

I am writing to oppose the proposal for an artificial turf field at MVRHS.

My husband, Dr. Jeffrey Zack, an ER Physician on the Island for more than 18 years, has done extensive research on the safety of artificial turf and spoke before several groups on the matter 4 years ago when the issue of was first brought to light.

Artificial turf causes more concussions and injuries than grass, specifically ACL injuries and in a study in 2019, high school injuries were 58% higher on artificial turf (<https://www.uhhospitals.org/for-clinicians/articles-and-news/articles/2019/08/artificial-turf-versus-natural-grass>)

It is also widely known that artificial turf spreads MRSA and staph more prevalently than grass because MRSA can live on the artificial surfaces longer (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/20962684/>)

Of course this proposal would also be horrible for the environment particularly on this small Island, which we all supposedly want to protect. Please prevent this proposal from moving forward so that MVRHS can stick with all grass fields and keep our Island safe.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bacon