



Kingsway to start girls' flag football program; joins West Jersey League

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Woolwich Twp. – School officials are excited to announce the start of a new High School Varsity Girls Flag Football Program. The Program, which has been supported by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) and sponsored by the Philadelphia Eagles, is set to begin in March 2023. This announcement comes one year after the Eagles helped create a similar flag football program with the [Philadelphia Public and Catholic Schools](#).



The intent is to elevate the sport of girls' flag football in an effort to promote gender equality in sports offered at the high school level and help grow the game of football by providing unique opportunities for female students to play a game where they have minimal representation. The program will be officially announced on [National Girls and Women in Sports Day](#) (February 1, 2023). The objective is to make flag football a sanctioned sport in the State of New Jersey.

“Girls Flag Football joins Girls Wrestling and Girls Golf as new female athletic programs added to our high school within the last five years,” said Athletic Director June Cioffi. “I am excited

Kingsway will provide another opportunity for our high school students to engage in athletics and benefit from the many experiences and lessons learned through sports.”

To help defray costs, the Philadelphia Eagles are donating \$3,000 to support startup of the program and athletes will receive custom uniforms from Nike.

Kingsway will play an eight game season and compete in the newly formed West Jersey Football League as a member of the Tri-County Division. Member schools include Burlington City, Willingboro, Pemberton, Pennsauken, Mastery Prep, Washington Township, Hammonton, Middle Township, Mainland, Cedar Creek, Absegami, Oakcrest and Ocean City. A playoff jamboree will be held at Lincoln Financial Field and a Championship Game at the Eagles NovaCare Complex in May 2023.

The announcement of this Girls Flag Football League comes two months after Kingsway recognized female athletes, coaches, administrators and board members before the Homecoming football game in [celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Title IX](#). This landmark gender equity law has profoundly impacted women’s sports by barring sex discrimination in federally funded education programs. Title IX’s protections opened doors for women in admissions, academic majors, teaching positions, vocational programs and continues to be the only legislation to address sex-based discrimination in education, giving women more opportunities in high school, collegiate and professional sports.

“We greatly appreciate this partnership with the Philadelphia Eagles to secure more valuable opportunities for our female athletes to shine,” said Superintendent Dr. James J. Lavender. “As an organization we prioritize equal opportunities for our female students and this program aligns with our mission of inclusion, support, and belonging for our students.”

School officials anticipate naming a head coach after the New Year and a student interest meeting will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

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About the Kingsway Regional School District

Kingsway is a limited purpose regional school district that offers its students a rigorous academic program and a myriad of enrichment programs and services for students in grades 7 to 12.

Kingsway Regional Middle School (grades 7 to 8) and Kingsway Regional High School (grades 9 to

12) cater to the individual needs of our students and promote opportunities for students to pursue their own areas of interest. Our population of approximately 2,900 students is multicultural and reflects the diversity of the communities it serves. Its mission is to ensure that all students receive rigorous and engaging instructional experiences that promote high levels of student achievement, including those with diverse learning needs. To learn more, visit the District's website at www.krsd.org or visit our information video [Why Kingsway?](#)