

WHS Turf Committee



Why Now?

- It will **NEVER** be this affordable again. Putting turf on our new field at the initial construction level will allow us to get turf for around ½ the price it would cost us after construction.

How will it benefit our school and community?

- Around the clock use! Unlike our current field, a new turf field would be available for practices, games and the community. Our current field can only be used for games, and a natural grass field at our new school will be the same way. That leaves one practice field for JV/Varsity Soccer and C/JV/Varsity football to practice on. We will most likely have to shuttle teams to the middle school for practices if we don't get artificial turf.
- Save Water. The average grass field uses about 50,000 gallons of water per week during the growing season. Artificial turf requires zero.
- Post season play = extra pay. We can host post season events – which would create revenue that could be used for replacement.
- Great for the local economy. Playoff games and additional use by youth leagues will bring a lot of purchasing power to our community.
- Turf is safer. Studies have shown that turf - unlike a muddy, torn up fields, will provide solid footing for athletes - regardless of the conditions.
- Very little maintenance. No more striping, mowing, irrigation, fertilizing, weed control, aeration, over seeding, field layout or yard markers – which will result in a significant decrease in man hours. Lowering the maintenance hours and expenses will make the artificial turf pay for itself.

Strategies for raising funds...

- We will be selling bricks that will be part of the walkway to the new stadium. (cost TBD)
- Corporate sponsorship? Naming rights for the stadium and field? We already have a meeting scheduled with 1979 Woodland Graduate Jeff Perala – co-owner of Perlo Construction. He has already expressed an interest in being involved.
- Social media matching fund challenge (similar to the 2014 winter challenge that is going on right now).
- These are the main three, with other ideas being bounced around. The grants I thought we had a shot at are tied to Fieldturf – which was not chosen by Skanska, but I'm still exploring additional grant opportunities (longshot).

Committee members...

Paul Huddleston, George Trice, Todd Cloud, Todd Dinehart, Jeff Flanagan, Rich Harsh, Randy Sorensen

- Once we have a number we can use as our target/goal, we are ready to put our strategies into motion and make this a reality.