Pottstown School District
High School Athletic Feasibility Study

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Athletic Feasibility Study

1 Executive Summary

1.A Executive Summary

In the fall of 2022, the Board of School Directors for the Pottstown School District (PSD) requested a feasibility study be conducted on the District's athletic facilities. The scope of the study included athletic fields and outdoor facilities located on the High School / Middle School Campus. ELA Group, Inc. was contracted to guide the work, inclusive of project base mapping, site investigation, schematic design, and master planning, and conducting programming and planning workshops with a steering committee of stakeholders.

1.B Project Goals

To develop a comprehensive master plan for PSD's athletic fields and facilities that will:

- Identify the proper number of fields and facilities needed to accommodate current and future athletic programs.
- Identify design concerns with PSD facilities.
- Account for equity amongst facilities, in accordance with Title IX
- Identify potential safety issues with the fields and facilities and establish budgets to address those items.\Establish a phased approach to the recommendations.

1.C Key Insights

- Observations

    - The grass fields are mostly in good shape and that is partially due to the availability of irrigation on some of the fields which aids in grass health and recovery. Irrigation is not commonly seen on public school fields and having that readily available is a significant benefit. Grass growth, even on the fields that are not irrigated and have drainage issues due to topography, appears healthy and vigorous.
    - A need exists for a second softball field in line with programming demands as well as equalizing the facilities between boys and girls student athletes.
    - Associated amenities (dugouts, bullpens, dedicated seating areas, ADA access etc.) is limited to primarily the Stadium and Bobby Schantz Field. Consideration should be made to add those improvements to other fields.
    - The track is in good condition with no visible paving failures or inconsistencies. Duration of track base construction is normally 20 years before the paving underneath needs to be milled, paved, and surfaced with track material. When the District is considering this in the future consideration should be made to put the outer track fence 1 meter away from the outer lane (safety zone) as well as raise the jumping runways in the stadium.
    - The tennis courts appear to be heading for major paving failure along the southern side of the courts due to likely subsoil saturation and freeze thaw impacts. Crack repair is an interim measure, and it is highly likely the courts may have to be reconstructed within the next five years.

- Field Construction

    - Through research and site visits it is apparent that two of the fields have drainage issues due to original construction of the playing fields. These are the Softball-Soccer Fields and the Lighted Auxiliary Field. The JV / MS Baseball infield has some minor issues and not to the degree of the other two.
    - Reconstructing these fields will create proper grading that directs water away into collection systems allowing for better growing medium (topsoil) and heathy roots, which leads to better grass coverage. An alternative to that will be the implementation of the Cambridge (sand slit) drainage system which coveys water off the playing surface.
    - The sand slit system could be an option in the low areas on the Softball – Soccer fields as well as the JV/MS Baseball field since the majority of the field is satisfactorily graded and the problem area is concentrated and close to the ballfield infield areas. As for the Lighted Auxiliary field, reconstruction is the best option since the grades are inconsistent all over the field and enclosed ponding areas are created. Use of the sand slit system on this field will not be successful.
    - With grass fields if a good maintenance program is in place, it will help prolong the life of the surface. With multi-purpose fields the wear has a tendency to be more than that of ballfields and eventually some level of reconstruction may be needed particularly in the crown / middle of the field wear the play is concentrated. This could be as little as 5 years apart to 10 years apart depending on the field usage. It is good planning to budget field reconstruction for the heavier used fields at an interval needed and the District funds can handle it. This will lead to better and safer playing surfaces for the students and public.

1.D Key Recommendations

Recommended Athletic Facility Improvements – High School / Middle School Campus

Based on the inventory of the existing fields on the campus and Field Use Analysis the following are the suggested improvements for each facility.

Note – For Natural Grass Fields the Following Apply:

- Major Renovations – Multiple aerations, topdressings, dragging and rolling to even the field surface.
- Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging.
- Minor Renovations – Address compacted or damaged areas.
- Reconstruction – Includes kill existing grass, earthmoving and sod.

Item No.	Field / Sports	Recommended Improvements / Alternatives	Schematic Budget Costs
1	Stadium Field	1. On-Going Maintenance	1. $ 20,000.00
2	Stadium Track (Option 1)	1. Monitor conditions of track and venues. 2. Resurface Track and Venues when condition warrants. 3. Raise jumping runways to promote drainage and prevent damage. 4. Relocate track fence.	1. $ 0 2. $ 500,000.00. 3. $ 100,000.00 4. $ 85,000.00 $ 685,000.00
3	Franklin St. Fields (Option 1)	1. Construct pathway to facilities 2. Create paved seating area at baseball field. 3. Extend backstop / install ball barrier netting. 4. Team shelters. 5. Sand slit drainage around infield. 6. Bathroom building.	1. $ 10,000.00 2. $ 7,500.00. 3. $ 45,000.00 4. $ 105,000.00 5. $ 57,000.00 $ 224,500.00 6. $ 650,000.00 $ 874,500.00
4	Franklin St. Fields (Option 2)	1. Same as Option 1 2. As part of Item #6 below construct a new softball field in the NE corner of the fields.	1. $ 224,500.00 2. $ 740,000.00 $ 964,500.00
5	Bobby Scahntz Baseball Field	1. Regrade infield arc. 2. Perform bullpen remedial work (add safety fencing) 3. Construct warning track. 4. Construct pathway to facilities 5. Create paved seating area. 6. Extend backstop / install ball barrier netting. 7. Add irrigation to outfield. 8. Bathroom building (same as Item 3)	1. $ 6,000.00 2. $ 63,000.00 3. $ 4,500.00 4. $ 5,000.00 5. $ 12,000.00 6. $ 25,000.00 7. $ 65,000.00 $ 180,500.00 8. $ 650,000.00 $ 830,500.00
6	Softball and Soccer Fields (Option 1)	1. Construct pathway to facilities 2. Create paved seating area. 3. Extend backstop / install ball barrier netting. 4. Sand slit drainage in low areas. 5. Team shelters. 6. Bathroom building (Same as 3 & 4)	1. $ 5,000.00 2. $ 12,000.00 3. $ 39,000.00 4. $ 90,000.00 5. $ 105,000.00 $ 251,000.00 6. $ 650,000.00 $ 901,000.00

7	Softball and Soccer Fields (Option 2)	1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ Field Lights 2. Franklin St. Fields - (Option 2)	1. $ 3,500,000.00 2. $ 740,000.00 $ 4,240,000.00
8	Lighted Auxiliary Field (Option 1)	1. Reconstruct and widen field to allow compliant athletic fields for all sports. This includes relocation of existing lights. 2. Construct pathway to facilities 3. Create paved seating area.	1. $ 750,000.00 2. $ 12,000.00 3. $ 11,000.00 $ 693,000.00
9	Lighted Auxiliary Field (Option 2)	1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ 4 Field Lights 2. Construct pathway to facilities 3. Create paved seating area	1. $ 2,753,000.00 2. $ 12,000.00 3. $ 11,000.00 $ 2,776,000.00
10	Tennis Courts	1. Reconstruct tennis courts (new base / subdrainage / surface) 2. Provide paved seating area and paved walkways to seating area.	1. $ 250,000.00 2. $ 7,800.00 $ 257,800.00

Phasing of Recommended Work

Phase 1 – Address Shortage of Multi-Purpose Fields

The biggest need on the Campus is for multi-purpose fields.

- Lighted Auxiliary Field – Reconstruction of Field
- Soccer and Softball Fields – Option 2 – Synthetic Turf
- Franklin Street Fields – Option 2 – New Softball Field
- Bathroom Building or Bathroom Expansion at Cafeteria

Phase 2 – Address Remedial Work on Ballfields

All ballfields have evidence for the need of remedial work.

- Varsity Baseball Field Renovations (Item 5)
- JV / MS Baseball Field Renovations (Item 3)

Phase 3– Major Non-Field Renovations

Items in this Phase can be combined with other Phases as budgetary dollars allow.

- Reconstruct tennis courts.

- Reconstruct / resurface track and venues (when required)
- Construct Bathroom Building in the area of Franklin Street Fields / Bobby Schantz / Softball – Soccer Field

Other Remedial Steps to Be Considered

1. ADA Access Paths – Currently there is limited ADA accessibility. Consideration should be made to construct ADA paths to the other facilities to venues. These paths should be 6 to 8 feet wide to allow district golf carts and gators to use during heavy rain when access to the fields is needed. The schematic cost per linear foot of 6' wide path is $55.00.
2. Professional Field Construction – Proper athletic field and facility construction is a specialty. Often when athletic fields are constructed as part of school project, they are built by contractors unfamiliar with proper construction methods. Once the work is done problems often arise leaving the School District to seek professional help to properly maintain the fields which the District has done. No matter what level of maintenance over time the heavy usage simply is too much, and reconstruction is needed. We recommend the School District consider retaining professional athletic turf contractors to reconstruct the fields when necessary. Doing so provides a properly constructed playing surface that will be better able to handle the usage requirements and require lower maintenance in the interim.

Athletic Feasibility Study

2 Introduction and Background

- Introduction
- Background
- Campus Athletic Programs and Sports Field Overview
- Athletic Program Growth and Sports Field Demand
- Study Purpose and Goals
- Potential Growth/Decline in Sports Programs/Participation

2A. Introduction

Athletics are recognized as an important component in the educational and extracurricular programs provided within school systems at both the primary and secondary grade levels. Not only do athletics provide opportunities for physical fitness, but they also inspire teamwork, promote sportsmanship, build a competitive spirit, and instill a sense of pride that can extend from the school to the community.

The intent of this Study is to review the conditions of outdoor athletic facilities at the High School / Middle School campuses. These findings are inventoried, facility usage analyzed then remedial steps recommended with budgetary estimates provided:

2B. Background

High School / Middle School Campus

The Campus consists of approximately ± 51 acres located in the Borough of Pottstown. Montgomery County, PA. The schools on the Campus include the High School and Middle School. Throughout the property lies eight (8) natural grass athletic fields, an all-weather running track, running and throwing venues, and a battery of six (6) tennis courts. The stadium is the main facility and is the only field with both proper field lighting and permanent seating. There is a visitor-side grandstand, a home-side grandstand, ticket booths, and separate concession stands. With some exceptions, the grass fields are in good to fair shape with a limited maintenance program in place. The tennis courts are in fair shape being resurfaced in 2018 and are showing moderate cracks. The track was last fully surfaced in 2011 and is in good condition.

2C. Campus Athletic Programs and Sports Field Overview

The District has fifteen (15) high school and middle school teams participating in outdoor sports on the five (5) multi-purpose fields including both girls' and boys' teams for soccer, field hockey, girl's lacrosse, and marching band. There are other teams that use dedicated facilities including boys and girl track, tennis, cross country as well as baseball and softball fields.

Practices and competition for all fall and spring field sports occur on athletic fields and facilities located at the campus.

2D. Athletic Program Growth and Sports Field Demand

As with many of the area school districts, enrollment growth has not only resulted in an increased demand on the existing educational facilities, but on the existing athletic facilities as well. The typical school enrollment increase normally leads to greater participation in competitive sports, a generally larger number of athletic programs being offered, and an increase in the number of students participating in athletic programs at all grade levels.

As demand and usage on the fields increase, so does the chance for field condition deterioration over time, resulting in inconsistent turf cover, marginal surface conditions, limited turf recovery, and other conditions that not only affect playability but may also pose potential hazards to the participants. These are the results of the field use exceeding the baseline maximum use that the cultural and physical characteristics of that field can reasonably tolerate. A higher quality of construction (irrigation/subdrainage) and more intensive maintenance programs create a premier facility and can help increase the baseline for maximum use and reduce turf stress. However, turf wear and deterioration should be expected and is common for all "high-use" facilities, such as public recreation facilities, schools, and municipal parks, regardless of the quality of construction and extent of maintenance. The distinct advantage of quality construction and good maintenance practices is an increase in the effectiveness of field maintenance, leading to shorter recovery periods and more complete turf regeneration.

Public schools, municipal agencies, and public recreation organizations tend to face similar challenges of demand exceeding supply. The development of new athletic fields, or "high-quality athletic fields", may also be influenced by limited or fixed funds available for construction and ongoing maintenance practices. Often a School District may not even have a premier natural turf field due to budgetary constraints or other limitations. The concern with natural turf is even the most carefully maintained field can be severely damaged if used when conditions are wet and the field saturated.

2E. Study Purpose and Goals

The primary goal of this study is to provide the Pottstown School District with recommendations that will enable them to provide the proper number of sports fields and facilities that are sized appropriately to accommodate the existing athletic programs and their future growth while maintaining a level of field quality that is both safe and suitable for practice and competitive play.

Fields

This Athletic Field and Facility Master Plan includes an evaluation of all of the existing sports fields located on the High School / Middle School Campuses. This evaluation considers the quality and condition of the athletic fields based on two (2) primary factors. These include physical factors and factors related to the type and intensity of field use. Physical factors are those such as surface drainage, field grading/surface contour, construction quality and methods, and soil compaction. Use factors are those associated with the intensity, type, or other user-based practices with result in excessive wear and turf stress and limit turf recovery on natural grass fields.

In order to realize the stated goal, this master plan will consider the facility needs, potential improvements as determined by the School District, and the expansion of athletic facilities to meet the growing demand in a single planning document while developing short- and long-range planning goals and implementation strategies for the District's consideration. The scope of the study will also consider the following:

- Visual inspection of each field to determine turf quality, physical characteristics (such as surface drainage, field slope, upslope drainage, compaction, and size) as well as general observations regarding the field condition.
- Identify the current usage type(s) and intensity of use (number of practices, games, or other "events") for each field.
- Identify and establish an approximate baseline for maximum use based on the intensity/type of field use, current condition, method of field construction, and maintenance practices.
- Develop alternatives (options) to address conditions leading to field deterioration and enhance turf recovery, including field use and maintenance practices, reconstruction and renovation of existing facilities, construction of additional (new) facilities, and consideration of synthetic turf athletic field surfacing.

Hardscape Facilities

The other athletic facilities we inspect are tennis courts running tracks, and track and field venues. These facilities normally consist of some type of paving with or without surfacing that has a limited life requiring reapplication or replacement to repair. Depending on the age of the venue, the base paving may be failing, requiring more extensive repairs.

The study has been developed based primarily on the following:

- Meetings and conversations with District administrative and athletics staff and information provided by these parties regarding field use, maintenance program, and assignments for athletics, physical education, and community use;
- Site inspection/review of the athletic fields and facilities at the high school;
- Review of District field use practices, primarily related to scheduled field assignments, including the type of sport/program and number of scheduled events (games and practices);
- Previous experience with athletic field construction, maintenance practices, and field use.

2F. Potential Growth/Decline in Sports Programs/Participation

Introduction

To determine the five-year participation trends locally, statewide, and nationwide, ELA researched two sources. We obtained local data from the Athletic Director, while the state and national data is from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), of which PIAA is a member. In all three databases, there are some fluctuations from year to year where participation may have

increased/decreased one year to only go back the next year to the original number two years prior. Our goal is to discover any long-term trends to identify the sports that are growing or declining. Please note that NFHS was unable to collect participation records for 2019/2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Boys Sports – Table 1

School Sports - Annual Participation / Number of Students Nationally						
	2016/17	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/21[1]**	**2021/22**	**TREND[2]**
Baseball	491,790	487,097	482,740	NR	481,004	-1.8%
Cross Country	266,271	270,095	269,295	NR	231,387	1.1%
Football	1,057,382	1,036,842	1,008,417	NR	973,792	-4.6%
Golf	141,466	144,024	143,200	NR	148,585	1.2%
Soccer	450,234	456,362	459,077	NR	436,465	2.0%
Tennis	158,171	158,151	159,314	NR	145,858	0.7%
T&F Indoor	82,172	80,754	79,550	NR	65,316	-3.2%
T&F Outdoor	600,136	600,097	605,354	NR	569,262	0.9%
School Sports - Annual Participation / Number of Students in Pennsylvania						
	2016/17	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/21[3]**	**2021/22**	**TREND[4]**
Baseball	21,280	21,152	21,024	NR	20,704	-1.2%
Cross Country	11,460	11,440	11,440	NR	11,560	-0.2%
Football	25,740	25,605	25,515	NR	25,020	-0.9%
Golf	5,120	5,150	5,150	NR	5,010	0.6%
Soccer	20,125	20,265	19,845	NR	19,740	-1.4%
Tennis	4,572	4,572	4,428	NR	4,320	-3.1%
T&F Indoor	2,580	2,560	2,580	NR	2,745	0%
T&F Outdoor	24,320	24,320	24,320	NR	24,280	0%
School Sports - Annual Participation / Number of Students at PSD						
	2016/17	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/21[5]**	**2021/22**	**TREND[6]**
Baseball	22	25	17	NR	20	-22.73%
Cross Country	21	15	18	NR	7	-14.29%
Football	58	45	33	NR	30	-43.10%
Golf	4	5	N/A	NR	0	-1.00%
Soccer	24	22	20	NR	25	-16.67%
Tennis	6	7	10	NR	15	66.67%
T&F Indoor	10	10	14	NR	5	40.00%
T&F Outdoor	55	52	42	NR	20	-23.64%

Includes the number of students on freshman, junior varsity, and varsity teams

[1] No Numbers Gathered Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
[2] Does Not Include the 2021/22 Numbers. Those numbers are inserted for comparison purposes only
[3] No Numbers Gathered Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
[4] Does Not Include the 2021/22 Numbers. Those numbers are inserted for comparison purposes only
[5] No Numbers Gathered Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
[6] Does Not Include the 2021/22 Numbers. Those numbers are inserted for comparison purposes only

National (2016 to 2022)

- Soccer is the largest growing sport with an increase of 2.0%, with Golf second at 1.2%, and Cross Country third at 1.1%.
- Largest drop in participation is football at 4.6%.
- Although falling in participation, football by far is the largest participatory sport with nearly 1 million participants. The next largest is track and field with 569,262 student-athletes.

Statewide (2016 to 2022)

- Only sport growing is Golf at 0.6%
- Largest drop in participation is Tennis at 3.1% with Soccer next at 1.4%.
- Although falling in participation, football is the largest participatory sport with nearly 25,020 participants. The next largest is track and field with 24,280 student-athletes.

Pottstown School District (2016 to 2022)

- The largest growth is Tennis at 66.67% (4 students), and Track and Field Outdoor second at 40.00% (4 student increase).

Summary

- At the local school level, varsity sports tend to fluctuate in the number of participants for a variety of reasons. This includes but is not limited to, class size, number of athletes, team success, and coaches and peer involvement. Looking at both state and nationwide statistics will provide a better idea of how the sport is doing demographically.

Girls' Sports – Table 2

School Sports - Annual Participation / Number of Students Nationally						
	2016/17	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/21[7]**	**2021/22**	**TREND[8]**
Cross Country	226,039	223,518	219,345	NR	191,323	-3.0%
Field Hockey	60,549	59,856	60,824	NR	55,829	0.5%
Lacrosse	111,842	113,313	113,702	NR	96,762	6.7%
Soccer	388,339	390,482	394,105	NR	374,773	1.5%
Softball	367,405	367,861	362,038	NR	340,923	-1.5%
Tennis	187,519	190,768	189,436	NR	176,185	1.0%
T&F Indoor	72,422	72,662	70,703	NR	61,109	-2.4%
T&F Outdoor	494,477	488,592	488,267	NR	456,697	-1.3%

[7] No Numbers Gathered Due to COVID-19 Pandemic.
[8] Does Not Include the 2021/22 Numbers. Those numbers are inserted for comparison purposes only.

School Sports - Annual Participation / Number of Students in Pennsylvania						
	2016/17	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/21[9]**	**2021/22**	**TREND[10]**
Cross Country	11,380	11,500	11,500	NR	11,600	1.1%
Field Hockey	9,800	9,800	9,625	NR	9,310	-1.8%
Lacrosse	7,168	7,200	7,328	NR	7,456	2.2%
Soccer	18,970	19,145	18,830	NR	18,725	-0.7%
Softball	19,530	19,530	19,380	NR	18,900	-0.8%
Tennis	4,740	4,740	4,620	NR	4,560	-2.5%
T&F Indoor	2,625	2,625	2,625	NR	2,790	0%
T&F Outdoor	24,360	24,360	24,400	NR	24,360	0.2%
School Sports - Annual Participation / Number of Students at PSD						
	2016/17	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/21[11]**	**2021/22**	**TREND[12]**
Cross Country	20	14	14	NR	4	-30.00%
Field Hockey	18	16	18	NR	11	0%
Lacrosse	22	20	25	NR	11	13.64%
Soccer	24	27	25	NR	15	4.17%
Softball	24	26	15	NR	20	-37.50%
Tennis	9	7	6	NR	10	-33.33%
T&F Indoor	10	10	8	NR	5	-20.00%
T&F Outdoor	35	45	24	NR	12	-31.43%

Includes the number of students on freshman, junior varsity, and varsity teams

National (2016 to 2022)

- Lacrosse is the largest growing sport with an increase of 6.7%, with Soccer coming in second at an increase of 1.5%, and third is Tennis at 1.0%.
- The largest drops are in Cross Country at 3.0%, and Track and Field Indoor at 2.4%

Statewide (2016 to 2022)

- There is a downward trend in most of the sports, except for Lacrosse (2.2% increase), and Cross Country (1.1% increase).

Pottstown School District (2016 to 2022)

- The largest growth is Lacrosse at 13.64% (3 students), and Soccer at 4.17% (1 student).

Summary

- At the local school level, varsity sports tend to fluctuate in the number of participants for a variety of reasons. This includes but is not limited to, class size, number of athletes, team success, and coaches and peer involvement. Looking at both state and nationwide statistics will provide a better idea of how the sport is doing demographically.

[9] No Numbers Gathered Due to COVID-19 Pandemic.
[10] Does Not Include the 2021/22 Numbers. Those numbers are inserted for comparison purposes only.
[11] No Numbers Gathered Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
[12] Does Not Include the 2021/22 Numbers. Those numbers are inserted for comparison purposes only.

Athletic Feasibility Study

3 Investigation of Existing Program and Conditions

- ◊ Existing Facilities Site Inspection
- ◊ Field Walkthrough / General Observation
- ◊ Athletic Programs and Field Use
- ◊ Options to Address Multi-Purpose Fields on High School / Middle School Campus
- ◊ Synthetic Turf vs. Natural Turf Cost Analysis

3A. Existing Facilities Site Inspection

ELA has met with District Staff twice on-site to review the facilities on the Campus. Weather conditions were good as we walked through all fields as well as the tennis courts and track.

Criteria for Evaluating a Natural Grass Athletic Field

When investigating a natural grass athletic field, the major points of consideration to evaluate the condition of the field are as follows:

- Field size - Does the space accommodate regulation-sized playing fields for each sport?
- Solar Orientation - Is the axis of play (goal to goal) in a direction where students are not looking into the sun?
- General Grass Health - Is grass cover consistent throughout field? Are the blades healthy with no noticeable stress? Are the roots deep?
- Grading - Are the slopes consistent with no low or high spots? Is top dressing done?
- Worn Areas - Are there any worn areas with no grass growth?
- Weeds - Any evidence of weeds? Is there a comprehensive weed management program in place?
- Pests - Any evidence of pest damage? Is there an Integrated Pest Management Program in place to control pests?
- Fertilization - Is soil testing done and followed up with a comprehensive fertilization plan?
- Aeration - Is the field regularly aerated?
- Irrigation - Is there an irrigation system in place? Is it a subsurface system or water wheel type?
- Overseeding - Is this done throughout the season to insure growth of turf grasses?
- Use Discipline - Is the field used during rain events? Is the field “rested” as much as possible to help promote recovery?
- Maintenance Program - Is there documentation of all maintenance records and is a comprehensive program in place to make sure work is consistent and proactive, not reactive?

If a field addresses each item above and successfully performs them, then it should be considered an excellent facility. If it only addresses a few, but the field remains playable and safe, it is a good facility. If little to no items are addressed and the field is uneven and mostly unplayable, then it is classified poor and in need of renovation.

Criteria for Evaluating a Synthetic Running Track, Track Venues and Tennis Courts

When investigating a synthetic running track and track venues, the major points of consideration to evaluate the condition of the facilities are as follows:

<u>Running Track</u>

- Surface
    - Is the surface level without bumps, bubbles, holes, or gaps?

  - Is the synthetic surface worn, delaminating, or failing in anyway?
  - Is the track clear of obstructions?
- Venue
  - Is there an obstacle-free zone on the inside and outside of the track at least one meter in width?
  - Is the track properly cordoned off to keep spectators from entering and to control entrance to venues?

Horizontal Jumps

- Pit
  - Is the sand raked, soft, and free of debris?
  - Is the area surrounding the landing area clear of obstructions?
- Take-off Board
  - If wooden, is it smooth and level with the runway, and is it secure?
- Runway
  - Is the length sufficient?
  - Is the surface level without bumps, bubbles, holes, or gaps?
  - Is the synthetic surface worn, delaminating, or failing in any way?

Vertical Jumps

- Pit
  - Is the area surrounding the pit clear of obstructions?
- Apron or Runway
  - Is the area or runway of sufficient size?
  - Does the approach come off of the track, cross a drain, or change the surface?
  - Is the surface level without bumps, bubbles, holes, or gaps?
  - Is the synthetic surface worn, delaminating, or failing in any way?

Throws

- Venue
  - Are the circle, cage, and sector clear of all loose material?
  - Is the venue adequately marked with fencing/roping to keep spectators out?
- Circle
  - Is the rim rounded with no jagged edges?
  - Is the circle smooth?
  - Is the area outside the circle clear of obstructions?
- Javelin Runway
  - Is the runway smooth with no holes or bumps?
  - Is the area around the runway clear of obstructions?
  - Is the synthetic surface worn, delaminating, or failing in any way?

- Sector
    - Is there a possibility that thrown implements will land on the track?

Tennis Courts

- Surface seams are tight and flush.
- Surface is smooth with no cracks or birdbaths.
- Surface is bright and not faded.
- All hardware is corrosion free.
- All hardware is in place and tight.

The Summary of findings for the fields, track, and tennis courts on the Main Campus are as follows:

3B. Field Walkthrough / General Observations

In February 2023, Hugh Cadzow from ELA Sport and Matt Wimer from Hummer Turfgrass Systems, Inc. walked the fields on the campuses to observe their condition. Mr. Cadzow is a registered landscape architect with over 20 years of design experience with athletic facilities. Mr. Wimer is both a Certified Natural Turf Field Builder with the American Sports Builder Association as well as a Certified Sports Field Manager through the Sports Turf Managers Association and is well versed in athletic field design and maintenance. Their observations are noted below:

Pottstown High School / Middle School Campus

Stadium Field

Turf Observations

This is one of the best-looking stadium fields that we have recently seen. No wear down the center of the field and in very good condition. The combination of irrigation and drainage is really helping keep this field looking good. Hummer reviewed their records, and those systems were installed in 2003. The condition of the field is a testament to maintenance with proper irrigation, subdrainage and use management. The only consideration that could be explored would be an eventual field re-sodding to install some newer and higher performing Bluegrass varieties. Again, that is not needed with the condition of the field, just something to consider as the field reaches 25-30 years old.

Facility Observations

- Access to field is paved and appears in general ADA compliance.
- Home grandstand has ADA access from upper parking lot; visitor grandstand has ADA ramp access.
- 6 lane track in good condition.

- Existing track fence is closer than the minimum recommended 1 meter from outside lane.
- Steep embankments along W-SW corner and bank along home side limit developing accessory buildings.
- Solar orientation for field does not meet the recommended N-S but is acceptable being NE-SW..
- Infield irrigation and subdrainage.
- No team rooms or bathroom facilities close by.
- **Field Condition: Good**

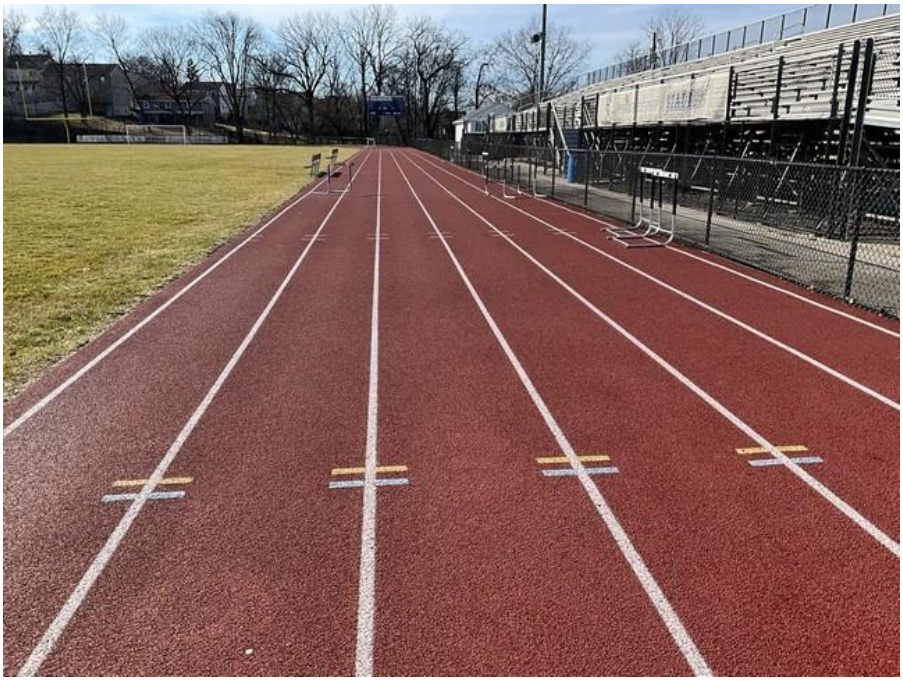


Photo 1 – Running track and field (Looking SW)
Note track condition and the outer track fence that is within the recommended 1-meter setback.

Photo 2 – Steep embankment at SW corner of stadium (Looking SE)
Limited buildable area and maintenance issue / Fence within reommended 1-meter setback.

Photo 3 – Home grandstand with press box and ADA seating area at top of grandstand (At left)

Franklin Street Fields – 2 Multi-Purpose and JV – Middle School Baseball Field

Turf Observations

Typically, when we see full sized fields sloping from end of end there are drainage issues on the lower side of the slope, that did not seem to be the case on this field. Only minor wear areas in heavily trafficked goal areas were evident during the field walk. Care has been taken by the maintenance team to keep a good stand of grass through a chemistry / fertility program as well as deep tine aeration.

Irrigation has been installed on the field over the past few years and that has certainly helped maintain grass cover during late Summer usage when the grass can be dormant or under heat stress. The most obvious and critical issue with this field is the low areas and uneven surface from irrigation trench settlement. Maintenance staff has a plan in place to repair and deal with these areas in Summer 2023. The underlying soil on this field and all others is a red clay soil that is (judging by the soil pile in the parking lot from irrigation installation) full of rock. In our experience, these soils have drainage issues when wet and when they are dry out they are very dry, basically two extremes.

In the corner of this field is the JV/Middle School baseball infield. The infield sits at the bottom of the slope which is the least desirable for Spring baseball due to water entering the infield skin from surrounding areas. While not desirable, this is something we see a lot of with public school fields. The main issue we see on this infield and others with this grading plan is that lips will develop on the downslope side and over time the surface flow of water will slow, and the infield will be harder to get ready to play. Attention should be paid to that edge and as needed, sod removed, graded and replaced to keep the water flowing off of the infield.

Facility Observations

- Access to fields is unpaved and non ADA compliant.
- No team shelters.
- No bleacher pads.
- Proximity to parking lot dictates consideration of ball barrier netting / fence along third base line. Extension of high backstop fence suggested.
- Consideration for portable ball barrier netting for along Franklin Street recommended.
- Solar orientation is favorable for field sports; (NW-SE) and acceptable for baseball (SSW-NNE).
- Irrigation; no subdrainage.
- No team rooms or bathroom facilities close by.
- **Field Condition: Good**

Photo 4 – Franklin Street Fields (Looking NW)
Eastern most field showing good grass growth (Photo taken in the Fall)

Photo 5 – Franklin Street Fields (Looking SE)
Central field showing dormant grass condition. Worn goal mouth area in distance.
(Photo taken in Winter)

Photo 6 – Franklin Street Fields (Looking W)
Good grass color illustrated in dormant condition (Photo taken in Winter)

Photo 7– Franklin Street Fields (Looking W)
Work on additional irrigation lines in progress. Good grass cover illustrated in dormant condition. (Photo taken in Winter)

Photo 8 – Franklin Street Fields (Looking SW)
JV / MS Baseball Field backstop and infield area.
Note the proximity of parking to the field and the low foul line fence.

Bobby Schantz Fields

Turf Observations

As with all fields that we walked, the stand of grass is in excellent shape. It is obvious that there is a program in place and there has been a focus placed on turf quality. While the infield is in good condition at this time, plans and budgeting should be considered for an infield renovation in the near (5 year) future. There is a slight hump on the infield arc where it transitions to the outfield. As a part of an infield renovation this would be cut down and allow for increased surface flow of water off of the infield skin and into the outfield. Surface flow of water is the only way for a skinned infield to effectively drain and all efforts to maintain that should be taken. Laser grading the infield diamond and a band around the infield would establish an increased level of surface planarity and water movement to help with playability and drainage. Once this is done new sod will be installed. The laser grading component is critical because that sets the stage for future maintenance work on the infield and once it is laser graded future maintenance grading would include laser grading to re-set the infield skin surface to the proper elevations.

Facility Observations

- Access to field is unpaved and non ADA compliant.
- No ball barrier netting to protect parking area / spectators
- No paved bleacher / seating area

- Limited backstop consideration to extend recommended.
- Undersized single bull pen in field. Recommend two (2) located outside playing field.
- Small bump in the infield arc; should be repaired.
- No warning track. Suggest installation.
- Outfield drainage runs toward infield which is not desirable.
- Solar orientation for baseball is reverse of the preferred SW/NE alignment.
- Irrigation exists on the infield only; no subdrainage.
- No team rooms or bathroom facilities close by.
- **Field Condition: Good**

Photo 9 – Bobby Schantz Field (Looking NE)
Dogouts, healthy stand of grass, well defined infield base path.

Photo 10 – Bobby Schantz Field (Looking SE)
Center field area. No warning track. Healthy grass growth.

Photo 11 – Bobby Schantz Field (Looking SE)
Undersized bull pen in field of play – no protection for pitcher. Healthy grass growth.

Photo 12 – Bobby Schantz Field (Looking SE)
Limited backstop; healthy grass growth.

Softball and Soccer Fields

Turf Observations

This was the wettest field that we visited. The left field area which is the bottom of the grade, is the wettest part of the entire field. Also, as mentioned in the JV Baseball analysis the infield surface is also at the bottom of the slope. Ideally, infields are constructed to only handle their own water, no outside water should slow onto it. This isn't always an option, however, it does make early Spring field prep and the ability to get games in, a challenge. Potential relocation of this infield to higher ground would immediately help this infield. The outfield can be corrected with 2" sand channel drainage with 2" perforated pipe.

Facility Observations

- Access to field is unpaved and non ADA compliant.
- Limited fencing and no ball barrier netting to protect parking area / spectators.
- Bull pen along 3rd base line close to the field of play. No protection for pitcher. Same applies to bull pen along 1st base line.
- Hooded backstop not desirable for varsity level baseball (needed due to proximity to parking / drives).
- No team shelters / low fence along benches.
- No dedicated bleacher area.
- Outfield drainage runs towards infield which is not desirable.

- Solar orientation for the preferred SW/NE alignment.
- No irrigation; no subdrainage.
- No team rooms or bathroom facilities close by.
- **Field Condition: Good / Fair**

Photo 13 – Softball and Soccer Fields (Looking E)
Wetness of soil illustrated by tire marks in the grass;
grass appears to have good growth despite wet conditions.

Photo 14 – Softball and Soccer Fields (Looking S)
Goal mouth worn area in distance; healthy grass growth despite wet conditions; note proximity of parking area.

Photo 15 – Softball and Soccer Fields (Looking S)
Bull pen close to field of play, not protection for pitcher, worn goal mouth area to left on photo.

Photo 16 – Softball and Soccer Fields (Looking NE)
Bull pen along 1st base line, no fence to keep errant balls away from access drive.

Lighted Auxiliary Field

Turf Observations

There are a number of issues with this field that lead to my recommendation that it should be rebuilt to better conform to the area.

1. Turf quality is as good as it can be because of low areas that cause water to hold which is leading to turf thinning out.
2. Surface planarity is an issue and is causing drainage issues.
3. The tennis court side of the field is extremely wet. Prior to our visit a bicycle had crossed the field and left 2" deep tracks in the wet areas. Water was evident underfoot.

Facility Observations

- Access to field is unpaved and non ADA compliant.
- Cross slope of field is too steep in some areas and flatter in others creating "low areas" where ponding occurs.
- Field is sized for football which combined with the location of field lighting prevents usage of High School / Middle School sports with wider fields (field hockey, boys and girls lacrosse, and soccer).
- No dedicated bleacher area.
- Solar orientation for multi-purpose field (WSW to ENE) differs from the recommended N-S.
- Multi-purpose field is undersized in available documentation.

- No irrigation; no subdrainage.
- Area between the tennis court and field drains poorly and holds runoff.
- No team rooms or bathroom facilities close by.
- **Field Condition: Fair / Poor**

Photo 17 – Lighted Auxiliary Field (Looking NE)
Note slope steeper right to left across field with more level grade along sideline; worn team areas in the distance (pond water). Grass shows healthy growth pattern.

Photo 18 – Lighted Auxiliary (Looking E)
Note uneven loa area in foreground grass shows health growth pattern.

Photo 19 – Lighted Auxiliary Field – Upper Area (Looking E)
Note low area on the right side – water ponds and ground saturated.
Despite drainage issues, grass has a healthy growth pattern.

Hardscaped Facilities

Running Track and Venues

Facility Observations

- Track surface done in 2018 and appears in good condition.
- Outer fence within 1-meter recommended setback consideration to relocate for safety in future suggested.
- Jumping runways are set low in grass, which will lessen life of surfacing (water / grass clippings damage) when track is rebuilt in future consideration to raise runways should be made.

Photo 20 – Running Track 6-lane
Outer fence within the recommended 1-meter offset surface in good condition.

Photo 21 – Running Track
SW radius; track surface in good condition;
note organics (branches and leaves) along fence should be removed for can lead to staining.

Photo 22 – Running Track – Jumping Venues
Runways sitting low and staining visible in some areas (see pole vault runway at right);
pit cover is missing. Surface in good condition.

Photo 23 – Running Track – Jumping Venues
Runways sitting low; surface in good condition.

Tennis Courts

Facility Observations

- Courts were built in 2012 with aid of grant money.
- The surface is in fair shape, but paving is starting to fail in areas. This is evident by severe cracks developing with slight heating visible. This is likely due to the saturated subsoil.
- Interim crack sealant repair is possible but will not solve the actual problem. When courts are rebuilt in the future subdrainage of the same should be considered.

Photo 24 – Tennis Courts (Looking NE)
Cracking visible in foreground. Most severe cracks are on the southern half of courts, likely due to runoff from bank and soil saturation under courts.

Photo 25 – Tennis Courts (Looking NE)
Start of the largest continuous crack. Evidence of ponding visible along cracks, which creates more subsoil saturation.

Photo 26 – Tennis Courts (Looking NE)
Continuation of large crack. Heaving is evident.

Photo 27 – Tennis Courts
"Bird Bath" (low spot) on court with staining due to organics / pyrite. There were not many of these on the courts.

Overall Comments

Both ELA and Hummer Turfgrass walked the fields making observations of the natural grass turf, topography, and existing facilities on the particular venues. We had the opportunity to interview staff to discuss maintenance practices, budgets and various remedial steps taken over the years. A summary of our findings are as follows.

1. Observations

   The grass fields are mostly in good shape and that is partially due to the availability of irrigation on some of the fields which aids in grass health and recovery. Irrigation is not commonly seen on public school fields and having that readily available is a significant benefit. Grass growth, even on the fields that are not irrigated and have drainage issues due to topography, appears healthy and vigorous. Some of the goal mouth areas were seen to have limited growth which is due to compaction and wear. Those will occur mostly in fall with the field sports and will fully recover through Spring.

   Associated amenities (dugouts, bullpens, dedicated seating areas, ADA access etc.) is limited to primarily the Stadium and Bobby Schantz Field. Consideration should be made to add those improvements to other fields. The track is in good condition with no visible paving failures or inconsistencies. Duration of track base construction is normally 20 years before the paving underneath needs to be milled, paved, and surfaced with track material. When the District is considering this in the future consideration should be made to put the outer track fence 1 meter away from the outer lane (safety zone) as well as raise the jumping runways in the stadium. The tennis courts appear to be heading for major paving failure along the southern side of the courts due to likely subsoil saturation and freeze thaw impacts. Crack repair is an interim measure, and it is highly likely the courts may have to be reconstructed within the next five years.

2. Field Construction

   Through research and site visits it is apparent that two of the fields have drainage issues due to original construction of the playing fields. These are the Softball-Soccer Fields and the Lighted Auxiliary Field. The JV / MS Baseball infield has some minor issues and not to the degree of the other two. These are due to grading since shallow slopes, end to end or side to side contouring pushes the water to areas where it concentrates and saturates the soil. This normally leads to poor grass growth, compaction, bare spots, and unevenness. In the case of the fields here the maintenance helps maintain the grass cover, but the ground gets saturated. Proper grading directs water away into collection systems allowing for better growing medium (topsoil) and heathy roots, which leads to better grass coverage. An alternative to that will be the implementation of the Cambridge (sand slit) drainage system in low areas on the Softball – Soccer fields. As for the Lighted Auxiliary field reconstruction is likely the best option since the grades are inconsistent and

create enclosed ponding areas and the sand slit system will not be efficient. As for the JV / MS Baseball infield a sand slit system will aid in getting surface water into the subsoil.

With grass fields if a good maintenance program is in place, it will help prolong the life of the surface. With multi-purpose fields the wear has a tendency to be more than that of ballfields and eventually some level of reconstruction may be needed particularly in the crown / middle of the field wear the play is concentrated. This could be as little as 5 years apart to 10 years apart depending on the field usage. It is good planning to budget field reconstruction for the heavier used fields at an interval needed and the District funds can handle it. This will lead to better and safer playing surfaces for the students and public.

3. Public School Trends

The major issue with many public schools is that athletic facility grounds maintenance is often underfunded and understaffed. School fields often serve community groups which add to the facility wear and tear. There should be sufficient targeted funds and / or staff available to implement a concise effective grounds maintenance program once the major remedial matters are addressed. A dedicated budget is suggested so Operations can apply directly to issues when needed. Currently the District appears to be doing a very good job with what they have available and the maintenance program they are implementing.

3C. Athletic Programs and Field Use

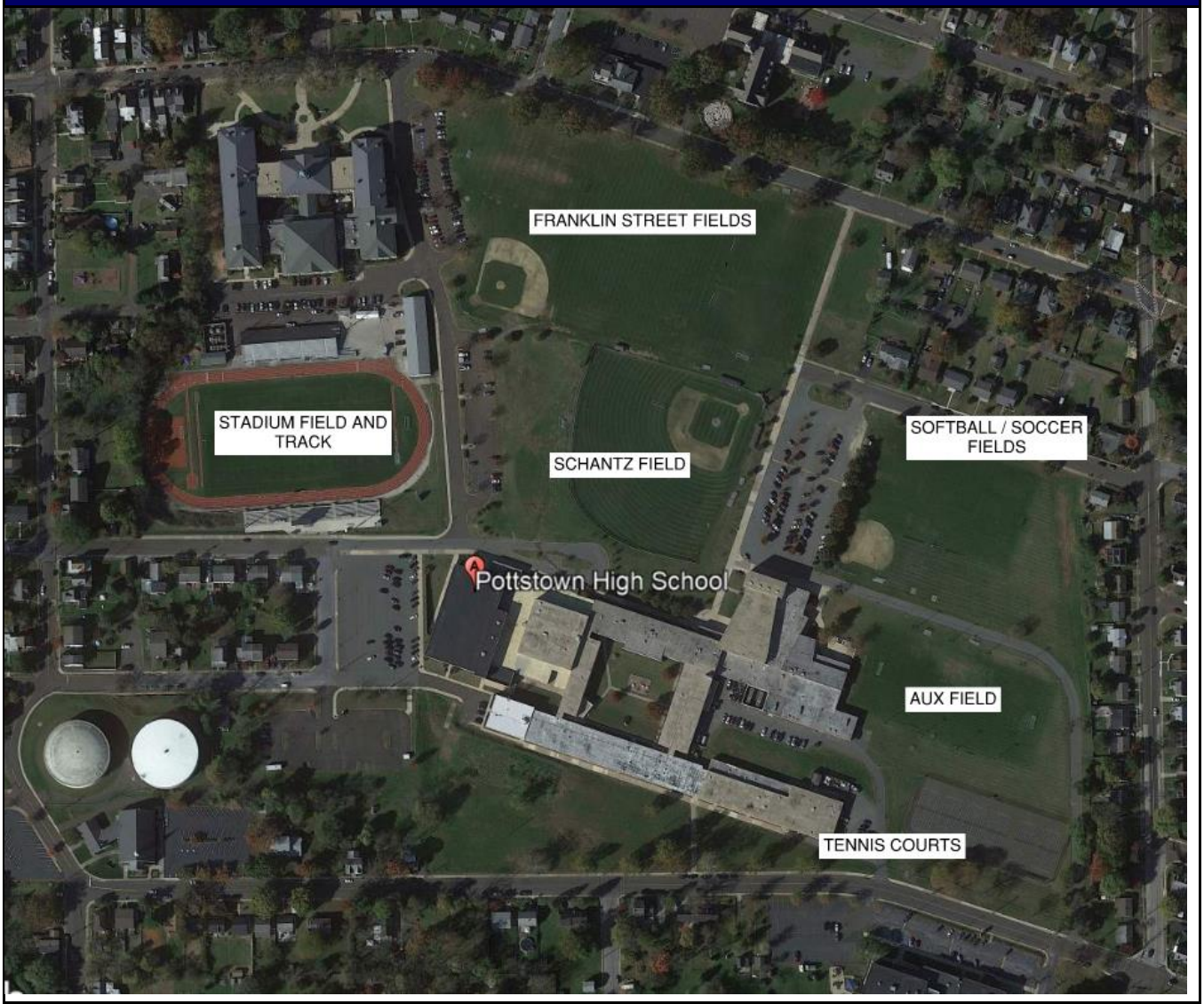
Field Use and Need Analysis

Determining the number of fields required to support public school district athletic programs and justifying the construction of additional fields can often prove difficult. Many diverse opinions exist among the various stakeholders, which are often shaped by the “expectation of quality” and do not consider the maintenance and recovery periods required for athletic fields, as well as the differences in field stress due to the varying intensities of multiple sports. The provision of additional athletic fields and/or synthetic turf fields will reduce turf stress by limiting the number of events to where deterioration is reduced, turf recovery is feasible, and appropriate maintenance can be performed.

When analyzing field use you analyze multi-purpose fields only since they are used for multiple sports. Dedicated baseball and softball fields are not factored in for they are normally considered unique facilities dedicated to one sport. Overlay fields (those multi-purpose fields on ballfields) are included in the analysis.

The outdoor field sports and current field assignments provided for both campuses are per the following Figures and Tables:

FIGURE 1



Existing Field Map – High School / Middle School Campus

TABLE A – High School / Middle School Field Use Estimates				
VENUE	**Fall**	**Winter**	**Spring**	**TOTAL EVENTS**
Stadium Field	17	0	1	18
Franklin Street Fields	260	0	140	400
Bobby Shantz Field	0	0	60	60
Softball Field	120	0	120	240
Lighted Auxiliary Field	60	0	60	120

Field Need Analysis

ELA analyzed field requirements using two widely accepted methods as described below:

Baseline Field Use/Turf Recovery Method – Natural Grass Field – Including Public Use

The following method used in determining field need is based upon the amount of activity (number of sporting events) that a natural turf field can be expected to recover from while undergoing a "normal" maintenance regimen over a period of three to four months (including reseeding, spot repair, aeration, and similar practices). This method requires certain assumptions regarding field conditions and maintenance practices and assumes that uses/activities will be reasonably distributed over a period of several months (such as a fall or spring sports season) and that the field will not be used when excessively wet. Physical education and special events use are not included in the analysis, as such usage is limited in time and not as intensive as high school sports.

It is widely accepted and documented that certain sports, such as football and lacrosse have a far greater impact on turf stress than other sports and generally result in greater damage to natural turf fields. Also, higher levels of competition, such as high school varsity sports (in contrast to junior high sports), can have a higher level of impact. These variances can be considered in establishing the maximum baseline use number, which generally averages between 25 to 50 events per season (50 – 100 per year), depending on the type and level of play associated with the sport. However, in an effort to simplify the approach, all sporting activities will be assumed to have a similar impact. The yearly event baseline for each grass field shown in Figure 1 has been set at 50 for the fields with minimal maintenance and 75 for those with the highest level of maintenance. The highest number of events (100) is normally applied to fields with operating subdrainage and in-ground irrigation.

Table B below illustrates how this method is applied to High School / Middle School Campus. These calculations factor in use by both the School District and local youth sports organizations.

TABLE B – High School / Middle School Field Use Estimates						
VENUE	**Fall**	**Winter**	**Spring**	**TOTAL EVENTS**	**BASELINE EVENTS**	**VARIANCE**
Field Inside Track	17	0	1	18	100	92
Franklin Street Fields	260	0	140	400	200	-250
Bobby Shantz Field	0	0	60	60	75	15
Softball Field	120	0	120	240	100	-140
Lighted Auxiliary Field	60	0	60	120	50	-70
				TOTAL EVENTS OVER		**353**

353 Events over Baseline / 65 Avg. Baseline Events per Field = 5.43 Fields Needed (Use 6)

Based on the above methodology field use on the campus exceeds the maximum use level by 704 events. Using an average baseline of 65 events per field, **an additional six (6) fields are required to support the sports programs (both games and practices**). This illustrates the heavy usage currently occurring on the fields. This calculation does not consider the impacts from physical education or special events.

0.5 Multi-Purpose Field / Sport Team Ratio Method – High School / Middle School Campus - School Teams Only

Another approach to analyzing multi-purpose field use and need analysis for a school campus includes providing one (1) "premier" field (stadium facility) plus one (1) field per school team (either a competition field and a practice field or a practice field and use of the stadium field). In most cases, all fields are scheduled for both fall and spring use, resulting in a common ratio of 0.5 fields for each team/sport. Based upon this methodology, the total multi-purpose fields needed on the High School / Middle Campus are outlined in Table C below:

TABLE C - 0.5 Field/Sport Team Ratio Method			
Sport	**Teams**	**Ratio**	**Field Count**
Football	4 (Boys' Varsity, JV, 9th Grade, MS)	0.5	2.0

Field Hockey	4 (Girls' Varsity, JV, 9th Grade and MS)	0.5	2.0
Soccer - HS	6 (Boys' and Girls' Varsity, JV and Fresh)	0.5	3.0
Soccer - MS	2 (Boys' and Girls' 7th & 8th)	0.5	1
Band	1	0.5	0.5
Stadium	1 "Premier" Competition Multi-Purpose Field	1	1.0
Total Multi-Purpose Fields Needed			**9.5**
Total Existing Multi-Purpose Fields			**5**
Deficiency of Fields			**4.5 (5)**

*5 dedicated "full size" multi-purpose fields / 17 sports teams/band = 0.29 fields are provided per sports team.

Ideally using softball or baseball fields as an overlay facility for practice of a field sport is not recommended since additional compacted areas are created in the outfield and often those field sports must play on the infield mix which is unsafe. It is recommended that dedicated multi-purpose exist for the particular teams if at all possible.

Summary

High School / Middle School Campus

The Baseline Method shows how heavily the fields are used when factoring in public use. The total number of events requires an additional 6 fields to properly meet the current field capacity. The Field / Sport analysis is a less extreme method since it looks at school teams only. This approach currently indicates a need for an additional five (5) fields. Current usage combined with the condition of the majority of fields (limited irrigation, limited subdrainage, and a maintenance plan that appears to be working fairly well) is providing fields that have a better condition than normally encountered at similar public schools. That said there are some original construction issues (mostly grading) that continually cause maintenance issues. Elimination of these conditions will aid in maintaining playability of fields.

Playing on wet fields, like so many School Districts were subject to in recent years, intensifies the damage by creating rutting, divots and compacting the topsoil. It only takes one rainy day game to do significant damage to a field. Constant use does not allow fields to get proper recovery time allowing grass to grow and develop a healthy root system. With the existing number of fields in place essentially at maximum capacity for school teams and the limitation on area to construct new fields to rotate usage, the facilities will continually need significant remedial work beyond the standard annual maintenance every five years

or so. When factoring in community usage this only further illustrates that something must be done to address the usage issue.

3D. Options to Address Multi-Purpose Fields on High School / Middle School Campus

Reconstruct / Renovate Existing Multi-Purpose Natural Grass Fields

Some of the natural grass fields need reconstruction and doing so will aid to some degree in supporting the usage demands on the fields. The fields requiring the most work in no particular order are: the auxiliary field, softball / soccer fields and baseball infields. Other fields require a moderate amount of work while some even less. Depending on field type (game / practice) and maintenance practices once the fields are redone, they will need to be revisited every five years or so to deal with wear and compaction issues that annual maintenance cannot address.

Construct Synthetic Multi-Purpose Turf Fields

Natural Grass athletic fields require proper construction in order to build a solid foundation on to which safe playing conditions can be established. Proper maintenance is required to address the wear and tear fields are subject to. The third factor is to maintain a reasonable number of events on the field. If any of these three factors are not up to standard the field will deteriorate.

It is our experience that the significant majority of K-12 Schools do not have the budget or the staff to keep up the necessary maintenance on natural grass fields. Fields may be kept at fairly playable and relatively safe playing conditions for a few years then consideration must be made to reconstruct the field by regrading and sodding for no level of maintenance can keep a grass field safe forever.

In the case of the Pottstown School District (PSD), the fields have been kept in good shape considering the constant usage and need for remedial work on some of the fields. The issue is demand for the fields will only continue and possibly increase due to community demands. There is no possibility to rest fields properly to recover so they can naturally re-establish especially when factoring in community usage. The two ways to address this is to upgrade as many of the natural grass fields to slightly increase usage capacity or consider installation of synthetic turf fields.

Recommendation

Most often when a school district decides to install a synthetic turf field it is done at the stadium for the infrastructure (grandstands, concessions, bathrooms, security, and field lighting) is in place which allows maximum use of the field both day and night. In the case of PSD the stadium field with irrigation and subdrainage is in good shape and with controlling the number of events consideration should be to maintain the field in natural grass. Another option for synthetic turf will be to install a new synthetic turf at another field, in this case the Softball / Soccer field has the adequate size for a new faciity. Installation

of synthetic turf will allow the School District to "shut down" some fields so they can naturally recover and prolong natural grass field life. With many other School Districts having synthetic turf fields in place the student athletes in the District are at a competitive disadvantage practicing on grass while playing on synthetic turf. The availability of funding will dictate which of these two options the School District should consider first. While reconstruction of natural grass fields is an option so is construction of a synthetic turf facility.

In order to aid the district in the decision making process we are providing a Synthetic Turf vs. Natural Turf Cost Analysis in Subsection 3E below to understand the benefit of one type of field to another. In following Section 3 we have designs for these two options and schematic costs. To develop the costs to renovate the grandstands we have teamed up with Hummer Turf to study both structures at the stadium and develop concepts and costs. We have also developed recommended remedial steps and budget costs for the other facilities on both campuses so the School District can plan future budgets.

3E. Synthetic Turf vs. Natural Turf Cost Analysis

To address the need to provide proper field rotation and recovery on the High School / Elementary School campuses additional fields are not an option. The only methods available are to reconstructed some of the natural grass fields to a higher-level field (with subdrainage and irrigation) or consider synthetic turf as an alternative approach. Where a natural turf field similar to the current fields can handle approximately 50 to 75 events per year (three seasons) it is generally accepted in the athletic industry a well-constructed natural grass field, on average, can support 100 events per year. A synthetic turf field can handle a minimum of 1,000 events per year when lighted and operating four seasons.

Installation Cost

When synthetic turf is considered as an option the concern is the upfront cost to install the field compared to a natural turf field. For fields of comparable size synthetic always costs more primarily due to the stone subbase, turf, and infill (Approx. $22.00 / SF). Installation of a higher quality natural grass native soil field as currently exists on the complex will fall in the higher range of cost of natural grass construction (Approx. $10.50 / SF[1]). Using a 100,000 SF field area for comparison the costs are shown on Table D below:

TABLE D - Installation Costs

Synthetic Turf			Natural Grass[1]			
Cost Per (SF)	Field Area (SF)	Total Cost	Cost Per (SF)	Field Area (SF)	Total Cost	Difference
$22.00	100,000	$2,200,000	$13.50	100,000	$1,350,000	$850,000

[1] Premiere natural grass having prepared subgrade, 6" topsoil, sodded, sand grid underdrain system, irrigation system. Unit cost/total are based on renovation of existing field area with limited bulk earthmoving. Costs may very based upon actual field conditions.

Seasonal Maintenance Cost

Premier natural grass fields require a significant amount of maintenance compared to a synthetic turf field. Mowing is the most intense, followed by lining, repairs, and irrigation. Synthetic turf requires grooming and maybe lining. Comparison of maintenance costs are shown on Table E below:

TABLE E - Seasonal Maintenance Comparison

Synthetic Turf (ST) / Natural Grass (NG)

Maintenance Item	Hours (ST)	Hours (NG)
Mowing	0.0	56.0
Brushing	56.0	0.0
Irrigation	0.0	32.0
Fertilization	0.0	16.0
Aeration/Seeding	0.0	24.0
Field Markings	12.0	48.0
Turf Repair	0.0	48.0
Total Hours	**68.0**	**224.0**

	Synthetic Turf	Natural Grass
Material Cost	$ 2,900.00	$ 7,200.00
Labor Rate	$ 60.00	$ 60.00
Total Labor	$ 4,080.00	$ 13,440.00
Total Cost	**$ 6,980.00**	**$ 20,640.00**

Maintenance hours estimated as follows (Typical Public High School or Municipal Agency):

1. Mowing/Brushing: 28 weeks x 1 mowing/brushing per week x 2 hours, Synthetic Turf includes adding rubber/infill and brushing in at (2) applications per year
2. Irrigation (Natural Grass): 16 weeks x 2 hours per week for water wheel transport and set-up
3. Fertilization (Natural Grass): Fall and Spring applications, pre/post emergent herbicide, (4) total maintenance events x 4 hours each
4. Aeration/Seeding: Core field, pulverize and drag plugs, drill, or slit seed, 3-person crew x 8 hours = 24 hours
5. Field Markings (Natural Grass): Line markings, 2 hours each application, applied bi-weekly each Fall (6) and Spring Season (6) x 2-person crew
6. Field Markings (Synthetic Turf): Line markings (Field Hockey Only), 2 applications x 2 hours each x 2-person crew + 4 hours each
7. Turf Repair (Natural Grass): Spot repair, resodding, topdressing, 2 hours per week x 2-person crew x 12 weeks each Spring/Fall
8. Turf Repair (Synthetic Turf): Turf repair included as part of Warranty (No Cost)

Note: Labor rates are approximate and assumes allowance for hourly rate plus benefits.

Per Event Cost Comparison

To properly compare the per-event cost a well-maintained premier natural grass field is considered since that will provide a better and safer playing surface for student-athletes and be better capable of withstanding heavier use. This type of field can be expected to support 100 events per year.

The following Table F illustrates the average costs that can be anticipated for a 100,000 SF field:

Table F - Synthetic Turf vs. Natural Grass Per Event Cost		
	Synthetic Turf	**Natural Grass**
Initial Cost Installation Cost / SF:	$22.00/SF = $2,200,000	$13.50/ SF = $1,350,000
Maintenance / Replacement Costs (10 years)	$404,671	$335,000
Total:	$2,604,671	$1,685,000
Annual Number of Events:	1000 x 10 Yrs. = 10,000 Events	100 x 10 Yrs. = 1,000 Events
Average Cost Per Event:	$260.47	$1685.00

1 Square Foot Cost based on Sportsturf Managers Association publication “A Guide to Synthetic and Natural Turfgrass for Sports Fields” Current Edition adjusted for inflation.

2 Id

3 Mowing, maintenance, water, equipment at $30,000, over seeding at $600, fertilizer at $8000, wetting agents at $1200, weed treatment at $500

4 Includes prorated sweeper cost, 30 turf sweepings, miscellaneous repairs

So, although valid concerns exist for the upfront and Life Cycle Cost of a synthetic field the cost per event proves to be significantly less. The increased number of events that can be handled by the synthetic field can lessen the event demand on natural grass fields allowing them to be rested and recover.

Athletic Feasibility Study

4 Development of Alternatives

- High School / Middle School Campus Site Limitations and Deficiencies
- Master Plan Priorities
- Recommended Athletic Facility Improvements - Phasing of Recommended Remedial Work
  - Phasing of Recommended New Facilities
  - Other Remedial Steps to Be Considered

4A. High School / Middle School Campus Site Limitations and Deficiencies

Although approximately ±51 acres in size, the site has limitations that have impacted field layout in the past and will continue to do so as the Master Plan is developed. These limitations include:

Existing Infrastructure – There are many existing multi-purpose fields as well as ballfields on campus, but no open space left for development of new fields if needed. The location of the existing stadium grandstands limit options for stadium renovations. There is an existing access drive that divides the eastern side of the campus creating smaller tracts that are available for athletic fields. Those smaller parcels combined with a restrictive lot configuration further limits what can be done. Based on our discussions with Staff removal of that access drive is not viable.

ADA Issues - Another impact to consider when developing a Master Plan is the need to incorporate ADA access to areas of the site where it currently does not exist. This includes ramps to grandstands, paths to fields, seating areas, and sufficient reserved parking.

Field Usage - Based on field usage analysis, the number of field sports offered by both the high school and middle school requires five (5) new multi-purpose field in order to provide the ability to let natural turf fields rest and properly recover and maintain playability better. Programming demands require as least one (1) more softball field.

Storm Water Control – Current stormwater improvements were designed to meet the codes in place at the time of permitting. Any significant construction, including installation of synthetic turf, will require stormwater attenuation. This is due more to soil disturbance than the addition of impervious surface.

4B. Master Plan Priorities

The Master Plan shall:

1. Be designed as a top-of-the-line facility that is aesthetically pleasing, easy to maintain, sustainable and provides the Students / Athletes the best and safest venues.
2. Provide as many athletic fields as possible to meet the needs of the sports programs and community needs.
3. Allow access for all students, staff, and spectators to all venues on the complex.
4. Have the capability of being developed in phases allowing capital investment over a period of time.

4C. Recommended Athletic Facility Improvements High School / Middle School Campus

Recommended Athletic Facility Improvements – High School / Middle School Campus

Based on the inventory of the existing fields on the campus and Field Use Analysis the following are the suggested improvements for each facility.

Note – For Natural Grass Fields the Following Apply:

- Major Renovations – Multiple aerations, topdressings, dragging and rolling to even the field surface.
- Moderate Renovations – Limited aerations, topdressings and dragging.
- Minor Renovations – Address compacted or damaged areas.
- Reconstruction – Includes kill existing grass, earthmoving, and sod.

Item No.	Field / Sports	Recommended Improvements / Alternatives	Schematic Budget Costs
1	Stadium Field	1. On-Going Maintenance	1. $ 20,000.00
2	Stadium Track (Option 1)	1. Monitor conditions of track and venues. 2. Resurface Track and Venues when condition warrants. 3. Raise jumping runways to promote drainage and prevent damage. 4. Relocate track fence.	1. $ 0 2. $ 500,000.00. 3. $ 100,000.00 4. $ 85,000.00 $ 685,000.00
3	Franklin St. Fields (Option 1)	1. Construct pathway to facilities 2. Create paved seating area at baseball field. 3. Extend backstop / install ball barrier netting 4. Team shelters. 5. Sand slit drainage around infield. 6. Bathroom building.	1. $ 10,000.00 2. $ 7,500.00. 3. $ 45,000.00 4. $ 105,000.00 5. $ 57,000.00 $ 224,500.00 6. $ 650,000.00 $ 874,500.00
4	Franklin St. Fields (Option 2)	1. Same as Option 1 2. As part of Item #6 below construct a new softball field in the NE corner of the fields.	1. $ 224,500.00 2. $ 740,000.00 $ 964,500.00
5	Bobby Scahntz Baseball Field	1. Regrade infield arc. 2. Perform bullpen remedial work (add safety fencing) 3. Construct warning track. 4. Construct pathway to facilities 5. Create paved seating area 6. Extend backstop / install ball barrier netting 7. Add irrigation to outfield. 8. Bathroom building (same as Item 3)	1. $ 6,000.00 2. $ 63,000.00 3. $ 4,500.00 4. $ 5,000.00 5. $ 12,000.00 6. $ 25,000.00 7. $ 65,000.00 $ 180,500.00 8. $ 650,000.00

			$ 830,500.00
6	Softball and Soccer Fields (Option 1)	1. Construct pathway to facilities 2. Create paved seating area 3. Extend backstop / install ball barrier netting 4. Sand slit drainage in low areas. 5. Team shelters. 6. Bathroom building (Same as 3 & 4)	1. $ 5,000.00 2. $ 12,000.00 3. $ 39,000.00 4. $ 90,000.00 5. $ 105,000.00 $ 251,000.00 6. $ 650,000.00 $ 901,000.00
7	Softball and Soccer Fields (Option 2)	1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ Field Lights 2. Franklin St. Fields - (Option 2) 3. Bathroom building (Same as 3 , 4 & 6)	1. $ 3,500,000.00 2. $ 740,000.00 $ 4,240,000.00 3. $ 650,000.00 $ 4,890,000.00
8	Lighted Auxiliary Field (Option 1)	1. Reconstruct and widen field to allow compliant athletic fields for all sports. This includes relocation of existing lights. 2. Construct pathway to facilities 3. Create paved seating area.	1. $ 750,000.00 2. $ 12,000.00 3. $ 11,000.00 $ 693,000.00
9	Lighted Auxiliary Field (Option 2)	1. Construct Synthetic Turf Facility w/ 4 Field Lights 2. Construct pathway to facilities 3. Create paved seating area	1. $ 2,753,000.00 2. $ 12,000.00 3. $ 11,000.00 $ 2,776,000.00
10	Tennis Courts	1. Reconstruct tennis courts (new base / subdrainage / surface) 2. Provide paved seating area and paved walkways to seating area.	1. $ 250,000.00 2. $ 7,800.00 $ 257,800.00

Phasing of Recommended Work

Phase 1 – Address Shortage of Multi-Purpose Fields

The biggest need on the Campus is for multi-purpose fields.

- Lighted Auxiliary Field – Reconstruction of Field
- Soccer and Softball Fields – Option 2 – Synthetic Turf
- Franklin Street Fields – Option 2 – New Softball Field
- Bathroom Building or Bathroom Expansion at Cafeteria

Phase 2 – Address Remedial Work on Ballfields

All ballfields have evidence for the need of remedial work.

- Varsity Baseball Field Renovations (Item 5)
- JV / MS Baseball Field Renovations (Item 3)

Phase 3– Major Non-Field Renovations

Items in this Phase can be combined with other Phases as budgetary dollars allow.

- Reconstruct tennis courts
- Reconstruct / resurface track and venues (when required)
- Construct Bathroom Building in the area of Franklin Street Fields / Bobby Schantz / Softball – Soccer Field

Other Remedial Steps to Be Considered

1. ADA Access Paths – Currently there is limited ADA accessibility. Consideration should be made to construct ADA paths to the other facilities to venues. These paths should be 6 to 8 feet wide to allow district golf carts and gators to use during heavy rain when access to the fields is needed. The schematic cost per linear foot of 6' wide path is $55.00.
2. Professional Field Construction – Proper athletic field and facility construction is a specialty. Often when athletic fields are constructed as part of school project, they are built by contractors unfamiliar with proper construction methods. Once the work is done problems often arise leaving the School District to seek professional help to properly maintain the fields which the District has done. No matter what level of maintenance over time the heavy usage simply is too much, and reconstruction is needed. We recommend the School District consider retaining professional athletic turf contractors to reconstruct the fields when necessary. Doing so provides a properly constructed playing surface that will be better able to handle the usage requirements and require lower maintenance in the interim.

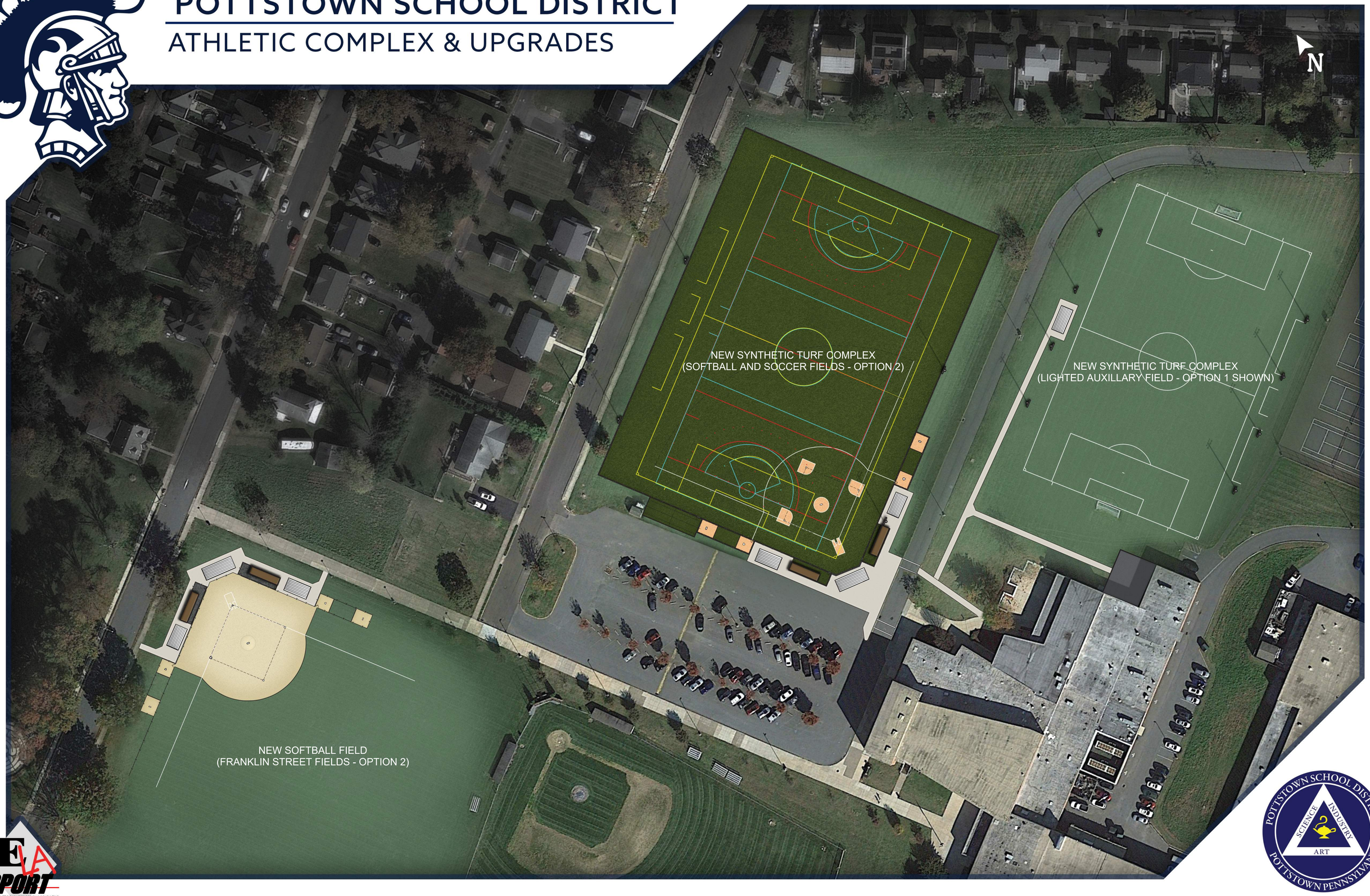
Athletic Feasibility Study

5 Appendix

- Master Plan Concept—New Facilities
- Compiled Coach Feasibility Study Questionnaires

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC COMPLEX & UPGRADES



EA SPORT
ATHLETIC FACILITIES DESIGN & CONSULTING

POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCIENCE INDUSTRY ART
POTTSTOWN PENNSYLVANIA

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Natalie Lennox **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? MS Softball

2. What levels are in your sport? ☐ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman
X-7th and 8th Grade

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 22

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? N/A On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?

HS Softball Outfield

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
HS Softball Field

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

Mon through Fri 3:00-5:00

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

10 Games, Tue/Thur 3:45-5:30

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

No

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

Yes

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

We need more than 1 field for softball - it gets overused by having so many people on it constantly.

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Justin Gibbs **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? Track and Field

2. What levels are in your sport? ☒ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 30-40

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? NA On JV only? NA

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?
   Stadium,Track, Franklin Fields for Throwing

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
   Stadium,Track, Franklin Fields for Throwing

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

   Mon-Thur 4:00-5:30

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

Wednesdays, 3-4 events, 3:30-6:30

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

N/A

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

No

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

No

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Shanaye Glenn **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? Track and Field

2. What levels are in your sport? ☒ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 12

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? N/A On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?
   Stadium,Track, Franklin Fields for Throwing

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
   Stadium,Track, Franklin Fields for Throwing

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

   Mon-Fri 3:00-5:00

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

Wednesdays, 3-4 events, 3:30-6:30

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

N/A

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

No

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

No

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Chris Petro **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? HS Baseball

2. What levels are in your sport? ☒ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 20-23

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? 18 On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?
   Bobby Shantz Baseball Field

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
   Bobby Shantz Baseball Field

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

   March to May 2:45-5:30, some Saturdays 9-11

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

10 Games M/W/F 4:00-6:00

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

No

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

See answer below

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

Yes, the infield grass is typically too thick/long, there are lips where the infield grass meets the infield dirt & again where the infield dirt meets the outfield grass & along the baselines (most likely more dirt is needed on the infield & the edges of the grass infield need to be fixed). The bullpens down either foul line inside each of the left & right field fences that include the pitching mound & rubber & the plate & area where the catcher receives the warm up pitches need to be completely redone. The same needs to be done for the bullpens over next to the outdoor batting cage/net

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Jace Stofflet **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? HS Boys Soccer

2. What levels are in your sport? ☑ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 30

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? 30 On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?

   Franklin Street Fields

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
   Franklin Street Fields

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

   Mon through Fri 3:15-5:15

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

9-10 Games, 3:45-5:30

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

No

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

Yes

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

Divots in the fields

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Brandy Scherer **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? HS Field Hockey and Lacrosse

2. What levels are in your sport? ☑ Varsity ☑ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 20

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? 20 On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?

Softball Outfield for Field Hockey, Franklin St Fields for Lacrosse

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
Softball Outfield for Field Hockey, Franklin St Fields for Lacrosse

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

Field Hockey- Mandatory Practices August-October/After School 3:30-6 (preseason times vary) Lacrosse- Mandatory Practices March -May/After school 3:30-69preseason time vary)

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

Field Hockey/Lacrosse : Home games vary between 7-9/ times are typically 3:45pm start/days are historically M, W, F---but can also be on Tues/Thursday

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

This is often required to salvage the field for games--more common during the spring season (lacrosse)because of the rain but this does also happen with Field Hockey.

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

Yes! We have had to move our lacrosse field SEVERAL times over the years due to playability including playing entire seasons in the stadium or playing some of "HOME" games away to get the games in. We have had to practice in parking lots because of field

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

While safety for our students, coaches, and officials should be the number one priority & plenty of reason to consider a turf field---it is also important to consider what level of opportunity we are providing to our student-athletes. As games have progressed over the years, not having turf to practice/play on is creating an automatic set back for our teams. The games are much faster and the style is much different on turf--- and when our student-athletes compete at different facilities there is just not enough "warm-up" time to adjust. And while many think having "home grass" should be an advantage it is not, it simply slows down the game and skill/technique are not able to be executed. Many opponents have the ability to get some "grass time" so they show up some what prepared.

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Levert Hughes **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? HS Football

2. What levels are in your sport? ☑ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 45

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? 35 On JV only? 15

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?

   Part of Franklin St Fields

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
   Stadium Field

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

   Aug to Oct Mon through Fri 3:30-5:30

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

5 Games, Fri 7:00

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

No

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

Divots

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

would like next turf,cut down on practice and game field maintenances

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Jose Alvarez **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? MS Boys Soccer

2. What levels are in your sport? ☐ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman
X- 7th and 8th Grade

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 19

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? 19 On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?
Franklin Fields (Share with HS Boys Soc)

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
Franklin Fields

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

Mon-Fri 2:45-5:00

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

10 Games 3:45-5:00

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

Yes

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

No

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

No

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Isetta Hewlett **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? MS Field Hockey and Lacrosse

2. What levels are in your sport? ☐ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman
X- 7th and 8th Grade

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 16-22

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? 11 On JV only? 5-11

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?
Lighted auxiliary field for both teams

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
Lighted auxiliary field for both teams

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

Mon-Fri 3:00-5:00

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

6-7 Games M/W/F 3:45-5:00

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

If we share with HS on their field due to weather we split the field

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

Yes (keeps wet, divots, muddy, high grass etc.)

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

The reason we don't always use field that is assigned to MS Field Hockey and Lacrosse is due to the water that the field holds after rain, muddy, the field isn't flat (divots) and the grass gets really high. When the field is too wet the field crew can't mow the grass and when the grass is too high you can't see the balls on the field and difficult to teach basic fundamentals for both field hockey and lacrosse.

TEAM HEAD COACH FEASIBILITY STUDY QUESTIONNAIRE

Project Name: Pottstown High School
Project Number:
Questionnaire Completed By: Kiersten Cruz **Date:** 11/20/22

Feasibility Study Items

1. What sports do you coach? MS Girls Soccer

2. What levels are in your sport? ☐ Varsity ☐ JV ☐ 9th Grade ☐ Freshman
X- 7th and 8th Grade

3. What is the average number of student athletes at tryouts for each level? 12

4. What is the average number of student athletes do you keep for each level? Everyone

5. Of this number, what is the average number on varsity? N/A On JV only? N/A

6. What field(s) do you use for practice (list all levels)?
Franklin Fields (Share field with HS Girls Soccer)

7. What field(s) do you use for games (list all levels)?
Franklin Fields (Don't play same days as HS)

8. What are your typical practice dates and times (list all levels)?

Sept to Oct 2:50-5:00

9. What are your typical number of home games per season and what day(s) and time(s) do you have games?

7 games 3:30-5:00

10. Do you, when the practice plan allows, shift goals around the field to lessen the wear in high use areas such as goal mouths and penalty spots?

No

11. Have there been any issues with the playability of your fields (keep wet, divots etc.) over the years

Yes, Divots and Holes

12. Is there any concerns or comments that you will like to make for the Feasibility Study?

No