

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District****Federal Tax ID: 92-6000034****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

Matanuska-Susitna Borough - Palmer High School Artificial Turf

State Funding Requested: \$800,000
One-Time Need**House District: 13 / G****Brief Project Description:**

Install artificial turf at the Palmer High School football field.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$1,500,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$500,000)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	(\$800,000)
Project Deficit:	\$200,000

*Funding Details:**FY09 partial state funding - \$500,000***Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The Mat-Su Borough School District (MSBSD) spans approximately 25,000 square miles, an area larger than the entire state of West Virginia. The MBSD is home to 43 schools! With a district wide enrollment of approximately 16,470 students, Mat-Su is the second largest school District in Alaska--behind Anchorage. There is a current need for new schools to be added to the district, from elementary to high school, which will increase the demands for quality tracks and fields.

Artificial turf playing fields have been changing the face of youth sports in Alaska in many different ways. Of the numerous artificial fields being built in Alaska, Anchorage alone has seen three major artificial playing surfaces built in recent years; Anchorage Football Stadium (AFS), Dimond High school Football Field, and the indoor Anchorage Sports Complex (the Dome). With the construction of the new turf infield at Mulcahy, Alaska will finally have a baseball field with a surface that can withstand the harsh Alaskan weather.

This project will significantly enhance the Borough's economy through the many school teams and their families that would come to the Mat-Su Valley for football and soccer meets and tournaments ... using local hotels, restaurants, gas, and supplies.

The football field at Palmer High is grass and is in very poor condition. Continual freezing and thawing every year, plus the additional damage caused by using the field while it is thawing, makes it a constant battle to maintain the field in a safe, usable condition. Grass fields are slippery and hazardous for our students to play on. The new artificial turf allows the teams to get on the field sooner in the spring and allows them to use the field longer into the fall. Artificial turf is

The original funding request was for \$1M, and we received \$500K in FY09. However, the cost of the turf has increased significantly since then, and our request is for an additional \$1M to meet the total project cost of \$1.5M.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this request to allow for full funding of this project.

Project Timeline:

If funded this session, this project could be completed in FY12.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Mat-Su Borough School District

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: Don Carney
Title: Facilities Coordinator
Address: 3901 E Bogard Rd
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
Phone Number: (907)376-0806
Email: don.carney@matsuk12.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No



Mission: Mat-Su Borough School District prepares students for success

Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Henry Cottle, Director

3901 E. Bogard Road

Wasilla, Alaska 99654

(907)376-0806 Fax (907)376-7866

February 24, 2011

Carl Gatto
600 East Railroad Avenue
Wasilla, Alaska 99654

Attn: Karen / Representative
Fax: 1-907-465-2381

Re: Palmer High School / Turf

Thank you for reconsidering this project (Turf) at Palmer High School.

Attached is a new cost estimate and backup material data sheet. A letter of support from the school administrators will be sent to you on Friday February 24, 2011.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact us at 1-907-376-0806 and we will be happy to assist you.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Carney", written over a horizontal line.

Don Carney
Assistant Director
Operations & Maintenance
Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Hello,

For our District 13 capital projects list, we need more information on the following projects:

1. Palmer High School – Install Artificial Turf at the Football Field

- a. This is a project submitted previously in FY09, which was awarded partial funding of \$500K.
- b. I spoke with Don Carney this morning who told me this project was approved by you and the MSBSD.
- c. Don is getting the most recent cost estimates for this project.
We have found there is an increase in cost from Two years ago. The new cost based on what Anchorage paid this year for an identical plus the sod work not included in the Anchorage project, is \$1,800,000 less the \$500,000 already received. See attached bid information from the Anchorage project.
Attached E-mail from Alaska Industries
- d. A support document was submitted last year – can you update it for a backup document? (see attached)
- e. I will be using information from previous CAPSIS entries on this project.

We are hopeful that some, if not all, MSBSD projects are accepted by the Finance Committee. But first, we will be meeting with Rep. Keller's and Sen. Menard's office tomorrow to discuss the top priorities for our District G-which includes District 13 and 14. The three offices have to agree on the projects submitted to the Finance Committee. These top priorities will be submitted Monday morning, February 28th, to the Finance Committee for inclusion into the Capital Budget. However, please be aware there is no guarantee that the Committee will include all of our requests.

I will keep you posted as the process develop. Thanks for all your work on creating your list of projects, and for the follow-up to our requests. Please call me if you have any questions.

Karen

*Karen Sawyer, Staff
Office of Representative Carl Gatto
State Capitol, Room 118
Juneau AK 99801*

*465-5025 direct
465-2381 fax
Karen_Sawyer@legis.state.ak.us*

Don Carney - RE: Turf budget

From: Scott Weber <scott@akind.com>
To: Henry Cottle <Henry.Cottle@matsuk12.us>, Jeffrey Walden
<Jeffrey.Walden@matsugov.us>
Date: 2/23/2011 3:38 PM
Subject: RE: Turf budget
CC: Don Carney <Don.Carney@matsuk12.us>

Henry,

On South ASD did a series of things that added to the total estimated cost of \$1.4mil. About the only item I seen that the Contractor would not have been responsible for was the removal of the existing turf and agg as ASD wanted salvage rights to this and had it removed themselves. We could make similar arrangements if you are interested.

On South they had 9 local contractors bid, the first 3 bidders were within 5% of the estimated cost of \$1.4mil. The first 6 bidders were within 11% and the last 3 were over 2 million. Bottom line you had 3 bidders on South at under \$1.5mi. The low Bidder was Rodger Hicel contracting at \$1,401,265.00 so not a fly by night outfit.

As Jeff recommended I would use \$1.5 for sure this way you will be covered and you can use South as a comparative to present to the session in Juneau. This project just bid 1/25/11 so numbers are current and I don't see where they can argue funding should you present this that way.

Let me know should you want something else.

Regards,

Scott Weber

Alaskan Industries

376-22484

From: Henry Cottle [mailto:Henry.Cottle@matsuk12.us]
Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2011 12:40 PM
To: Scott Weber; Jeffrey Walden
Cc: Don Carney
Subject: RE: Turf budget

Last Updated on Friday, Oct 01, 2010 - 11:37:04 pm AKDT

Frontiersman.com

Wasilla, Alaska | Sunday, February 27, 2011

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Voters asked to green-light district athletic improvements

By Jeremiah Bartz

Frontiersman

Published on *Friday, October 1, 2010 11:37 PM AKDT*

MAT-SU □□” Local voters will decide Tuesday whether to approve more than \$9 million to be allocated to the renovation of sports facilities at five area high schools. As the Mat-Su Borough general election nears, proponents of Proposition 4 are rallying support.

“I want to see us invest in our kids,” said Jackie Kenshalo, a mother of two and member of the Palmer High School soccer booster club.

That investment, a bond not to exceed \$9.025 million dollars, would include: • A running track at Colony, Houston, Palmer, Susitna Valley and Wasilla high schools.

- Field turf at Colony, Palmer and Wasilla high schools.
- A hockey rink, outside basketball court and warm-up facility at Susitna Valley.

In the past, larger bonds have been proposed that included funds to upgrade local sports facilities. But this year, the requested funds were moved to a separate proposal. Mat-Su School District spokeswoman Catherine Esary said Proposition 4 was designed, in part, to allow voters an opportunity to look at the proposal as an individual need.

“This proposition is only for the sports and athletics fields, and the running tracks,” Esary said Wednesday afternoon.

Esary said a key to the proposal is prior approval by the state to reimburse 70 percent of the cost of the projects. That leaves 30 percent for borough taxpayers. Esary estimates a borough property owner would be taxed an average of \$6 per year, if the proposition passes.

According to information provided by the school district, the value of the average home in the borough is just more than \$200,000. Esary said property owners would be taxed \$3.05 for every \$100,000 of assessed property value, if the proposition passes.

Residents from a number of local groups that regularly use these facilities that are often seen as sub-par are voicing their support.

“I think this is extremely important for our kids’ health,” Kenshalo said. “Participation in a healthy lifestyle at quality facilities help them achieve their goals, while (sustaining) fewer injuries.”

Nearly half of the proposed total would fund the addition of field turf, an artificial playing surface, at Colony, Palmer and Wasilla. The turf would replace the existing grass fields, which have become problems according to many users.

Clay Dahl, president of the Colony High School football booster club, said it takes hundreds of hours by volunteers and thousands of donated dollars per year to ensure Colony’s game field has at least a somewhat



ROBERT DeBERRY/Frontiersman While the Mat-Su Valley has benefited from the addition of new facilities that cater to sports such as basketball and hockey, Valley residents continue to express a need for outdoor turf facilities. Local voters will decide Tuesday whether to approve more than \$9 million for renovation of sports facilities at five area high schools.

playable surface.

“It’s just so badly needed,” Dahl said. “It takes a couple hundred volunteer hours a year to mow, arriate, re-seed, re-sod, bring in new soil, everything.”

Dahl said a local landscaper donates his time to help improve the field, charging only for fertilizer and grass seed.

“But we still spend \$10,000 to \$12,000 a year,” Dahl said. “It could be \$25,000 on our one field.”

Artificial surfaces do not require regular maintenance, which eliminates those costs.

There are certain areas of the Colony field that are particularly troublesome, Dahl said.

“We re-seed and re-sod, but uneven as it is, through the year it gets worse and worse,” Dahl said. “It doesn’t stand a chance given the Alaska growing season.”

The fields at Palmer and Wasilla are also maintained, for the most part, by volunteers.

The proposed total includes \$1.6 million for turf at both Colony and Wasilla. Palmer would receive \$1 million for turf. The school already has \$500,000 for the turf project, money that was included in the 2008 capital budget.

The bond also includes \$788,300 for each of the five schools to install a synthetic running track. Currently, four of those five schools do not have tracks that allow teams to host competitions.

A final \$883,500 would be used to construct the hockey rink, outdoor basketball court and warm-up facility at Su Valley High. Esary said those were projects left off the construction of the new Su Valley school.

Kristofer Larson, a local chiropractor who serves as the athletic trainer for the Colony High School football and soccer programs, said, while he may not regularly be in favor of bond proposals, he sees the need of Proposition 4.

“Generally, I’m not a huge fan of bonds. They have to make sense. To me, this one makes perfect sense,” Larson said.

Larson cited a number of reasons for his support, but safety and opportunity are primary factors.

“There’s no perfectly safe sport, but these (turf) fields drain better,” he said. “There are not the changes in surface when it rains. It takes the variable right out of it.”

Larson said safety leads to more opportunity for usage.

“In terms of access, it’s just huge,” Larson said. “The community can safely use it as well.”

The Mat-Su Valley does not have an outdoor turf field, and Palmer High is the only school with more than a concrete running track. There are at least seven facilities with turf in the Anchorage and Eagle River areas.

“We feel like we’re way behind the big city,” Kenshalo said. “We need to catch up to Anchorage and the other larger cities with quality facilities.”

Kenshalo has watched for the past few years as her daughters’ high school soccer seasons have been shortened.

“It’s frustrating,” Kenshalo said. “I think we had two home games. (The players) pay a substantial amount for the sports activity fee, and they do work hard.”

Contact Frontiersman sports editor Jeremiah Bartz at sports@frontiersman.com.



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Comments

Helping the few wrote on Oct 8, 2010 7:02 AM:

" While ANY tax increase should be looked and closely - I think its important to remove this idea of "a select few will use this". Most valley residents will have a son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandson, or granddaughter that would benefit from this upgrade. I can only speak of one of the schools but I know football (both high school and youth), Soccer (both high school and youth), track (elementary, middle school, and high), Marching Band, Relay for Life, Flag Football, and Key Club are just a few of the activities that that use that field. "

Just Voted No on Bonds wrote on Oct 5, 2010 8:59 AM:

" Time to slow down the wild spending of the government. "

High Tech wrote on Oct 4, 2010 11:37 PM:

" Do you want to ask the school booster clubs how much money it costs to maintain those fields? Or the manpower? Or the injuries caused by uneven field surfaces, holes, bad or no grass. Or how about in the spring with soccer playing on frozen ground? Special shoes? You can wear regular cleats or turf shoes but lets face it, the kids already have multiple cleats because of the different fields they already play on. Special equipment? Tractor and rake. Hmm special. City of Wasilla has been doing it for years at the sports complex. "

Use Google wrote on Oct 4, 2010 11:31 PM:

" People continue to amaze me. there are any number of long term and short term medical studies showing the the latest generation of Field Turf actually results in less injuries. Not more. The bond is a 70/30 split with the 70% paid by the state, we just pay for the 30. And those of you who cry about the state money, we don't pay state taxes, it is oil revenue money. Money that has paid for all but two turf fields in Anchorage. And the upkeep is minimal and a 10th of the man hours. "

LeeP wrote on Oct 4, 2010 8:29 AM:

" Not one cent for athletics until academics are in place and functioning. I'm not looking to hire a HS sports star, I'm looking to hire someone who can do everyday math without a calculator and who knows what an ohm is. This person must also be able to read AND write in American English in order to fill out required forms. I'm not finding many qualified applicants among recent graduates. "

Chris wrote on Oct 3, 2010 9:39 PM:

" to Hello: You do know you have to make grades to play a sport right? You don't have to play a sport to make grades. Education should be the priority, not funding the projects to make the sports more

convenient. sports only last so long for an athlete. They get hurt and end thier career, what will they fall back on? "

To Football Dad wrote on Oct 3, 2010 10:40 AM:

" I don't like more taxes and have decided that instead of leaving to just vote NO. It seems to me that if this artificial turf means so much to you and Anchoragua has it that you should be the one who leaves. I will let you pay for your own recreation and I will pay for mine. Football results in too many lifelong injuries anyway, and the artificial turf will add more. Vote NO on 4! "

for all students wrote on Oct 3, 2010 8:27 AM:

" Any student who wants to participate in sports can do so if the meet the academic requirements. Yes students have to pay a sports fee. Yes the schools will help students who cannot afford to pay such fees and will work with the students. No it is not just for the "Elite". "

Hello wrote on Oct 3, 2010 7:03 AM:

" Kids do not go to school to get an education. They go for the sports, clubs, drama, band, etc... If they receive an education while at school, it is an added bonus. Barrow added football and their graduation rate more than doubled for male students. This is not a hand out or a tax the poor so the rich kids can play. This is an INVESTMENT in the future of Valley youth. Vote yes on 4 and no on the rest. "

Chris wrote on Oct 3, 2010 2:20 AM:

" The whole point of the fee is to have those who participate in sports invest in the future of the sports programs at the schools. Not force someone who has no kids or never played sports to pay a tax to fund it. When I have kids and they decide to play a sport I will have no problem paying an extra fee if it means that future generation might be able to have a better facility then what my kids do. but until then don't force me to pay higher taxes. "

Chris wrote on Oct 3, 2010 2:17 AM:

" Here is an idea. Add a athletic fee of another \$25 per sport per person. Say only 300 people play a year. $300 \times 25 = \$7500$. If they did this when I went to High school back in 1998-2001. that is what 13 years so $13 \times 7500 = \$97,500$. And that is only with 300 athletes. So now take that money and put it aside for say a new terf. The problem is, no one wants to plan ahead 10+ years and start saving now. They want the money now and raise the taxes. "

re Chris wrote on Oct 2, 2010 10:40 PM:

" That's exactly right. "It's only \$6!" Well guess what-everybody and their brother "only wants \$6". Add it all up and we're talking about real money. It's time to start throwing down the no votes on bonds. "

Chris wrote on Oct 2, 2010 9:02 PM:

" To those who are saying it is only \$6.00. That is where it starts. That seems to be the statment thrown out there for ever bond bill. "Its only \$6.00". "so you have to cut back 2 mochas." Add that up for all previos bonds and spending bills and it can get up to \$100 or more. They will just keep added spending bills that will only increase said tax by \$5-\$6. But sooner or later it all adds up to one big tax increase. "

voting yes on this one wrote on Oct 2, 2010 7:44 PM:

" Some of these cheap skates are really unbelievable. Our kids aren't worth \$6 dollars a year? (or less for many)

Sports keep kids in school, it makes them get passing grades, it's great for their health and well being. I guess the NO people would rather have kids running the streets, out of shape and overweight or on drugs. "

HELLO wrote on Oct 2, 2010 7:38 PM:

" I don't have much to say on this because if you think we should do it, vote yes, if not vote no, and we will see what happens...as for "artificial turf causing injury"...what era are you from, it's not the carpet turf that the Eagles used to play on its grassy turf it's actually safer than grass. It doesn't tear or uproot when it's wet. As for "special shoes" again it's not carpet it's grassy turf, you wear cleats like on real grass. "

Seriously... wrote on Oct 2, 2010 4:47 PM:

" All of you that oppose this apparently never spent any volunteer time into a team activity for a child. Before you call our kids ELITE and not mean it in a positive way, we understand the socioeconomics of the community and would like a facility that would benefit EVERYONE! Really, what is the \$6 or so a year that would fund this, one less pack of cigarettes for you or your case of beer? It is really a small amount to give up for our children in this community. "

PATHETIC wrote on Oct 2, 2010 3:54 PM:

" You people are really pathetic !!!

We are talking helping all the athletes that use these things. From football to soccer to track and hockey. We are only talking about 6 bucks a year. You folks that talk about the valley elite... they are elite because that is their choice ...Get your kid up off the XBOX and PLAYSTATION and have them join a team and understand what that means. Before you start knocking it down because you yourself were the same kid and never did it your self doesn't give you the right to bash it !! VOTE YES ON 4 "

FOOTBALL DAD wrote on Oct 2, 2010 3:35 PM:

" IF YOU PEOPLE DON'T LIKE A LITTLE \$6.00 TAX THE MOVE BACK FROM WHERE YOU CAME !!!! THIS IS GOING TO DO NOTHING BUT IMPROVE THE SHAPE OF THE THREE HIGH SCHOOLS IN THIS VALLEY AND MAKE IT BETTER AND SAFER FOR THE KIDS. IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT

LEAVE !!!!!!! "

Forget It wrote on Oct 2, 2010 12:50 PM:

" When the MSB pays off \$9,000,000 of currently bonded indebtedness, then we will talk about your high tech athletic fields. When the graduation rate rises above 64% and political correctness/diversity is gone and replaced by real life skills like the 3Rs, then we will talk. When "winter break" once again becomes Christmas vacation, then we will talk. Once your mission statement emphasizes helping our kids become good Americans rather than contributors to a "global society", then we will talk. Until you become a positive force in the lives of my children, keep your hand out of my pocket "

Come on... wrote on Oct 2, 2010 12:23 PM:

" You are worried about being "taxed" \$6.00??? Really... I know that times are tough right now for people, but \$6.00 a year....come on. "

Sorry wrote on Oct 2, 2010 11:20 AM:

" My finances at this time are about needs, not wants, and I will be applying that to the public sector too, or at least to the extent that I can. The one good thing I can say about bond issues is that they give me that choice.

This is a want and I will not be supporting it. "

smurf1961 wrote on Oct 2, 2010 10:52 AM:

" you may also want to look at the injuries that are unique to artificial sports surfaces verses grass surfaces, also you need new shoes and other equipment to clean and maintain it, no more mowing just a lot of scrubbing and blowing Also how many hockey rinks do we need are all of them used and over capacity? can the MSB or city build one for everyone? Think multi-purpose for all the people the money well is getting dry "

Why have non users pay wrote on Oct 2, 2010 8:40 AM:

" Let the rich Dr Larson pay for his kids sports, NOT ME! An article about and for the elite whom can afford to participate in sports. The every day kid and family can no longer afford to play hockey, m or soccer or whatever. Taxes paid for sports are taxes paid 95% for the elite and special people out there, many of them better to do than I. "

Users pay wrote on Oct 2, 2010 8:37 AM:

" Let the users pay for this waste of what could be educational money. I am tired of supporting sports at taxpayer expense, as well as public facilities such as the Menard, Sullivan and other, paid for by the taxpayer, subsidized sports arena. We need to supply education, not encourage kids to be sports stars, but educated stars in this country with such poor education. All money needs to be sunk into EDUCATION, they need no more, just spend what they have wisely which is not done. "

Voting NO wrote on Oct 2, 2010 7:14 AM:

" My hours have been reduced at work and there is no way I want to pay more taxes so a very few select youths can play on artificial turf. The majority of the year the field are covered in snow anyway. Why should we spend \$9,000,000 so the users of the fields don't have to spend \$10,000 to play their game? Those who use it should expect to have to pay something for it, and \$10000 is pretty inexpensive compared to \$9,000,000! Vote no on this extravaganza. "

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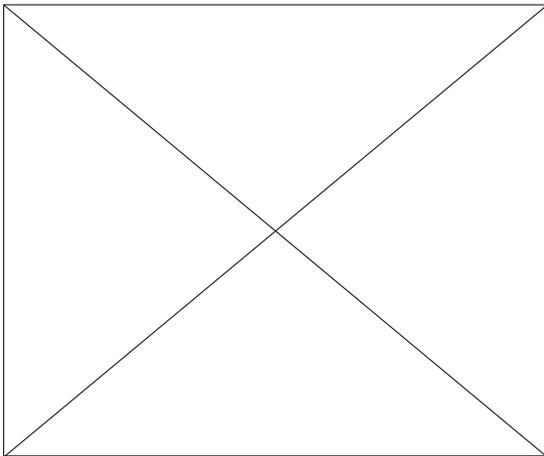
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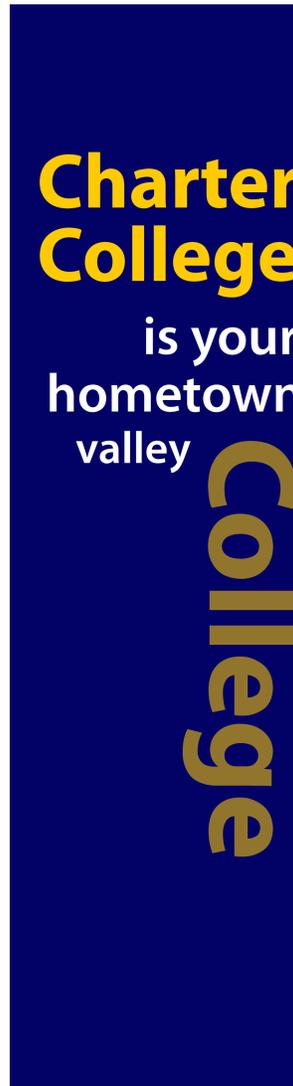
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Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)
Grant Recipient: Anchorage

Project Title:

Anchorage - South High School Artificial Turf Field Design

State Funding Requested: \$ 1,500,000
 One-Time Need

House District: 31 - P

Brief Project Description:

Install Artificial Turf Field for South Anchorage High School. The funds will eliminate dangerous field conditions.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$1,500,000

<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
There is no other funding needed					

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

South Anchorage High School opened just four years ago. Since that time, the football program has been struggling to develop an adequate field for safe practices and games. During the first two seasons, practices were held at middle school fields. The seasons of 2006 and 2007 the teams used South's field.

Due to severe drainage problems with our new field at South, the health and safety of the players, as well as visiting players, were severely compromised. The field is dangerous and slippery, with lots of mud and standing water. The sidelines are just as bad if not worse than the field itself. The players were forced to stand in 4 to 6 inches of water while waiting for their time on the muddy field.

This item has an Identifying Number 287 for facility 860 in the Anchorage School District 2008 Legislative Requests.

The principal or the Booster Foundation president can be contacted.
 Contact Name: John Lewis, Booster President
 Phone Number: (907) 345-4377
 Address:
 14335 Teton Place
 Anchorage, Alaska 99516
 Email: www.sawolverines.com/docs/2007/membership.doc

Non-Profit Corporation Tax I.D. #16-1725313 for the South Anchorage Booster Foundation.

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

4:08 PM 4/29/2008

Project Timeline:

FY 09 and FY 10

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

Anchorage School District

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact: Chuck Fannin
Phone:(907)742-6200
Address:
South Anchorage High School
13400 Elmore
Anchorage, Ak. 99516
Email: fannin_chuck@asdk12.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
2008 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Legislative Priorities

Anchorage School District



2006 State Champions
2007 State Semi-Finalists

SOUTH FOOTBALL BOOSTER FOUNDATION

Non-Profit Corporation Tax I.D. #16-1725313
www.sawolverines.com



Providing Scholarships for
College Bound Players

Head Coach: John Lewis
President: Rose Colbern
Vice-President: Rick Rydell

Treasurer: Rhonda Gerharz
Secretary: Valrie Musick
Alumni Chair: Cindy Petrovich

February 26, 2008

Via Fax: (907) 465-6592

The Honorable Lesil McGuire
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol, Room 125
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: South Football Booster Foundation Request for Funding Facility Improvements

Dear Senator McGuire:

I am John Lewis, head coach of the South Anchorage High School Football Program and a director of the South Football Booster Foundation. On behalf of our Wolverines and Boosters, I write now with an urgent request for your assistance with securing funding for use toward the creation of a much-needed South Anchorage area multi-use facility which will benefit the entire community. South Football's primary goal is to provide a multi-use facility for the Anchorage community at large, but many improvements must be made to reach the goals we envision. We therefore request funding for the following necessary improvements:

1) **\$1.5 Million for Field Turf and Other Security Field Improvements:** We need to resurface the existing practice field with field turf. A field turf surface will allow for 24/7 use by multiple interest groups, from high school athletes to greater community youth sports. The surface would provide the safest possible conditions free from the current existing dangers of potholes, rocks, mud, and erosion, all of which can be attributed to many unnecessary past injuries. Maintenance of field turf, unlike the current field, is simple and provided at zero cost. Chain link fencing will need to be installed to protect the field from wildlife, unauthorized vehicles, and other potential threats that could damage the field. Other needs to complete the facility for use by the community at large for all types of events include lighting, bleachers, score board, and press box.

2) **\$250,000 Toward Athletic Training Facility:** We wish to construct a 2,500 square foot multi-sport athletic training facility capable of safely accommodating up to 100 students at a time. South athletes currently use a very small weight training room within the school that suffers overcrowded, dangerous conditions on a daily basis. Football, hockey, soccer, basketball, volleyball, wrestling, track, and other sports at South are constantly competing for space to train in this tiny room, which cannot even accommodate one high school varsity team. A larger, separate facility is needed to relieve those dangerous conditions and to provide space for athletes in year-round weight training/cross training activities for their various sports. With this facility, South athletes in every sport can train year round, greatly enhancing their potential for athletic scholarship opportunities.

We urgently request your support of these needed funds to complete the field improvements and athletic training facility construction at South High. With immediate funding, South Football can establish a safe and secure multi-use facility to be used by both our own students and the Anchorage community at large. Thank you for your consideration on behalf of the South Anchorage community and South High students. Please call me at 907-742-6233 if you have questions or require additional information.

Regards,

John Lewis, Head Coach & Director
South Football Booster Foundation