

Report of the Superintendent to the School Board

ACTION ITEM

Subject:

Replacement of Artificial Turf at JHS Baseball Field

Pertinent Facts:

The artificial turf at the JHS Baseball Field has been in place since 2014. The surface has served the district well for 9 baseball seasons (including this Spring) by allowing games to be played as scheduled, even in wet conditions. Over this time, the baseball field has experienced normal issues due to fiber degradation such as loss of infill and seam damage. As we begin to schedule replacement of the four turf fields at JHS on a yearly basis, Midwest GMAX, our independent field testing contractor, has recommended that we replace the baseball field, after the conclusion of the 2023 high school season.

B. Alignment:

Strategic Goal 1.3.2 The district will provide a variety of highly engaging academic and extra-curricular experiences to involve its student body and improve participation over time.

Strategic Goal 3.3.1 The district will regularly provide students engaging learning experiences beyond core academics that address life skills, workforce development, health/wellness and college and career readiness.

C. Data:

A request for proposal was sent to Mid America Sports Construction (MASC) through the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing program. The Sourcewell cooperative purchasing program will be used as part of the overall purchase procedure. Mid American Sports Construction is the same contractor who provided the recent turf upgrades at Junge Field and the JHS Softball Field.

MASC was also asked to provide an alternate price for the construction of a permanent, concrete pitchers mound, batter's eye in center field, and replacement of perimeter nailer board.

- The current, portable mound has been damaged through normal use and repaired by our carpenters recently. It is also not solid footing as pitchers field their positions.
- The houses on Indiana St. provide a difficult backdrop for hitters. It can be difficult to pick up the baseball as it is released by the pitcher due to the houses in the background.

- Upon inspection of the existing treated lumber nailer board, after the current turf is removed, it is likely that much, if not all of the nailer board will be deteriorated. It is also unlikely that any treated lumber nailer board that is not replaced would not last through the life expectancy of the new turf. MASC was asked to provide alternate pricing to replace the entirety of the nailer board, as well as pricing to replace certain sections as needed with a composite, rot resistant nailer board. The composite nailer board comes with a 15 year warranty.

Mid-America Sports Construction (Base Bid)	\$650,000.00
Alternate #1: Replace existing perimeter nailer board with composite nailer board as needed	\$13.00 per linear foot
Alternate #2: Replace All Existing Perimeter Nailer Board with Composite Nailer Board (Approx 1500 linear ft)	\$17,500 (\$11.66/lf)
Alternate #3: Furnish and install new 30'x60' batters eye in center field.	\$50,000
Alternate #4: MASC Disposal of Existing Turf	\$31,494
Alternate #5: Construction of Permanent, Concrete Mound	\$21,500
Alternate #6: Rock Unit Price	\$250/ton on a 10 ton minimum

D. Stakeholder Voice:

Matt Hiatt, Athletic Director, Kyle Wolf, MS Athletic Director/Head Baseball Coach, Dave Pettit, Director of Facilities, Matt Harding, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, and Dr. Kerry Sachetta, Superintendent.

E. Fiscal Note:

The cost of replacing the artificial turf at the JHS Softball Field will be funded from the 2023-24 Capital Outlay Budget.

F. Recommendation:

The administration recommends the Board of Education approve the installation of a new artificial playing surface at the JHS Baseball Field by MASC through the Sourcewell cooperative purchasing program in the amount of \$650,000.00. The administration also recommends that the Board of Education approves Alternate #2 (full replacement of existing nailer board) for a cost of \$17,500 and Alternate #5 (construction of permanent, concrete pitchers mound) for a cost of \$21,500. The

addition of the two alternates will insure the longevity, playability, and safety of the field for years to come. The total cost of the project plus the alternates would be \$689,000 which is \$5.32/sqft. The administration will continue to look for other funding sources for the construction of a batter's eye.

Prepared by: Matt Hiatt, Athletics Director
Reviewed by: Dave Pettit, Facilities Director
Reviewed by: Matt Harding, Assistant Superintendent for Operations *MH*
Reviewed By: Shelly Toft, Chief Financial Officer *ST*
Reviewed by: Dr. Kerry Sachetta, Superintendent *KS*
Meeting Date: April 18, 2023