

# Fairfield Warde High School

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August 10, 2018

Dear Parents and Students,

We write this letter to update our students and parents on the current progress with our outdoor athletic facility at Fairfield Warde High School. There continues to be a great deal of work taking place on and off the fields. As you realize with any major project of this size there are many moving parts which must come together over time. We hope this letter will answer some of your questions, but also recognize the plan will continually be adjusted as fields come on line and are available to our teams.

**Turf Project:** The turf field, long jump, pole vault, and scoreboard projects are scheduled to be completed on time September 29<sup>th</sup>. We were hoping that the contractor could complete the field sooner and grant access, but there is no guarantee that will happen. The new turf and new scoreboard will be installed as well as relocating the long jump and pole vault area. Currently, this area will remain closed and will not be available to our teams. If any change in scheduling should occur FWHS will send out additional notifications to the various teams.

**Large Grass Field:** Improvements to this area have included the relocation and upgrades to our sprinkler and irrigation systems. Fields have been aggressively reseeded by our landscaping company and they will be available shortly after the beginning of the season. We are not able to provide a firm date due to variable weather conditions. Our landscaping and maintenance departments are aware of the immediate need for this field space.

The large grass field and turf are two areas of our complex that will be off limits at the beginning of the season. Our goal is to get them back on line as quickly as possible without compromising the integrity of the new fields.

As of the date of this letter we have developed the following alternate plans:

**Football:** Due to the size of the program with regards to students and equipment, football will remain on campus and use the practice area on campus. This field will be lined and ready for use by the team at the beginning of practice on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Our first home football game, on September 14<sup>th</sup>, will likely be played on the Ludlowe campus which has already been reserved.

**Boys and Girls Soccer:** The varsity teams will remain at Warde and use the field between the baseball and softball fields, and the outfields of each that are not part of the main field. The junior varsity teams will use the field and half field at Tunxis Park. The freshmen teams will share the space at Fairfield Woods Middle School.

**Field Hockey:** We are moving all practices and games to Tomlinson Middle School until our turf is complete. We play all varsity games on turf per FCIAC policy. Since JV games are played right after varsity games and most other schools send both teams on one bus, we will continue to play all of our JV games on the turf as well, immediately following each varsity game.

**Cross Country:** The team is going to use Tunxis Park for training until our track is completed. Mr. Foster will send out more details to the team once he finalizes some of the plans.

We would like to thank all of the extended members of our school community who have assisted us with making all of the alternative arrangements. Our Parks and Recreation Department, Fairfield Ludlowe, Tomlinson, Fairfield Woods have all been very supportive in meeting with us and helping to finalize alternate arrangement.

Please realize the plan remains fluid and will be communicated to students and parents. While our planning has been thorough, there are always unanticipated consequences. Please look for periodic updates on our website, or through the respective coaches. As student athletes, staff, and parents of Warde we will work together to achieve our ultimate goal of a great facility for our students and the teams.

Sincerely,

David M. Ebling  
Headmaster

Seth Fry  
Athletic Director

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