**THIS IS AN INFORMATION PAPER**

**TO: Members of the Hardin County Board of Education**

**FROM: Robert B. Lewis, Associate Superintendent for Student Services**

**DATE: November 7, 2012**

**TOPIC: ImPACT Concussion Program**

**DISCUSSION:**

The Hardin County Board of Education approved funding for student athletes to participate in the “ImPACT Concussion” program in 2011. Hardin County Schools was one of the first in the state of Kentucky to implement this safety program for their athletes. Since that time many of our students have benefited from the additional procedures that are now followed to ensure they are ready/able to return to practice and game situations.

At the high school level, 2,894 baseline tests have been administered and 104 “post injury” concussion tests have been given. Of the 104 tests administered, 76 students required additional testing prior to returning the field of play. In middle school, 382 baseline tests have been administered, with 9 students taking “post injury” concussion tests with 7 students requiring additional testing. When a student takes the “post injury” test, they have suffered a concussion during an athletic practice or event.

Total number of students tested, 3,276 with 113 students suffering from a concussion who have benefited from this program. The most important provision of the “ImPACT Testing”, one which is not reflected in the numbers provided, is what is required of students prior to returning to athletic endeavors:

Step 1: Must be cleared by a physician (required by state law).

Step 2: Must clear ImPACT test and have numbers within the normal range.

Step 3: **Must complete gradual return to play process**.

Hardin County Schools have one of the most in-depth concussion “return to play programs” that is being implemented in the state which bodes well for all student athletes in HCS.