helps offset the considerable expense of running an athletic program that serves over 2600 student athletes in grades 7-12. For 2016-17, the ACE fee will continue at its current rate of \$250 per student athlete. Students may participate in more than one sport without an additional fee. There is no discount for multiple students in a family.

Families with special financial circumstances should discuss payment options or the possibility of a waiver with their student's coach or the athletic office prior to the start of the school year. Families can be assured of confidentiality regarding payment arrangements. All efforts will be made to ensure that students who wish to participate in athletics are given the opportunity.

ACE fees are collected once a student has been selected for a team and are due prior to the start of practice. Payment may be made by check delivered to the student's coach, or it may be made by credit card online at https://skyward.hpisd.org/scripts/wsisa.dll/WService=wsEAplus/fwemnu01.w

Please note that ACE fees are not subject to recapture by the state, so every dollar stays here in HPISD. Considering our current recapture rate is 70 percent, you can see the difference that makes. While the ACE fees help us to continue running a top-notch athletic program, they only cover a fraction of the total expenses.

Thank you for supporting Highland Park ISD's tradition of excellence. It is a privilege to have your student athlete on our team!

Sincerely.