

# DIXON PUBLIC SCHOOLS #170

*"A Place to Grow"*

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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** October 19, 2026  
**To:** Board of Education  
**From:** Dr. Melydi Huyett  
**Cc:** Doug Stansford, Marc Campbell, Kevin Schultz, Erin Grubic  
**Re:** Byrne and Jones Project

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The purpose of tonight's discussion is to determine whether the Board wishes to move forward with an accelerated timeline for the turf field and track project.

Byrne & Jones has indicated that construction could begin as early as November, pending permitting and final design. The specific timeline and start date would be established based on the Board's decision and the remaining project requirements.

### **Financial Benefits of Moving the Project Forward**

Accelerating the project would provide the District with the following financial benefits based on the current estimated project cost of \$2.2 million:

- **Avoided construction cost increase:** Moving forward now would avoid an anticipated 7% increase in project costs, representing approximately \$154,000.
- **Accelerated project discount:** Byrne & Jones has indicated that moving up the project timeline would provide an additional 1% discount, or approximately \$22,000.

**Total estimated savings: \$176,000.**

### **District Financial Capacity**

The District has the financial capacity to fund the estimated \$2.2 million project. Please refer to the attached document, which outlines the projected Capital Account balances under both timelines.

Under the accelerated timeline, the District would have an estimated ending balance of approximately \$314,000 after project expenses. The Board should consider this remaining balance when evaluating the District's ability to address other planned capital improvements and future facility needs.

## **Factors for the Board to Consider**

**1. Completing the Larger Vision:** Moving forward with the field and track project now would allow the District to realize the anticipated cost savings. However, it could affect the timing and available funding for the remaining capital improvements, including the main entryway, press box, and concession stand. Waiting another year may provide additional time to pursue fundraising for these projects; however, delaying the field and track project does not guarantee that the necessary funding for the remaining improvements will be secured.

**2. Impact on Spring Activities and Graduation:** Following discussions with Mr. Shaner and Mr. Fegan, potential impacts on spring 2027 versus spring 2028 athletics and graduation activities were reviewed. They indicated that the project timeline could be coordinated to accommodate the spring track and field season and graduation under either schedule.

## **Items Requiring Further Clarification**

Before finalizing the project schedule, the District should confirm the following with Byrne & Jones:

- Final contract and payment schedule.
- The anticipated construction start date and overall project timeline.
- Coordination of construction with spring athletics and graduation activities.

## **Summary**

The Board's decision tonight is whether the estimated \$176,000 in savings and the opportunity to complete the turf field and track project sooner outweigh the benefit of waiting another year to pursue the District's broader capital improvement vision.

Moving forward now would allow the District to take advantage of the anticipated cost savings while maintaining a projected Capital Account balance of approximately \$314,000 after project expenses. Waiting may provide additional time for fundraising and coordination of the remaining projects, but it also exposes the District to anticipated construction cost increases without guaranteeing that additional funding will become available.