

From: Tim Millerick

Date: February 11, 2020 at 10:56:07 AM EST

Subject: Support for the Turf Field Project

Dear Board of Selectmen and Planning Board,

I am writing in support of the Phase One of Huntress' Associates Master Plan for MVRHS to build:

- 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!

I support this because :

* This will not be a burden to taxpayers. Donors are ready and waiting to help us rebuild our track and athletic campus.

* The synthetic turf field is fourth generation, is made from recycled materials and will be recycled.

* The infill is wood mulch from Georgia Pines grown organically and harvested sustainably.

* The woven backing contains no PFAS.

* One turf field allows us to rest the natural grass fields, absorbing play during growing season and bad weather.

I have been a coach of the Football team for the past four seasons. The grass fields that these players have to practice on and play on are not safe. I have seen several kids miss games due to hurting their ankles or worse tearing their knees. I have had the benefit to play on a turf field and a grass field in my career. In High School we had a grass field. This grass field was maintained as well as it could be, but it still would hurt your knees from running on it due to the fields not being level. I got the benefit of playing on a turf field in college. While playing on turf you would see less injuries such as shin splints, and rolled ankles. Yes these are minor injuries, but these players are only allotted so many games in a high school career. Almost every team we play off Island is now using turf. This is a huge disadvantage to our teams. The game speed is a lot faster on turf than it is on grass. Having the knowledge and experience playing on both fields it is a no brainer to support the turf project. Our kids deserve to have facilities to support their programs. Please approve this project.

Sincerely,

Timothy Millerick