

**From:** Alyssa Laslovich

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020 3:47 PM

**Subject:** For the Turf Fields

Good afternoon,

My name is Alyssa Laslovich, I am a BOC certified and MA licensed athletic trainer and alumni of Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. **I am writing to you today in full support of the Huntress Associates Master Plan for a synthetic turf field at the High School.**

As a previous student-athlete at MVRHS it is enlightening to see the school and community grow and develop and provide safe, clean and environmentally friendly environments for its people. Current conditions of the fields are sub-par, and while I was an athlete it had made games and practices due to weather and safety. With turf fields you can have increased playing time since turf stands up better to weather conditions such as rain and snow. After graduating I've had the opportunity to play and work on turf fields and experience its benefits. It would have been an incredible addition to the community while I was there and I would hope that current and future students get the experience they deserve that I wasn't able to have.

As a health care professional in athletics and orthopedics I would also like to advocate for the benefits that turf fields provide. Benefits of which I have personally seen working at other high schools that have utilized turf fields to its full advantage.

- It would be free of natural hazards such as rocks, holes and slopes which can be a very common source of fall and injury.
- It offers a larger amount of shock absorption opposed to the grass and dense/compacted soil that it is now. This can prevent a wide variety of injuries by softening the impact of falls and impact.
- It is safe for participants, free of pesticides, fertilizers and other items needed to maintain grass fields, all of which can exacerbate asthma and allergies. While the turf field proposed is fourth generation, recycled materials, with organic wood mulch infill, with a woven backing which does not contain PFAS.
- It requires less resources and maintenance and it's saving water

These are just a few of the reasons why turf would be beneficial for MVRHS and the rest of the community. I am proudly supporting this plan, please vote in favor!

Sincerely,

Alyssa Laslovich ATC, LAT