

# Fwd: High School Master Athletic Plan

Trip Wadleigh <trip.wadleigh@gmail.com>

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

Commissioners,

I served on the Board of Friends of Vineyard Soccer (as President, Travel Director) for fifteen years, and on the South Coast Soccer League Board (as MV rep, and on the Sportsmanship Review Committee). I also serve as a licensed soccer referee on the Vineyard. My four children were MVRHS Varsity soccer starters, and three were team captains. In addition, three of my children played competitive club level soccer off-island. Through all this activity I have seen many facilities across New England and beyond. Suffice it to say, that when Carver HS upgraded their facilities, the MVRHS facility became the worst athletic facility I've seen. Now there will be people who argue that "we're the Vineyard, we're different", but that does not mean we should just allow our facilities to deteriorate and leave our athletes with facilities that underserve them.

We have an amazing opportunity to improve our facilities. I'm in support of this plan, even if there are small adjustments required to make it happen. I hope the Commission approaches this project from the perspective of "how can we make it happen" versus looking for reasons to make it fail: it's too important.

Please unite and support our students and our community in moving this plan forward.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Ralph "Trip" Wadleigh  
Oak Bluffs