



**1/25/12**

**FREQUENTLY-ASKED QUESTIONS**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS RELATED TO THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING ON 1/26/12 ABOUT  
ADDITIONAL COE FIELD FUNDING.**

**Q:** The Board previously authorized the District to expend up to \$35,000 from the Capital Improvements Fund to contract for the purchase, and application, of artificial turf on the infield of COE Field. **Why is more funding needed?**

**A:** A contractor has been selected, and the field preparation process has begun. However, some unanticipated drainage problems on the COE Field playing area have been identified and need to be addressed "ASAP" in order to have the field "safe & ready for play" for the upcoming Girls' Softball season.

**Q:** The Board has understood that the COE Field project would be completed primarily through grant dollars, donations, volunteer labor, and District personnel efforts. **Has this changed?**

**A:** This has not changed. Mark Eaton, the local initiator of the COE Field project, has been very successful at securing grant funding. However, the grants stipulated specific "project targets" that the grant dollars must be used for. Thus, some drainage and safety issues remain unfunded by either the District or other grants.

**Q:** What about volunteer labor, donations, and District personnel efforts?

**A:** Significant donated labor, materials, and related services have been provided by the turf contractor, local citizens, local companies, parents, and District personnel. More of the same will be major factors in the ongoing completion of the project.

**Q:** So what is left, why is it necessary, and what is the estimated cost for completing the application of artificial turf on COE Field?

**A:** We estimate the remaining artificial turf application and drainage costs at \$9,000.

**Q:** Will the \$9,000 complete the project that the Board authorized in the amount of \$35,000?

**A:** Yes, the District is requesting “Capital Improvements” spending authority (beyond the original \$35,000) in the amount of \$9,000 with a 10% variance for unanticipated essential costs and change orders.

**Q:** The District has been operating in a “financial exigency mode” for the last several years, with a loss of State Funding, and a loss of students to neighboring districts where our parents work, can find work, can find housing, etc. This has resulted in the loss of revenue with a resulting reduction of teaching, classified, and administrative staff, and it looks like more of the same could happen in the 2012-2013 budget process. **So, how can the District justify placing more District funding into a field project?**

**A:** The funding for the COE Field project will come from the “Capital Improvements” Special Revenue Fund—not from the General Fund where teacher, classified employees, and administrators are funded.

**Q:** **Can you summarize the financial request, and the legal implications?**

**A:** The District is requesting new spending authority up to \$9,000 in order to complete essential infrastructure and safety needs that will allow COE Field to be “ready for safe use” when the Girls’ Softball season begins in February, 2012.

**We believe that this request is in the best interest of student safety and the District’s fiduciary responsibility to the community, staff, and the Board.**

**\*For additional information, please contact Howard and/or Donna.**