

**Richland County Community Unit School District No.1
Board of Education**

**Special Meeting
Wednesday, October 2, 2024
Richland County High School
1200 E. Laurel St.
Olney, IL 62450
5:30 PM**

- I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Recognition and Comments from Employees and Public
- IV. New Business
 - A. Discussion and possible tour of athletic complex. 2
- V. Enter Executive Session
 - A. 2(c)(1) To Consider Information Regarding Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of Individual Employees
- VI. Exit Executive Session
- VII. Personnel Action
- VIII. Adjournment

Agenda for Special Meeting on Athletic Complex Remodel

Meeting #1:

October 2, 2024

- Facility Walk
- Priority Points of Concern
 - **Accessibility for Everyone**
 - Softball
 - Field has no accessible path
 - Restrooms are not handicapped accessible
 - Baseball
 - Access is not ADA Code compliant
 - Restrooms are not handicapped accessible
 - Football
 - No accessible path to bleachers
 - No handicapped seating options in bleachers
 - No accessible path to restrooms
 - Restrooms are not handicapped accessible
 - **Safety**
 - Baseball and Softball Fencing
 - Fan seating is not protected from foul balls
 - Dugouts are not protected from foul balls
 - There are no fences to protect players from leaving the playing field down the foul lines
 - Softball does not have a permanent outfield fence
 - Baseball outfield fence is not standard size or angle
 - The fence height on backstops or down baselines is not high enough to properly protect surrounding neighbors
 - Drainage Concerns
 - Standing water throughout the facility
 - Mosquito issues
 - Discus area
 - Marching band practice field
 - Football practice field
 - Washout areas on Softball field creating dangerous situations
 - Erosion under the baseball spectator seating areas
 - Field grading issues caused by poor drainage

- Tennis Courts
 - Four courts forces travel to and from city park
 - Surface cracks are dangerous

- Track
 - Surface Issues
 - Large cracks in surface have been patched but are uneven
 - Failing subsurface is causing more cracking
 - Long Jump area is difficult to maintain and often becomes a swamp

- Bleachers
 - Do not meet current codes
 - Open areas need to be 4 inch max width
 - Steep stairs
 - Zero areas for handicapped accessibility
 - Baseball, softball and tennis are all outdated and unsafe

- Lights
 - Lights catch fire at least once a year
 - Bare wires catch poles on fire at least once a year
 - Each light is turned on/off with its own circuit breaker at the pole
 - Light coverage on field is not adequate
 - Height of poles is too short
 - Direction of lights is not appropriate for needed coverage
 - Fire department must be used in order to work on the lights
 - Zero lights on bleacher or walk areas
 - No lights on baseball or softball
 - JV Soccer competitions are shortened or canceled due to lack of lights

- Band
 - Do not have proper way to view band during practice
 - Using construction scaffolding
 - Instructor fell on wet scaffolding this fall
 - Do not have proper structures for instructors to view from the correct height to maximize student performance

- Crowd Control
 - Current fencing allows too many entrance points to the playing fields
 - Securing the facility is impossible

- **Health**
 - Restrooms
 - Number of toilets does not meet code for seating capacity of facility
 - Current restrooms constantly back up and become unavailable
 - Manhole behind restrooms overflows sewage into yard when backups occur
 - Fan quote “I just go home if I need to use the restroom. Those are not suitable for use.”
 - Portable bathrooms are being brought in for remaining home games
 - Locker rooms
 - Currently there are no locker rooms for use at the athletic complex
 - Vets Hall is used as a locker room but it does not have restrooms or proper dressing areas
 - Visiting Football teams must use Girls Basketball locker room inside main building
 - Concession Stand
 - Current concession stand is in poor condition
 - Does not have adequate access to serve population of fans at games
 - EMS Access
 - No EMS vehicle access to the field in case of emergency
 - Parking is in the fan walk way
- **Additional Opportunities**
 - Hosting Events
 - Track
 - IHSA Sectionals
 - Large Invitational
 - Need to have 8 lanes
 - Need to have electronic timing
 - RCHS Soccer
 - Is currently playing off site
 - Can compete on a field with grandstand seating
 - Host night competitions
 - Have locker rooms to use
 - Current field was created for soccer but clay was placed down the middle and will not grow grass
 - Current field has not restroom or locker room facilities

- Post Season Events
 - RCHS does not current host many IHSA Post Season Events due to the condition of the facilities
 - Baseball and Softball require ability to play evening games into night
 - Tennis needs six courts on site
 - Soccer has no established seating for spectators

- Night Events
 - Baseball and Softball cannot play week day doubleheaders
 - Soccer has to shorten or cancel JV contest
 - Field Event area for track meets

- Marching Band Competitions
 - Showcase our talents at home
 - Major fundraising opportunity for our program
 - Influx of visitors to community (purchasing gas and food)
 - Band programs prefer turf for competitions due to cost of uniform cleanings

- Youth Programs
 - Travel programs can host tournaments and competitions
 - Youth track can host events and meets

- **Community Impact**
 - The facility will be a community useable facility
 - Walking lights on the track – currently walkers use flashlights
 - Track will be open for 24 hour use
 - Turf field is great for training and rehabilitation on a soft surface

 - The proposed facility will allow for growth within the community
 - Families want their children to have the opportunity to participate in activities with these types of facilities
 - Number of visitors to the community will increase due to an increase in events being held

 - Community Pride