



Andy Swift, Executive Director  
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January 27, 2020

**To:** School Principal, Student Advisor, Teacher and/or Athletic Director

**Subject:** Student/Athlete competition, the Dr Pepper Dallas Cup

This letter is to inform you that your student plays soccer for a club that has been selected to participate in the premier youth soccer event in the United States, the Dallas Cup.

The Dallas Cup is the oldest international youth soccer tournament in the United States and will be celebrating its 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary in 2020. This year's tournament will be played from April 5 – 12, 2020, in Dallas, Texas. Typically, 200 teams participate each year, divided in seven age groups, with the ages of the players ranging from 11 to 18 years old. Approximately 35% of the teams are international clubs, 50% travel to Dallas from the four corners of the U.S., and 15% are local teams based in the Dallas area. The tournament entertains, on average, more than 100,000 spectators during the week.

The Dallas Cup annually provides our youth players the opportunity to compete against some of the best soccer players from all over the United States and the world. With teams from over twenty countries participating in this year's tournament, these young players will benefit from a week-long experience of meeting and spending time with other participants from different cultures, providing ample opportunity to learn about different traditions and ways of life. In addition, this is also an opportunity for our high school players to be scouted by coaches from many of the top college programs in the United States. Each year, the event draws hundreds of college coaches from across the country, as they use the Dallas Cup to identify future college players.

We ask for your cooperation, as we strive to develop our area's best youth soccer and academic athletes. We have done everything we can to limit the number of days of school that will be missed, but unfortunately, the players will miss a minimum of three days of school. Those days are Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. If the team is successful, they would continue to play Thursday, Friday and Saturday of that same week. We would be very grateful if you would allow your student an excused absence for these days, and provide the student with assignments in advance. If you have any questions regarding our program, or this event, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Andy Swift", written over a horizontal line.

Andy Swift  
Executive Director