

Grass Fields

Kara Shemeth <kshemeth@sbhinc.net>

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To: Alex Elvin <elvin@mvcommission.org>;

Dear MVC Commissioners,

I am a former MVRHS and NCAA soccer player. I have played on some amazing fields in my career and can tell you that in my opinion, and those of my teammates, grass is the way to go.

There are, as you know, far too many unanswered questions regarding the lifespan, the recycling, and the long term environmental effects of the material used to create these plastic fields. The answers that have come back seem to be from the manufacturer or their agent, which should immediately raise red flags.

If we are looking for the best option for our student athletes, then well engineered and, most importantly, well maintained grass fields should be our course of action. We have a chance here to really be a beacon of how a good facility can be achieved without using a giant plastic rug.

I have two young boys, I would hope they like soccer as much as I do and perhaps they will wear the purple and white someday. If these fields go in my kids will be playing on them at the tail end of their lifespan, I can't imagine it will be a safe surface after a decade of use. If our top professional athletes refuse to play on turf (NFL players, both US National Soccer teams) why would we subject our children to it?

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter,

Kara Shemeth
MVRHS Soccer
Franklin Pierce Soccer

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Kara E. Shemeth
Project Surveyor, SIT
Schofield, Barbini & Hoehn, Inc.

kshemeth@sbhinc.net
508 693 2781 x113

please note: I am in the office/field Mon-Thur