

FW: High School Turf Fields

Adam Turner

Mon 12/28/2020 10:12 AM

To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>; Lucy Morrison <morrison@mvcommission.org>;

From: cahodg@aol.com <cahodg@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 8:56 AM
To: Adam Turner <turner@mvcommission.org>
Subject: High School Turf Fields

Hi Adam,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

May I offer a few thoughts for your consideration regarding the High School turf athletic fields review?

1. The link below is a study published in the American Journal of Sports Medicine analyzing the types and frequency of injuries incurred while playing on turf versus natural grass. It is particularly relevant because the 5- year study was conducted among high school athletes. The injury studies I have read regarding this project have been among division I college athletes. These athletes are grown men and women--rather than children whose bodies are still forming and growing.

http://www.cnyric.org/tfiles/folder1434/Turf%20Safety_21%20Injuries%20on%20Turf%20vs%20Grass.pdf.

2. The existing high school grass fields have never been properly maintained. Is there an opportunity presented by the pandemic which has temporarily canceled high school athletics? Does this window provide the time to properly re build the grass fields and allow the seed to grow to maturity before getting used for athletics--with proper drainage, soils, irrigation and maintenance. This could be tested for a few years before committing to the substantial infrastructure and construction needed for the installation of artificial turf fields.

Thanks again and I hope have a wonderful holiday. 2021 will be better.

Best,

Chuck Hodgkinson