Regional School District No. 18 Lyme Street Campus Multipurpose Field

Public Forum

October 21, 2020









HISTORY



ATHLETIC FIELDS AD HOC COMMITTEE CHARTER

Evaluate the three multi-purpose athletic fields and develop a Board of Education recommendation for facility improvements which best serves the long-term needs of the school district and community.







AD HOC ATHLETIC FIELD COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- David Brown Lyme BOF
- Donald Bugbee OL P&R Director
- Rick Caulkins Facilities Committee
- Glenn Fergione Asst. Dir. of Fac.
- Kevin Fuselier MMI Lead Designer
- Brian Greenho Lacrosse Club
- David Kelsey OL BOF
- Rich Goulding BOE
- Hilda Heck Athletic Director
- Nancy Lucas BOE
- Phil Neaton Facilities Committee

- Ian Neviaser Superintendent
- Patrick Pryor Parent
- John Rhodes Dir. Of Fac. & Tech.
- Tom Risom OL Zoning & Fire Chief
- Michelle Roche BOE
- Tom Sherer Facilities Committee
- Jason Thornton Lyme P&R Director
- Marc Vendetti HS Boys Soccer Coach
- Jean Wilczynski BOE
- Stacy Winchell BOE



AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

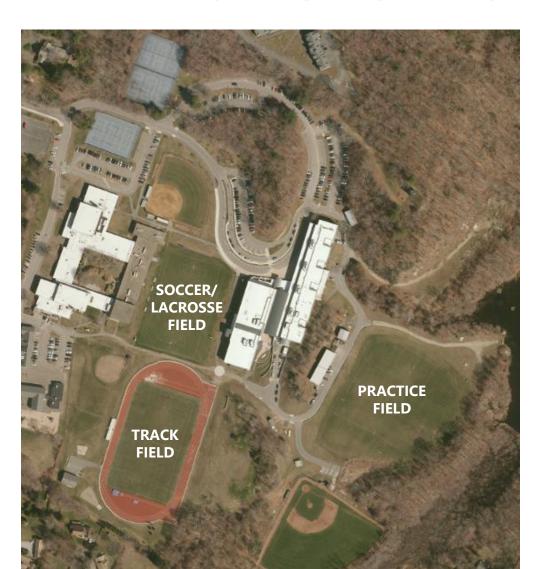
- Install a dedicated irrigation system water supply Completed 2019
- Install artificial turf on practice field
 - Configuration to accommodate Soccer, Lacrosse, Baseball, & Softball







EXISTING MULTIPURPOSE FIELDS





Track Field

- Soccer and Lacrosse
- Irrigated
- Under Field Drainage
- HS/MS Physical Education

Soccer/Lacrosse Field

- Soccer and Lacrosse
- Irrigated
- HS/MS Physical Education

Practice Field

- Practice field for Soccer, Lacrosse and Baseball
- Not Irrigated
- HS Physical Education



CURRENT ATHLETIC FIELD CHALLENGES

- Insufficient irrigation water supply
- Pesticide ban
- Usable field space during early spring
- Repair of field damage following lacrosse season
- Summer month shut down
- 'Regrow' of practice field following each summer season
- Baseball and softball practice areas
- Facilities staff workload and field maintenance costs
- Maintenance interruptions in physical education programs
- Weather dependent use





IRRIGATION DEMAND VERSUS WATER SUPPLY

- Track and soccer/lacrosse fields irrigated using Lyme Street campus potable water system
- Lyme Street Campus water system supplies:
 - High School, Middle School, Center School, Town Hall, Fire House, LYSB & OL Historic Society
- Added new well Winter 2017 due to diminishing well field yield
- Lyme Street campus water system output = 100,296 gallons/week
- Existing irrigation system demand (1" water/week)
 - Track + soccer/lacrosse fields = 106,072 gallons/week
- Estimated irrigation system demand (1" water/week)
 - Track + soccer/lacrosse + practice fields = 195,208 gallons/week
- Water purchases Summer 2015 & 2016 to keep up with irrigation demands



ATHLETIC PROGRAM CONFLICTS REMEDIED WITH ALL-WEATHER MULTIPURPOSE FIELD

- Spring Sports
 - Starts 3rd weekend of March
 - Fields too wet and muddy for practices 1-2 weeks beginning of Spring season
 - Rain closes fields
 - Varsity, JV and MS baseball one baseball field
 - Varsity and MS softball one softball field (CS field used by track team)
 - Varsity & JV on practice field minimize damage to track field & track team usage
- Summer all fields shut down due to lack of water
- Semi finals and finals played on artificial turf
- Soccer/lacrosse School district must have a backup game field if our fields are too wet
- Fall Sports
 - Practice field grass is dead due to lack of water



MULTIPURPOSE FIELD USAGE

Kt.OLD	
CHOOL	

	Track Field	Soccer/Lacrosse Field	Practice Field
FALL SPORTS (Aug 25-Nov 18)			
High School Boys Soccer	12	2	12
High School Girls Soccer	8	12	0
Middle School Boys Soccer	0	2	8
Middle School Girls Soccer	0	2	8
High School PE	0	30	15
Middle School PE	5	20	0
AVG PER WEEK	25	68	43
High School PE			60
Football* (only used once per season)	4		
TOTAL AVG HRS PER SEASON	304	816	576
SPRING SPORTS (Mar 18 - June 10)			
High School Boys Lacrosse	10	0	12
High School Girls Lacrosse	0	20	0
HS Baseball	0	0	15
Track & Field	0	0	5
Middle School Baseball	0	0	10
High School PE	0	30	15
Middle School PE	15	15	0
AVG PER WEEK	25	65	57
TOTAL AVG HRS PER SEASON	300	780	684
TOTAL AVG HRS PER YEAR	604	1596	1260



LIMITATIONS OF NATURAL GRASS

- Susceptible to Weather Conditions
 - Increase in Cancellation/Rescheduling Practices & Games
- Irrigation required to maintain healthy turf
- Limited Usage
 - For Good Quality Grass Fields Max Usage is 15-20 Hours/Week
 - Synthetic Turf Used ±50 Hours/Week (with lighting)
 - Rule of Thumb: 3 Grass Field = 1 Turf Fields





WHY ARTIFICIAL TURF ON PRACTICE FIELD

- Minimizes irrigation demands providing long term Lyme Street Campus water supply protection
- Addresses all athletic program field challenges:
 - 1. Simultaneous athletic program usage
 - 2. Weather independent
 - 3. Early spring season use
 - 4. Baseball and softball practice areas
 - 5. Reduces field maintenance impact on physical education program
 - 6. Preserves community investment in track and soccer/lacrosse fields
 - 7. Preserves track and soccer/lacrosse field grass
 - 8. Size limitations of the soccer/lacrosse field
- Athletic field available during winter and summer seasons
- Expands athletic field usage to outside groups
- Reduces overall maintenance burden
 - Eliminates need to 'regrow' practice field grass at the end of each Summer
 - Protects grass competition fields during early spring usage





SUSTAINABILITY

- Reduces watering needs:
 - A hose bib connection is all that is needed for incidental cleaning of the playing surface
- No fertilizers required
- Reduced maintenance:
 - Monthly to bi-monthly grooming vs. weekly mowing
- Crumb rubber infill is a recycled product:
 - Reduces the amount of used vehicular tires that typically end up in a landfill
 - Rubber can be reclaimed and reused at the time of field replacement
- The synthetic turf carpet can be repurposed at the time of replacement and can also be recycled:
 - Used turf will no longer need to be disposed of in a landfill
 - Currently, turf can be recycled and turned into a variety of materials:
 - Composite wood decking and fencing
 - Synthetic turf shock pad underlayment
- At time of turf replacement, no heavy construction required to prepare the field for new turf





EXISTING CONDITIONS























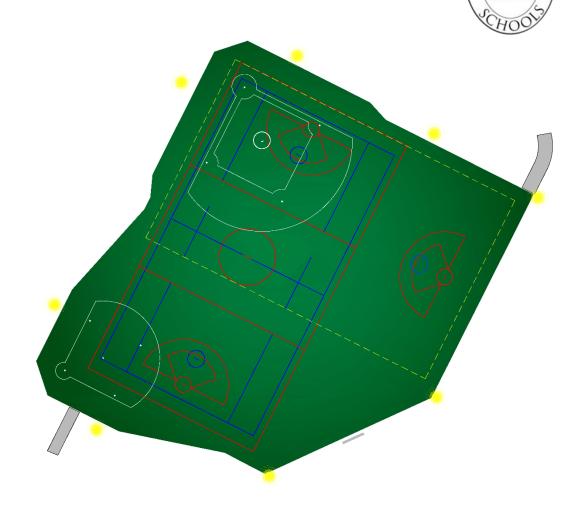
PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

Project Scope

- Synthetic Turf Multipurpose Athletic Field
 - Lacrosse
 - Soccer
 - Baseball
 - Softball
 - Physical Education
- Perimeter Treatments
 - Chain Link Fencing
 - Ball Safety Netting
- Field Access
 - Walkway and Driveway Improvements
 - Project Consideration

Not in Current Scope

- Scoreboard
- Spectator Improvements
- Lighting (Infrastructure only)





PROPOSED BUDGET

- Artificial turf practice field
 - Town of Old Lyme commission approvals and associated design details \$23,800 – BOE approved, contracted, and completed
 - Design, bidding and construction administration \$64,500
 - Turf field installation with crumb rubber infill and no options \$2,101,500.

PROJECT FUNDING PLAN

- Utilize District's Undesignated Fund
- Current balance \$2,107,873
- Projected balance October 2021 \$2,450,000



UNDESIGNATED FUND

- C.G.S. Sec. 10-51(d)(2) allows regional Boards of Education to appropriate up to 1% of the current fiscal year's budget to a reserve fund for capital and nonrecurring expenditures.
- Since the Region 18 BOE first established this fund we have been able to use it for the following:
 - Main Campus Track*
 - Mile Creek Roof Replacement Project
 - Mile Creek Window and Door Replacement Project
 - Lyme Roof Replacement Project
 - LOLMS Partial Roof Replacement Project
- Current balance \$2,107,873
- School district can reserve up to 1%/fiscal year but law may change to allow up to 2%
- Projected balance October 2021 \$2,450,000



TIMELINE (*COVID REVISION)

• Ad Hoc Committee Meeting(s) 2017-2019

Multipurpose Field Community Forum
 Fall 2020*

Inlands Wetlands Commission Application
 Spring 2020

Planning and Zoning Commission Application
 Fall 2020*

• Final Design Winter 2021

• Bidding Winter 2021

Award and Construction
 Summer 2021

