Athletic Field Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations



Athletic Field 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 M&M Lead Engineer
- 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



Existing Multi Purpose 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
 - Used as Practice field for Soccer, Lacrosse and Baseball
 - 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 area
- Facilities staff work load and field maintenance costs
- Maintenance interruptions in physical education programs
- Weather dependent



Athletic Fields Analysis

- Site examination by hydrologist
- Irrigation needs versus irrigation supply
- Field usage
- Ad Hoc Committee survey
- Athletic field test pits
- Existing maintenance costs and staffing requirements
- Soccer and Lacrosse layouts on each existing multi purpose field

Irrigation Demand Versus Water Supply

- Track and soccer/lacrosse fields irrigated using Lyme Street campus 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

Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation

- Install a dedicated irrigation system water supply
 - Buried water storage tank
 - Pump from pond
 - Shallow wells west side of campus
- Install artificial turf on practice field
 - Configuration to accommodate Soccer/Lacrosse/Baseball/Softball



Why Artificial Turf on Practice Field

- Minimizes Irrigation Demands providing long term Lyme Street Campus water supply protection
- Addresses all athletic program field challenges
 - Simultaneous athletic program usage
 - Weather independent
 - Early Spring season use
 - Baseball and Softball practice areas
 - Reduces field maintenance impact on physical education program
 - Preserves community investment in track and soccer/lacrosse fields
 - Preserves track and soccer/lacrosse field grass
 - 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 fields during early spring usage











Proposed Budget

- Dedicated irrigation system water supply
 - Engineering, approvals, design and bidding estimate \$58,000
 - System Installation estimate \$292,000
 - Total Project \$350,000
- Artificial turf practice field
 - Town of Old Lyme commission approvals with associated design firm support \$60,000
 - Engineering design, bidding and installation \$1,755,000*

*Contingent on artificial surface infill material selected.

Project Details to be Determined

- Artificial surface infill material selection
- Bleachers
- Scoreboard
- Lights (infrastructure for future lights)
- Ball netting
- Walkways



Committee Recommendations

- Approve the design and bidding of a dedicated irrigation water supply system – 2017/2018 Facilities Contingency Fund = \$58,000
- Approve submitting artificial turf field project to Town of Old Lyme Commissions for approval with associated design firm support – 2018/2019 Facilities Capital Project Budget = \$60,000



