

**McKinney Independent School District**  
#1 Duvall Street, McKinney, Texas 75069

**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Shawn Pratt, Superintendent  
**Subject:** McKinney High School Running Track & Field Repair  
**Date:** April 20, 2026

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The MHS Track and Field Events was originally completed in 1997. The track has been upgraded and repaired over the years. The most recent repair was completed in 2018 when the school district stabilized the soil 6" down below the entire track and field event areas because they were experiencing differential heaving and settling due to moisture issues. The 2018 repair also included a new track surface with a new asphalt subbase.

Last year the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> lanes of the MHS track started splitting, settling, and pulling away from other 6 running lanes along the east side of the field adjacent to the creek directly east of the campus.



The district hired Braun Intertec, a geotechnical engineering company, to investigate the cause of the problem and provide recommendations for repair. Braun completed three soil borings in the area and determined the cause of the movement is the result of shrinkage in the deeper clay soils under the track and along the outside edge of the track on the east side of the field. There is also erosion and loss of soil along the edge of the track and on the slope of the “bank” east of the track that leads down to a concrete trail walkway with a small concrete retaining wall along the creek. See the photo below. Braun also determined that there not a sufficient “shoulder” or flat area adjacent to the track that would help keep moisture near the edge of the track. This shoulder would help keep the subsurface soil under the track hydrated and thereby restrict subsoil movement.



Braun recommended the following repairs:

1. Removal of the whole track and subbase the entire length of the cracking.
2. Remove the top 24” of the existing dry soil under the affected track area, moisture treat the soil and reinstall.
3. Install a physical moisture barrier sheet and cover with 6” of native clay soil under the track. The horizontal moisture barrier will extend 10’ beyond the outside edge of the track.
4. Create a 10’ wide shoulder (flat area) along the east side of the track and then taper down to the walking trail with a maximum slope or angle of 14 degrees (4:1).
5. Install erosion control turf on the new 10’ wide shoulder and slope as soon as possible to help stabilize the area. Do not install trees or shrubs on the shoulder or the sloped areas.

The district sent Braun's report and recommendations to Hellas Construction for bidding. Hellas reviewed the recommendations and talked to Braun about incorporating a retaining wall solution that would help stop soil erosion and movement. Together they proposed a retaining wall approximately 5' outside the track curb all along the entire length of the east side of the track that would not only keep moisture in the soil under the track but also prevent future soil erosion. This soil erosion, along with steep drainage and water run-off away from the track is a major factor that caused the past track movement and running surface failure. Braun and Hellas agreed that the retaining wall solution would be our best long-term solution.

Incorporating the retaining wall solution Hellas Construction, Inc. prepared a proposal through the 1GPA cooperative purchasing contract #23-01DP-03 for a total of \$950,450.00. The total bid includes \$799,885.00 for the track and subbase repairs and \$150,570 for the new retaining wall. The project includes the subsoil repairs recommended by Braun, a retaining wall to prevent future soil movement toward the creek, a new asphalt subbase on the east straightaway, a new track mat on the east straightaway, a new surfacing system spray topping on the entire track, and new lane stripping. Attached, please find a copy of the 1GPA Proposal from Hellas Construction Inc.

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**Impact Statement:** N/A

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**It is recommended:** The Board approve Hellas Construction, Inc. for the McKinney High School Track & Field Repairs as presented.

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**Resource Person(s):** Greg Suttle

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Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Pratt  
Superintendent

Greg Suttle  
Chief Operations Officer