



BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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2B. Action

TO: BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

DATE: May 10, 2004

ACTION: SYNTHETIC TURF FUNDING

Over the past few months, there has been a growing interest in pursuing the installation of a form of GIS turf at the each of the three high school competition fields. Interest in this project has evolved primarily due to the implications of opening Central High School and the impending additional use of the main stadium field. Currently the main stadium plays host to around twenty-five to thirty events per year. These events consist of approximately ten football games, fifteen soccer matches and three track meets per year.

Revenue source:

1. Ticket prices will go up one dollar per ticket for the next football season and soccer season (as per new district guidelines). Proceeds could be directed to the cost or lease payment of the turf. It would be expected that \$4,000–\$5,000 additional revenue could be generated each home game.
2. The stadium will host five additional regular season football games. This could generate upwards of \$15,000 to \$20,000 more per game.

These additional funds could be allocated toward the purchase of the turf or towards a lease/purchase payment for the turf.

Considerations:

Use

Natural grass – 20 – 35 uses per year
GIS turf – 200 – 300 per year (no limit)

Note – Football game cancellation. In the event that the stadium field is deemed unplayable for a varsity football game, it will be necessary to rent a facility for that purpose.

Financial considerations for this change would be approximately:

1. Cost of renting a GIS turf stadium –	\$2500
2. Transportation for teams, band, drill team and Cheerleaders	\$1200
3. Lost revenue from concessions -	<u>\$3000</u>
4. Total financial impact	\$6700

Note – currently only competition events in football, soccer and track are scheduled for the stadium. In many cases scheduled events such as band performances and soccer games have been rescheduled or canceled due to poor conditions.

Economic factors:

The cost of maintaining the KISD stadium field runs around \$45,000 per year.

A GIS system will cost between \$500,000 and \$600,000 to install and should have a lifespan from 8 – 12 years. Projections indicate that a GIS turf will nearly pay for itself over the first 10-year life span. Since GIS replacement costs are about one third to one half of the initial installation, an overall cost savings can be expected during the first half of the second life span of the GIS turf when comparing grass maintenance cost to GIS initial purchase cost.

Replacement considerations:

After the initial life span of a GIS turf system (8 – 12 years) it will be necessary to replace the simulated grass / infill component of the turf. The base doesn't need to be replaced. The cost of this is approximately one third to one half of the initial cost. Replacement cost fees could be generated through yearly savings from maintenance costs or handled as a one time expense.

Safety:

Typically, a well maintained grass field is also a safe playing surface. However, these conditions are only possible with limited use and preferred environmental conditions. This not being the case the field either becomes unsafe early in a competitive season or use is severely limited or both. A GIS turf field has the ability to remain uniformly safe across the entire playing surface regardless of the amount of play or weather conditions.

Serious turf related injuries fall into two categories - rotational leg injuries and head to ground impact injuries.

Rotational Leg Injuries Because of the nature of a GIS turf, rotational leg injuries that occur due to a shoe or cleat binding in the turf are nearly eliminated. The granular rubber does not lock a shoe in place when planting. The same properties are true of a well maintained grass field but over time the grass surface begins to deteriorate and injury possibilities increase.

Head to ground Injuries: A typical GIS turf will maintain a G-max rating (measure of shock absorption) between 130 –140, (the highest allowable rating is 200).

Natural grass when well maintained has a similar number, but as the field deteriorates, the G-max number can rise to unsafe levels. As a note G-max ratings of the old artificial turf fields were much higher and could become unsafe over a period of time.

Scheduling guidelines based on single field Installation:

If the district chooses to install one field (KISD Stadium) this summer, the Athletic Department would set up equitable practice and game scheduling for all schools. No school would have access to the field more often than any other school.

Transportation costs would be equally shared by all three high schools.

Ex. 1- Football – the home team would use the field for varsity and sub-varsity that week.

Ex. 2- In the case of inclement weather all schools would have access to the field on a rotating time schedule.

EX. 3– Soccer –Varsity and sub-varsity soccer games for all three high schools will have equal access for practice and games.

Ex. 4– Band and drill team –All three schools will have equal accessibility for practice

Ex. 5– All middle schools would have equal access to the stadium field for games.

With the afore-mentioned information in mind, the administration recommends that the fall of 2004 bond issue include the installation of GIS turf on the three high school competition fields.

Alternate Proposals: In the event that the administration's recommendation is not approved, the Board of Trustees may consider one of the following alternatives.

1. Install a GIS turf system on each of the three competition fields this summer - paid for out of fund balance.
2. Install a GIS turf system at the KISD stadium field this summer paid for out of fund balance. Put the remaining two competition fields in the upcoming September bond issue.

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The administration recommends that the Board of Trustees install a GIS turf system on each of the three competition fields as a result of a successful bond issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob DeJonge
Athletic Director