

Mike Toledo

March 1, 2024 at 9:06 AM

MT

Child Endangerment follow-up

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To: randy.McDaniel@tvcs.org,

Cc: Robin.Grant@tvcs.org, Richard Pettus

Dr. McDaniel,

January 22, 2024, I sent a message to Robin Grant, The Villages High School Principal, together with a copy to you, The Villages High School Director of Education, Dr. Randy McDaniel. "Child Endangerment: What parents don't know..." was the subject of my concern.

I've never received a response from either Robin Grant, or you, Dr. McDaniel. I did, however, on January 26, 2024, receive a brief response from The Villages High School Director of Athletics, Coach Richard Pettus, regarding a message I sent him several weeks prior on January 3, 2024.

Coach Richard Pettus' January 26, 2024, response to my urgent message stating that naive athletes are being subjected to lethal pole vault methods is, "**We'll continue to make sure our coaches are following the FHSAA rules in track & field.**" Coach Pettus' response caused me to become even further concerned because, as The Villages High School Director of Athletics, Coach Pettus is condoning deadly NFHS & USATF pole vault curriculum as CORRECT, when, in fact, FHSAA rules are based upon a history of misinformation that has long proven itself to be deadly.

I have been provided video evidence by a Florida high school student, showing himself plummeting to the ground from a height exceeding 12 feet, after completely missing the landing mats this past track season, 2023. The same teenager, also informed me that another vaulter, on his school's team, suffered a season-ending injury applying FHSAA approved lethal pole vault methods. Additionally, another member on the same track team, shared with me video results of himself suffering the hazardous consequences of applying FHSAA approved lethal pole vault methods. That's three confirmed needlessly "endangered" students at one relatively very small Florida high school. How many more victims of this nonsense are out there of whom we have no knowledge?

The Florida High School Athletic Association's track record, with regard to pole vault safety, is a provable atrocity. We can trace the FHSAA's scandalous ineptitude by chronologically following the trail of known deaths and catastrophic injuries resulting from the application of FHSAA approved lethal pole vault methods. I relocated to Florida only eight months ago and have already documented three cases firsthand that occurred at a single small high school during just one track season.

Rocket science mathematics is not required. I assure you, I'm not a rocket scientist. You can simply view me as a concerned parent who believes the documented PREVENTABLE 2002 pole vault death of 16 year old Florida high school student, Jesus Queseda, was already one too many. Any student, in the State of Florida, participating in pole vault, while applying FHSAA approved lethal pole vault methods, is in REAL DANGER. This is a deadly serious matter. FHSAA has irresponsibly left intact every flaw that caused the death of innocent naive teenager, Jesus Queseda, twenty-two years ago.

At the root of this deadly predicament is the sports equipment Goliath, UCS (United Canvas & Sling). Thirty-three years ago I entered the belly of this beast as it was metastasizing into the malevolent monster it is today. If you are even slightly concerned, I ask that you please invest 8 minutes of your exceptionally valuable time to view the video I've placed at this link:

<https://howtopolevault.com/deadlystupid.html>

Sincerely,

Michael Thomas Toledo
The Villages, FL