## **Central Connecticut Conference**

## Racial Justice and Equity Statement

The Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) is a high school interscholastic athletic league comprising 32 high schools located throughout central Connecticut. In the Spring of 2021, the CCC formed an Equity, Inclusion and Justice sub-committee which is charged with the examination of its policies and practices to influence social change and promote educational opportunities for all stakeholders. The CCC has also pledged to use its voice to serve as a leading force toward equity, inclusion and justice for all student athletes. The CCC is committed to strengthen our resolve as an interconnected community aimed at ensuring fair and just experiences for all. The CCC has adopted the following statement of principles to guide us in this pursuit.

The Central Connecticut Conference recognizes the tremendous impact high school athletics can have on its student athletes and their families. The CCC also acknowledges it is a part of a larger system that continues to face issues of inequity and injustice among marginalized members of society. With this understanding, the CCC readily accepts the responsibility to use its influence to create immediate and lasting social change in the interest of ensuring its student-athletes are able to maximize their potential in their chosen athletic arena. In accepting this challenge we commit to the following:

-Use our diversity to listen to differing perspectives and experiences to develop a broader understanding of the human condition as it relates to others outside of our sphere of influence.

-Identify any inequities in participation, performance and experiences of our BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, female and students with disabilities and any other group who may have fallen victim to discriminatory practices.

-Embrace the challenge of acknowledging our biases and eliminating discriminatory practices that adversely impact our marginalized student-athletes and their families.

-Create a sustainable learning model that prioritizes empathy as a founding principle.

We fully recognize and accept the enormity of the challenge we have in front of us and invite all of our athletes, parents, family members, coaches, and administrators to join us on this journey.

Avon, Berlin, Bloomfield, Bristol Central, Bristol Eastern, Bulkeley, Conard, East Catholic, East Hartford, Enfield, E.O. Smith, Farmington, Glastonbury, Hall, Hartford Public, Lewis Mills, Maloney, Manchester, Middletown, New Britain, Newington, Northwest Catholic, Plainville, Platt, RHAM, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, Southington, South Windsor, Tolland, Wethersfield, and Windsor.