

From: Tania Laslovich
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 3:16 PM
Subject: MVRHS Athletic Fields

To the Oak Bluffs Planning Board and the MV Commission,

I am the Certified Athletic Trainer at MVRHS and **I am in full support of the Huntress Associates Master Plan for a synthetic turf field at the High School.**

Here are some reasons why I support this:

- Since 2005, when I began my employment at MVRHS, I have seen countless injuries sustained due to the poor field conditions.
- Injury Prevention - A new turf field will provide a consistent surface free from ruts, holes, debris, and changes in slope that contribute to injury.
- Injury Prevention - The fields our students currently play on are rock hard and have no cushion. The padding in a turf field adds an extra layer of shock absorption. This is designed to lessen the impact when an athlete is tackled or falls. This could prevent numerous injuries including concussions. Over the years, I have managed hundreds of concussed athletes. Head vs. ground is a very common method of injury. This extra shock absorption could greatly reduce the number of concussions.
- Illness Prevention - Reduction of airborne dirt, dust, fertilizer, goose droppings, and whatever else from the ground that is in that dust cloud that our athletes breathe into their lungs on the dry days. This dust can exacerbate allergies and asthma. Even mowing the grass causes an increase in symptoms of those with allergies and asthma.
- Health Promotion - It is so important for kids to be active. I feel that more students would want to participate in athletic activities when they are proud of their school and facilities.
- Weather Resistant - It is horrible to see what one football game in the rain does to our field. Playing one game in the rain ruins the field for the whole season. A turf field would not sustain this type of damage and is capable of supporting even more activity.
- Safe - The turf field proposed is fourth generation, recycled materials, with organic wood mulch infill, with a woven backing which does not contain PFAS.

These are just some of the reasons I support this turf field. It is my opinion that a turf field would greatly benefit our students. Please vote in favor of this project.

Respectfully,

Tania Laslovich, LAT, ATC, ITAT

Athletic Trainer - Sports Medicine
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
Mobile 508-627-2839
Fax 508-696-6043