

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PATERSON SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT RESCHEDULES UPCOMING KENNEDY KNIGHTS VS. HACKENSACK HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME FOR FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

*Altercations among fans at last week's Kennedy VS. PCTI game cited among superintendent's reasons*

PATERSON – Paterson School Superintendent Eileen F. Shafer today announced her decision to reschedule this Friday's football game between the Kennedy High School Knights and the Hackensack High School Comets for 2:00 p.m. at Bauerle Field. The game was originally scheduled to take place on Friday at 6:00 p.m.

“As I have previously stated, the safety of players, families, students and fans must be our first concern at all events hosted at Paterson Public Schools,” Shafer said. “In light of the altercations that took place in the stands at last weekend's game between Kennedy and Passaic County Tech, the better choice is to have the game take place with the benefit of daylight as part of our measures to ensure everyone's safety. I realize this is not a popular decision, but it is simply the right thing to do. The Paterson Public Schools administration continues to support our student athletes and all who work with them.”

Shafer noted other considerations that led to her decision.

“Hackensack High School's principal shares in my concerns for safety as he had requested the game to be held earlier,” Shafer said. “By holding the game a few hours earlier, we meet our safety concerns, and maintain the same day of the game as well as the home field advantage.”

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