

Athletic Field Update Highlights

1. Dick Wilson (Chairperson Buildings & Grounds Committee) provided the “Review of the Field Project”. (See next document)
2. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the fence:
 - John Hickey (Director – Buildings & Grounds) said 2/3 of the ‘new’ fencing could be eliminated.
 - Tomlinson Bomberger (who installed the field) said the current fence is sufficient and they don’t see a need to add to it.
3. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the water for the irrigation system, including the cost of bringing in water tankers:
 - The pipes are already in the field for irrigation.
 - The field needs 60,000 gallons of water.
 - The well pump is to be a 5HP pump that yields 20 gallons per minute.
 - The tank will hold 10,000 gallons of water.
 - Members of the audience voiced concern – do the math –the pump may burn out quickly, the well can run dry and then there’s the effect on the surrounding residents’ wells.
 - The Board’s response was the drawdown studies conducted on the well indicate there will be no problem.
4. Board member Millard Neale said it would be irresponsible to spend this kind of money in today’s economy. He said Dr. Shank had suggested the Board wait a year before proceeding with the new field, but the Board rushed into it. He further stated the Board won’t be able to show their faces in the community if they continue with this project. He suggested they hold off on the field, wait a year to let the sod take; don’t let the kids play on it until next year.
5. Other Board members are afraid if they don’t do something, then the \$193,751 already spent (\$171,101 for the field and \$22,650 for engineering and bid advertising) will be wasted.
6. The Board will vote on the field project at the March 19th School Board meeting.