



March 29th Presentation

Athletics LRP



Leal Anderson, Athletic Director



State of Athletics



The *mission* of the Austin ISD Athletic Program is to create an environment that fosters respect, leadership, teamwork, sportsmanship and a commitment to excellence.

Competitive athletics instill in our student-athletes the lifelong values of accountability, integrity, structure and discipline. Our vision is to provide a comprehensive educational experience that is high quality, challenging and inspires all students to make a positive contribution to society by providing opportunities for teaching, learning, and growing in all student-athletes.

Our priorities include equity of access to programming, the safety and security of all students, and the efficiency of all of athletic facilities, both on campus and our centralized facilities.

Area of Concern: High Volume Usage at Central Facilities

The AISD Athletic program consists of **13 high schools** and **19 middle schools** that compete in **22 University Interscholastic League (UIL) athletic activities**.

- AISD hosts more than **1,700 events** each year at our six major central athletics facilities—Toney Burger Activity Center and Stadium, House Park Field, Nelson Field, Noack Fields and the Delco Activity Center, and Yellow Jacket Stadium.
- Nearly 500 coaches serve, teach and mentor our 14,000 student athletes every day.
- Athletic Facilities also serve as Emergency Response sites to support the safety, security, and wellness of the greater Austin community.



Burger Stadium



Nelson Stadium



Delco Center

Areas of concern: Safety



McCallum HS

Natural Grass Fields

- Required maintenance is taxing and tedious
- Creates safety hazards for students, most harmful to students with minimal or no access to healthcare
- Creates an equity issue for campuses with no access to turf fields

7 Conditions for Student Success

We operate with the understanding that equitable systems of education strive to create the following conditions in order to promote student success:

- Culturally proficient, experienced teachers and staff
- Recognition and cultivation of gifts, talents and interests
- High expectations and support to meet those high expectations
- Positive relationships with teachers and peers
- A sense of belonging, empowerment, connection and identity safety
- Rigorous, relevant and inclusive curriculum centering their language, racial and cultural identities
- Well-maintained facilities that support state of the art instruction and support cultural identities and safety

Athletics Department Top Priorities



1. Turf Fields and Lights at all High School Campuses
2. Artificial Turf at Central Softball and Baseball Facilities
3. Improve centralized Athletic Facilities (Nelson, Burger, House Park, Yellow Jacket)
4. Create an indoor athletic facility

AISD 2019 FMP (Facilities Master Plan)

Turf fields and lights at all high school campuses

The issues

- All high school campus athletics and wellness fields are in marginal to poor conditions for most of the year. Many of the natural grass fields are not receiving sufficient maintenance and down-time to provide a healthy and safe environment for students to use.
- Overly used, natural grass fields receive minimal down time for maintenance and are unable to provide a safe and healthy environment for student athletes.
- Rain-outs, lack of lighting, general over use and lack of District maintenance staffing are hindering practices, creating strain on central facilities and ultimately reducing practice and play time of students.
- Antiquated fields are dangerous for students, particularly those with limited health-care access.
- Only two campuses (Anderson and Ann Richards) have turf fields. This creates equity implications for campuses without.
- Rain-outs, lack of lighting, general over use and lack of District maintenance staffing are hindering practices, creating strain on central facilities and ultimately reducing practice and play time of students.

Turf fields and lights at all high school campuses

The benefits

- Turf fields and lights at all HS campuses would provide the opportunity for more use of our centralized athletic facilities throughout the year thus creating additional opportunities to bring in more revenue to the district in local, regional, and national competitions and showcases.
- Bringing middle school and games back to feeder home campuses alleviates some of the scheduling and maintenance hardships faced by the District's central facilities and provides a sense of community pride.
- Turf fields and lights at all HS campuses will ultimately support student enrollment, reinforce vertical alignment of athletic teams, reduce staff, parent and student travel times, and benefit the local neighborhoods and communities more directly by enhancing school and team spirit and most importantly vertical alignment.
- Overall, this will ease scheduling, reduce event transportation and logistics costs,
- Allows for additional athletic competition to take place at the high school to support after school, summer programming, and youth sports programming for Elementary and 6th grade students.

Turf fields and lights at all high school campuses

Which of the 7 Conditions for Student Success does this support?

- Well-maintained facilities that support state of the art instruction and support cultural identities and safety

Which problem statement does this address?

- All students need equitable access to state of the art athletics facilities to support student and staff engagement, grow existing programs, and enable competition with neighboring districts.
- Elementary school / 6th grade students need earlier access/exposure to athletics programming and opportunities to develop athletic skills that prepare them for competition in middle and high school.
- Students need equitable access to the uniforms, equipment, and goods/resources that make athletics possible to ensure student safety, well-being, and the continuation of programs.

Which additional committees does this impact?



Turf at central softball and baseball facilities

The Issues

- Many of the natural grass fields are not receiving sufficient maintenance and down-time.
- Natural grass fields prohibits a healthy and safe environment for students use.
- Rain-outs, lack of lighting, general over use and lack of District maintenance staffing are hindering practices, creating strain on central facilities and ultimately reducing practice and play time of students.

Solutions

- Turf fields and lights at central athletic facilities would provide the opportunity for more use of our centralized athletic facilities throughout the year thus creating additional opportunities to bring in more revenue to the district in local, regional, and national competitions and showcases.
- Turf fields and lights at central athletic facilities would provide greater visibility of athletic programming in AISD with the opportunity to host regional and national competitions.

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Improve Centralized Athletic Facilities (Nelson, Burger, House Park, Yellow Jacket)

- Integration of CTE opportunities such as getting students involved and engaged in the production of a typical event would give students an immense sense of pride.
- With this also comes increased attendance to games since more members of the community are involved and will serve as an overall ROI
- The Press box upgrade will allow central facilities to host district, regional, and state Band competitions, providing both access to students and generating district revenue.
- Proper technology, safety, and efficiency will ensure that patrons and students receive relevant, reliable information in-time.
- Reconfigure or renovate the existing locker rooms to incorporate separate toilet/shower areas and increase size of the locker rooms. These improvements should align with current building codes and standards.
- Facilities lack proper access to those with disabilities. In order to create equal access for all this must be addressed. New ramps with the appropriate slopes, elevators to the press boxes and appropriately sized handrails should be installed where required.
- Because these facilities serve as Emergency Response sites, general improvements to the facilities will allow AISD to serve more fully as a community resource and hub for the city of Austin.
- Restroom facilities lack proper access to those with disabilities. In order to create equal access for all this must be addressed.
- Enhance the fans/customer service experience of all patrons when they arrive at games.

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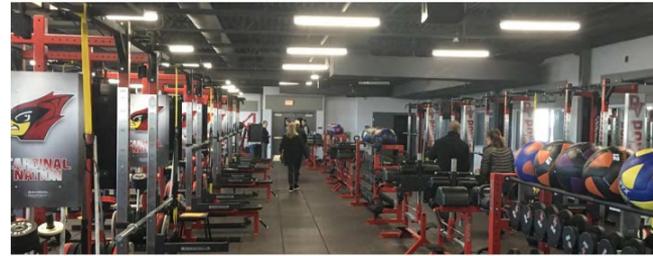
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Create an Indoor Centralized Athletic Facility

A smartly designed athletic facility can do more than boost athletic participation

- It can build school pride, and a sense of place and belonging that translates to school participation and even academic performance.
- A robust, attractive, and flexible athletic facility can become a community focal point—where hard work and student achievement is celebrated.
- Serve as an a safety, security, and emergency response hub
- Increase school district pride amongst athletes and coaches and assist with attracting new students and employees as well as retention.



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Question and Answer Session

