



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE DOVER HIGH ATHLETIC COMPLEX AGENDA

Meeting Type:	Facility Tour
Meeting Location:	St. Thomas Aquinas High School
Meeting Date:	Friday, February 16, 2024
Meeting Time:	3:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the Dover High School Athletic Complex Joint Building Committee was called to order at 3:00 pm at St. Thomas Aquinas High School, 197 Dover Point Road, Dover NH.

II. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE:

Present were Fergus Cullen, Linnea Nemeth, Ernie Clark, Craig Flynn, Ronan O'Doherty. Michelle Clancy was excused.

Also present: Dave Morissette - St. Thomas Aquinas Athletic Director

III. PUBLIC FORUM:

No members present, no comments.

IV. OVERVIEW OF ST. THOMAS FIELD FACILITIES:

- a. Facility was completed three years ago.
- b. Facility Type: Artificial turf with crumb rubber infill. There is a concrete foundation with crushed stone for drainage of which the "carpet" is then laid out, stretched, and sewn into the anchors. Considered a pervious surface.
- c. Went with sewn in markings over painting. Benefit here is visual and longevity.
- d. Field is used for multiple sports, with color coded lines for each sport. The Athletic Director noted the athletes and refs do not get confused by this.
- e. The additional space for practices off the marked field has been extremely beneficial to the schools' multiple sports at one complex.
- f. Noted they do not plow the field to increase the lifespan.
- g. Bleachers seat 1,000 with a "kit" press box. Feedback on the press box shared was to consider airflow as it gets extremely warm in there.
- h. Lighting is new and can be controlled via an app.
- i. C. Flynn asked the question if they had seen an increase in injuries since converting to turf. Mr. Morissette noted this did not appear to be the case, but with many students noting proper turf footwear is crucial.

V. RECESS:

- a. Meeting recessed at 3:40 pm to continue to the next location.

- VI. CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the Dover High School Athletic Complex Joint Building Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm at Portsmouth High School, 50 Andrew Jarvis Drive, Portsmouth, NH.

VII. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE:

Present were Fergus Cullen, Linnea Nemeth, Ernie Clark, Craig Flynn, Ronan O'Doherty. Michelle Clancy was excused.

Also present: Ken Lynchey - Director of Building & Grounds for Portsmouth School District



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VIII. PUBLIC FORUM:

No members present, no comments.

IX. OVERVIEW OF PORTSMOUTH HIGH FIELD FACILITIES:

- a. Fieldhouse was built in 2002. This building houses and is used for lockers, storage, trainers room, and has cables on the exterior for Senior Night banners to easily be displayed.
- b. Bleachers were built in 2014.
 - i. Reduced Visitors' bleachers from 1,000 to 800. Current bleachers have 1,200 seats for Home and 800 seats for Visitors. This has worked well for them.
 - ii. Project in CIP in '26-'27 to increase the size of the press box.
- c. Track and Field Overview:
 - i. This is an artificial turf with crumb rubber infill.
 - ii. Was just recently refurbished ('23) after 12 years of installation and use. The expected timeframe before a refinish is 10-15 years.
 - iii. Facilities regularly perform GMEX testing [compression] which was the indicator a refinishing was needed. Were seeing a 140-160 as it aged, but now 170-197 after the refinishing. There is not a similar test for grass.
 - iv. Fluffing is more regular here, with a more noticeable bounce to the turf.
 - v. Track was resurfaced in 2019, with the recommendation it be done every 7-10 years. Track has 6 lanes round, 8 straight.
 - vi. Turf is plowed here as they use year round. Noted that the baseball team will utilize the 3rd week of March for practices in order to start the season before grass fields are ready.
- d. Scoreboard was built in '22 at a cost of \$56k.

X. RECESS:

- a. Meeting was recessed at 4:30 to continue to the next location.

- XI. CALL TO ORDER:** A meeting of the Dover High School Athletic Complex Joint Building Committee was called to order at 4:45 pm at Community Campus Field, Campus Drive, Portsmouth, NH.

XII. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE:

Present were Fergus Cullen, Linnea Nemeth, Ernie Clark, Craig Flynn, Ronan O'Doherty. Michelle Clancy was excused.

XIII. PUBLIC FORUM:

No members present, no comments.

XIV. OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY CAMPUS FIELD FACILITIES:

- a. City of Portsmouth owned facility, built about 3 years ago.
- b. Artificial turf field with walnut shell crumb infill. Group noted that turf had a similar feeling, and the fill looked the same.

XV. DISCUSSION

- a. For future visits it would be helpful to see facilities with similar bleachers layouts or ideas we would be looking for.



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b. Look to add grass field visits, noting some locations: Salem, Windham. Concord.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: Fergus Cullen moved; Linnea Nemeth seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 pm.
An oral VOTE PASSED 5/0.