

Press release
May 20, 2024

Groundbreaking Ceremony Commences Exciting New Chapter for Ashe County High School: New Track and Turf Field



Ashe County Schools is proud to announce the commencement of a groundbreaking ceremony for its highly anticipated new Mondo track and Pivot turf field. This monumental event marked the beginning of a transformative phase for the school, promising enhanced athletic opportunities and community engagement. The symbolic first dig at Husky Stadium paves the way for a state-of-the-art athletic facility. In addition to Ashe County Schools officials, in attendance to celebrate this significant milestone included NC Representative Ray Pickett, Board of Education Members, Board of Commissioners, esteemed community members, and student-athletes.

Thanks to a generous \$2.5-million-dollar grant provided by the NC General Assembly and the support of Senator Ralph Hise and Representative Ray Pickett, the new turf will be a 100 oz pivot on the bellow of the field with 90 oz pivot in D zones and areas outside the playing surface. The entire field will have a GeoFlo 15mm shock pad and will sit on a 6" packed stone base. The Pivot turf meets all 26 FIFA standards, making it the safest turf on the market. The state-of-the-art track will be a Mondo surface. Mondo is the Olympic track surface, impermeable to water, which will slow down the freeze-thaw breakdown of our asphalt.

The initiative to introduce a new track and turf field reflects Ashe County School's unwavering commitment to providing its students with cutting-edge resources to excel in academics and athletics. This innovative facility will not only benefit the school's athletes, but also serve as a hub for various community events, fostering a sense of unity and pride.

"We are thrilled to embark on this exciting journey toward the realization of our new track and turf field," remarked Dr. Eisa Cox, Superintendent of Ashe County Schools. "This project signifies our steadfast dedication to the holistic development of our students and the empowerment of our community. We look forward to witnessing the positive impact this facility will have on our school and beyond."

The groundbreaking ceremony symbolizes the collective efforts and unwavering support of the Ashe County community, reflecting a shared vision for progress and excellence. Through collaboration and determination, Ashe County High School is poised to set new standards in athletic infrastructure and educational enrichment. The Ashe County High School Booster Club is conducting a capital campaign *Run with the Huskies* to raise an additional \$150,000 to complete this project. If you would like to purchase a brick or become a sponsor, please contact Ashe County High School athletic director, Brian Hampton, Brian.Hampton@ashe.k12.nc.us.

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