

District Outdoor Athletic Facilities

Good Afternoon and thank you for coming.

Soon, you will see earth moving to prepare for renovations to the track and baseball facilities at Highland High School. This is the first phase of a 3-phase recommendation from the Outdoor Athletic Facilities Committee. Early in 2016, District Administration was asked by the Board of Trustees to address a five-year plan to research how we continue to develop and maintain safe facilities with increasing demand and costs.

In April of 2016 the committee, consisting of District staff including athletic/activity directors from each school, a representative of the Board of Trustees and community members was formed to develop a plan to provide adequate outdoor physical athletic facilities to support the District's extra-curricular activities and events.

The committee had four main objectives:

1. Identify deficiencies and determine needs
2. Review community and School District resources
3. Look at current and long-term demand on facilities and
4. Address funding costs and continued sustainability

In May of 2016, after researching all athletic facilities including city, county, ISU, private and district facilities, the committee finalized and presented their recommendations at the May Board meeting.

They identified upgrading of District tracks and installation of lighting at outdoor fields as a priority. Running tracks at middle and high schools in our District range in age from 20 to 57 years old. Tracks were evaluated and ranked by their condition, good to poor, for the purpose of repair or renovation. Further, it was determined that only Century High School and Highland High school have sufficient parking for districtwide events and added lighting could extend hours for school activities. In addition, a need for a facility to host city, regional and state track meets was identified.

We are very excited to announce that Phase 1 will begin soon at Highland High School. Phase 1 renovations will include:

- Track replacement and additional seating
- Add outdoor lighting
- Upgrades to baseball facility, practice in-field and dugouts

Additional athletic facility improvements are planned over the next three years. Repair, renovations and upgrades will be funded from the District's School Plant Facility Levy Fund.