



355 Harlem Road ž West Seneca, NY 14224 ž Phone: 716-821-7092

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT: Mark DiFilippo**  
**PHONE: 821-7092**

### **Section VI Upholds Earlier Decision Regarding Bennett Football**

The Executive Committee of Section VI unanimously voted to uphold its previous decision to move forward with their football championships without Bennett High School. Section VI heard an appeal Monday afternoon that was requested by the Buffalo Public Schools (BPS).

“COVID continues to negatively impact our students, teams and schools’, Section VI President, Brett Banker stated. “The Executive Committee feels devastated for all 14 teams across our Section that were seeded in our winter and Fall2 tournaments but because of COVID were forced out of sectional play.”

Executive Director, Mark DiFilippo reminded schools of the policy as recently as April 30 in his Monthly Report. In the report it states, *‘If a team goes on Pause during Sectionals, their opponent will advance. Games WILL NOT be delayed’*. The Section has consistently applied this practice for multiple seasons.

“We have been consistent and equitable in our approach”, Banker continued. “Due to this pandemic and everything associated with it, the Section has been forced into positions none of us thought possible. Having said that, our ethical and equal enforcement of our policies has guided us”.

As a result, Lancaster High School will host Orchard Park on Friday, May 14 at 7 pm.

Mark DiFilippo

Executive Director  
Section VI, NYSPHSAA, Inc.