

Questions and Answers Regarding the Proposed Building Project

1. What is the scope of the project?

The project consists of the following:

- 2 new metal roofs on John Lyman and Memorial Schools
- 3 new well systems at Brewster, John Lyman and Memorial
- 5 new tennis courts at the present location
- A new soccer and baseball field behind Strong School with safety fencing
- A new 8 lane track with a synthetic turf field that would be a regulation size soccer field. New pits would be constructed for all field events.
- Fencing around the track and around the entire athletic complex
- Lighting for the field
- Bleachers that could seat 1,000 as well as a press box are also part of the plan.
- Engineering costs for 2 practice fields on the Stannard Property
- A slab and utilities only for what will eventually become public bathrooms, locker rooms, a concession stand and a ticket booth
- A new parking area for an additional 68 spaces (located behind and to the left of the current track)

2. Why do we need new wells?

All of the wells are old and the State of Connecticut has cited us and told us they must be replaced.

3. Is the water safe to drink?

Yes. There is no concern with the quality of the water, which is tested every 3 months. The concern is with the location of the wells and the age of the storage and control systems. They

may be located too near potential sources of contamination such as storm drains or sewer lines. State Department of Health Public Drinking Water Division regulations have changed and our wells at Brewster, Lyman and Memorial no longer meet the current codes.

4. Why was the decision made to go with metal roofs at Lyman and Memorial?

The decision to go with metal roofs was made for several reasons. First, while a metal roof is more expensive, it will last almost double the life of a more traditional roof (40 years v. 20 years). Secondly, the State of CT now requires roofs on schools to have a minimum pitch, in order to qualify for reimbursement. This is easily done with the metal product.

5. Is any of the project cost reimbursable from the state?

Yes, the roofs and wells are reimbursable for approximately 50% of their cost.

6. What was the charge of the building committee?

The charge of the committee was to look at the 5-year long range plan and to determine what the most critical capital needs in the District were.

7. What was the process used?

Once the committee determined that the most critical needs were roofs, wells and the athletic complex, they began to identify all of the things that they would address. Initially this included much more than what they are currently proposing.

8. What other items were originally included in the proposal?

A field house with locker rooms, public bathrooms, a concession stand and ticket booth, irrigation for all of the

athletic fields and a well system to support that, track equipment, lighting on fields, development of 2 practice fields on the Stannard property up behind the current track, refurbishing existing fields and additional fencing along Pickett Lane.

9. Why were those items removed from the scope of the project?

They were removed due to the cost involved. The track equipment was removed because it was felt that should be included in the operating budget rather than bonded for 15 years.

10. How did the committee make those decisions?

The committee set priorities. The athletic complex was a priority as the Track Team has been unable to hold a home meet for 2 years due to safety concerns. The track is 38 years old and needs to be completely replaced.

11. Any truth to the rumor that we are going to have our own football team?

It is likely that in the future that the CIAC will require CRHS to have our own team based on the numbers participating. Once we have 37 students involved in football the CIAC will tell us we must have our own team. Given the numbers involved at the younger levels it appears that we may be in that situation in a few years.

12. Why a synthetic turf instead of natural turf?

It is difficult to maintain natural fields when we are not allowed to use any type of pesticide. Fields are particularly difficult to maintain without an irrigation system and the cost to irrigate the fields was prohibitive. A synthetic field will last much longer and only requires limited maintenance. In addition there is no regular painting of goal and boundary lines. A synthetic field can result in usage that is 3-4 times (with lights) above what a

natural turf field can withstand. A synthetic field gives us the option to "rest" a turf field on a periodic basis.