

Jack McGroarty
Boys Program Director
MV Youth Lacrosse

February 4, 2020

Chairperson Ewell Hopkins
Oak Bluffs Planning Board
P.O. Box 1327
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Executive Director Adam Turner
Martha's Vineyard Commission
P.O. Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

To Chairperson Ewell Hopkins and Executive Director Adam Turner,

I am in support of the High School Track and Field Master plan by Huntress' Associates. I am a former MVRHS student-athlete of 12 varsity athletic seasons, a former collegiate varsity student-athlete, current MV Youth Hockey coach for U18, U14, & U8's, and current Boys Youth Lacrosse Program Director. As a parent, coach, and director of youth sports for Vineyard children, my assessment of the current state of the athletic fields at MVRHS is that they are an embarrassment and unsafe.

The solution proposed by Huntress' Associates Phase 1 to supplement the overuse of the current "grass" (mostly dirt, mud and rocks) fields with synthetic turf field is most welcome. I believe the turf vs grass debate to have been a fruitful one, it helped refine the plan to its current proposed state and its time to let the young student athletes of the Vineyard benefit from:

- New eight-lane 400m running track
- Multi-purpose synthetic turf field
- Natural grass athletic field renovation
- New LED Sports Lighting
- 1,000 seat grandstand & press box
- Track and field equipment storage shed, ADA compliant walkways, fences and associated site improvements
- Facility with locker rooms, trainers' room, concessions, weight room, classroom, storage, and public bathrooms!

This privately funded plan will benefit not only our accomplished MVRHS student athletes, but also the youth sports programs that feed into them.

Sincerely,



Jack McGroarty
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