



BOROUGH OF TARENTUM

**PRESS RELEASE
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Tarentum Police Connect with Local High School Athletes at Luncheon

Tarentum, PA —The Tarentum Borough Police Department hosted a special luncheon today with members of the local high school football team, fostering positive connections between student-athletes and law enforcement. The gathering provided an opportunity for open conversation, mutual learning, and relationship-building in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

The event brought players and officers together to share a meal, discuss leadership, and explore the parallels between athletics and public service, teamwork, discipline, accountability, and commitment to something larger than oneself. Officers spoke with the students about the important role young leaders play in shaping their communities and encouraged them to carry the values learned on the field into their everyday lives.

"We are grateful to the Highlands Rams for spending time with us today," said Tarentum Police Chief Bill Vakulick. "Opportunities like this allow our officers to connect with local youth in a positive setting, building relationships that strengthen trust and understanding. Investing time with our young people is one of the most important things we can do for the future of our community."

The luncheon is part of the Police Department's ongoing community engagement efforts, which aim to build trust and strengthen connections with residents of all ages. By creating spaces for dialogue outside of emergencies, the Department hopes to deepen mutual understanding and support.

The Borough would like to extend a special thank you to the Highlands Rams, coaches Damian Glass and Michael L. Foster, as well as Wendell Bradshaw for helping organize the event. We also thank Tyler Wolfe, General Manager of the local Olive Garden, for generously donating the food that made this gathering possible.

This event reflects Tarentum's ongoing commitment to fostering a safe, supportive, and unified community.

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