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BANGOR TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS WILL BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ON A NEW MULTIPURPOSE TURF FIELD

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Bangor Township Schools will break ground on a multi-sport turf field and new track in Summer 2022. Due to decline in the state of the current football field and track, along with the drainage issues experienced each year during the spring and fall sports seasons, the district needed to explore options that would ensure Bangor Township students would have a proper and safe area to hold numerous athletic events.

Reason for the project:

- The track had become unusable for competition due to delamination of the surface from the asphalt caused by water issues stemming from a lack of drainage.
- An ongoing issue that had caused the track to need multiple resurfacings over the years and created issues with concrete and fencing within the stadium that could lead to more major repairs within the stadium if not addressed.
- Wasn't going to continue to resurface without addressing the underlying need for drainage- not throwing good money at a bad problem. Currently, the field has no comprehensive drainage system under it causing the pooling of water which caused issues for the track and at times caused unsafe playing conditions for other sports on the grass portion of the field.
- While the cost may seem high, when factoring in the cost to install a comprehensive drainage system including all the base materials needed, and then regrade and resod the grass field followed by a resurfacing of the track

(which all need to be done)- adding turf became a viable option if done at the same time.

Positive aspects of the project

- The project isn't just about adding turf. It's adding a comprehensive drainage system, a long-lasting track surface used by many Division I university programs (projects that needed to be done anyway), and then adding the new turf surface
- Creates a surface where sports teams can practice if their fields are not suitable for use (baseball/softball in the spring, soccer when raining)
- Will allow for all students to utilize the field as there is no longer a need to "save" it for game days or have it down for maintenance (painting, cutting, fertilizing, etc). All sports, PE classes, and youth programs can now access the field at any time.
- Gives an opportunity for other teams to play under the lights if desired. Soccer lines will be added as permanent fixtures, but markings for baseball, softball, and lacrosse will be hidden within the surface allowing for conversion to those sports as needed/desired.
- Reduces cancellations as competitions may be moved to this surface at the last minute if fields are not playable
- Will save costs of fertilizer, irrigation, athletic field marking paint, and maintenance on the playing surface- along with the man-hours to complete mowing, maintenance, and field painting- tens of thousands of dollars annually
- Will free up man-hours for general maintenance to address needs within our academic buildings as we face a shortage of substitutes.
- Will be a revenue-generating opportunity as the field can be rented out for various events and competitions.
- Sets JGHS and BTS apart as a leader in athletic facilities in Bay County.

Our #BobcatNation is excited to have this state-of-the-art facility added to our already beautiful grounds. We are overwhelmed with pride in our community, students, and staff as we create an area that can be utilized by all students and ensure scheduled events will not be canceled due to drainage or grounds issues.

Thank you for your support, and GO BOBCATS!

