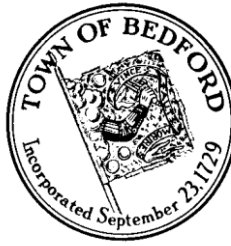# TOWN OF BEDFORD, MA

Recreation Department

Date: February 20th, 2024

To: Bedford School Committee
CC: Cliff Chuang, Superintendent
From: Josh Smith, Recreation Director
Re: Sabourin Turf Field & Track Replacement

The synthetic turf at Sabourin Field is due to be replaced and the funding for this project is up for vote at the Annual Town Meeting on 3/25/24. The track is also up for replacement and the goal is to replace the track and the turf field at the same time in the spring/summer of 2025 if approved by the town.

The field is used often by many town groups including Athletics, Schools, Recreation, Adult/Youth groups, and private rentals. The largest user group of the field is BHS Athletics utilizing it over 50% of the available time. In many instances the turf field is used by more than one group or team at a given time. The other grass fields around the town are also highly used and are over scheduled, but the Sabourin Turf field is utilized more than any other field in town given it is open year-round, not subject to rain or weather-related issues and is easier to maintain than the grass fields.

Each year the town has a firm conduct a test of the turf and provide a safety report. This analysis was last done in August 2023 and the report is included in the materials provided. This report was sent to the Select Board, and then a representative from the firm (Tom Irwin Advisors) presented this report in their 10/23/23 meeting. Please see below for link to this meeting and the Bedford Citizen article from that meeting as well.

Select Board Meeting: [Select board Meeting 10/23/23 (youtube.com)](#)

Bedford Citizen Article: [Expert: With Care, Synthetic Field Has Another Year-and-a-Half - The Bedford Citizen](#)

The goal of Recreation attending the 2/27/24 School Committee meeting is to inform the committee that the Sabourin turf field and track are due for replacement and will be voted on at the Annual Town Meeting on 3/25/24.

Thank You,

Josh Smith

Recreation Director

Town of Bedford, MA