

LaSalle-Peru Township High School

Howard Fellows Stadium: Field of Dreams Project

Rationale:

Since the complete renovation of the stadium in the mid-1990s, the crown of the field has dissipated from an industry standard 22" down to 15". This is coupled with the added usage from the LP football program, LP Youth Football Program and LPHS Marching Band. Over the past several years, the field is typically in very poor condition early in the fall athletic season. This impacts the school's access onto the field in addition to frequent rescheduling of LP Youth Football games. Since the field is consistently being prepped during the week in the fall, PE classes are essentially prohibited from gaining access for curricular programming. This holds true in the spring since the field is "healing" from the wear and tear of the fall.

Cost Analysis Comparing Natural Grass and Artificial Turf

| Natural Grass – Repair (life span difficult to predict) | Natural Grass – Restoration (expected 25 year life span) | Artificial Turf – Restoration (expected 16 year life span) |
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| This repair will provide the minimal amount of work completed in order to repair the crown by bringing in new dirt and re-sodding the field. No work will be down to address any of the drainage infrastructure. | A full renovation will include installing a new drainage and sprinkler system, re-crowning the field and laying down new sod. | A full restoration will include the excavation of the current natural grass surface, installation of the subsurface and drainage system, shock pad (to reduce concussion injuries), and installation of the synthetic turf field and synthetic landscape turf to replace the grass on the side hills. The preferred turf field product has an expected life of 16 years. |
| Estimated Cost: \$100,000 (Cost provided by Pohar & Sons) | Estimated Cost: \$400,000 (Cost provided by Gewalt Hamilton Associates, Ltd.) | Estimated Cost: \$900,000 (Cost provided by Byrne & Jones Construction) |
| Funding Plan: Local Monies (100%) | Funding Plan: Local Monies (100%) | Funding Plan: Community Partners (50% minimum goal) - \$450,000 Local Monies (50% maximum goal) - \$450,000 |
| Recurring Average Annual Costs: \$20,000 (water, fertilizer, herbicides, insecticides, field paint, fuel, aeration) | Recurring Average Annual Costs: \$20,000 (water, fertilizer, herbicides, insecticides, field paint, aeration) | Recurring Average Annual Costs: \$2,000 Infill replenishment |
| Projected <u>District</u> Costs OVER 16 Years: <small>This does <u>NOT</u> account for expected repairs to drainage or sprinklers.</small> Repair: \$100,000 Annual Costs: <u>\$320,000</u> (\$20K x 16) TOTAL: \$420,000 | Projected <u>District</u> Costs OVER 16 Years: Natural Grass Restoration: \$400,000 Annual Costs: <u>\$320,000</u> (\$20K x 16) TOTAL: \$720,000 | Projected <u>District</u> Costs OVER 16 Years: Artificial Turf Restoration: \$450,000 Annual Costs: <u>\$32,000</u> (\$2K x 16) TOTAL: \$482,000 |
| Access to Field: No changes from our current situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No PE access in fall or spring • Marching Band limited to one evening per week • Football team limited to one walk-through per week • LP Youth Football access contingent on state of field after Friday night football and weather | Access to Field: No changes from our current situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No PE access in fall or spring • Marching Band limited to one evening per week • Football team limited to one walk-through per week • LP Youth Football access contingent on state of field after Friday night football and weather | Access to Field: Transforms access to the field: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily access for PE classes during the school day • Daily access for the Marching Band • Daily access for the Football team • LP Youth Football access every weekend, restricted only due to lightning • Practice field for baseball and softball if playing fields are too wet • Greater access available for community parks and recreations |