
Fwd: Ritzer Field and Project Adventure

1 message

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To: Eric Burnside <eburnsid@sommsd.k12.nj.us>

Wed, Jan 24, 2024 at 11:01 AM

Todd Waskowitz
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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Zwingraf, Matthew" <mzwingraf@cmeusa1.com>
Date: January 22, 2024 at 5:21:06 PM EST
To: "Todd S. Waskowitz" <TWaskowitz@spiezle.com>
Cc: "Scott E. Downie" <ScottD@spiezle.com>, "Taylor, Trevor" <trevort@cmeusa1.com>
Subject: FW: Ritzer Field and Project Adventure

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Todd,

See below in response to this morning's email... Trevor will follow up regarding the report we prepared for Westfield if SOMSD would benefit from a more personalized analysis.

Thanks

Matt

Use Hours

- 16 hours per week, or about 800 hours per year, is typically indicated as the upper limit of play to maintain the grass in a fair-to-good condition, allowing for rest between times of heavy play, in addition to time required for mowing, maintenance and striping. Sports like soccer that take more of a toll on grass and can serve to reduce usability.
- Synthetic turf, being limited only by available lighting and bad weather, can provide up to 60+ playable hours per week, or up to approximately 3,000 hours per year. This is an especially plausible scenario at Ritzer as field lighting is proposed to extend usable hours after sunset in the spring and fall months.
- The above numbers are supported by various studies, including the attached 2010 UC Berkeley white paper. If SOMSD has an understanding of how many hours they're currently seeing on their grass fields, they can use those numbers to get a better picture of how much additional capacity would open up by making the switch to synthetic. That said, they should consider the condition those grass fields are in provided existing levels of play.

Project Adventure

- Based on the site constraints, an additional 100 feet of space would be needed to separate both the skinned infields from the multipurpose field, assuming a 165 ft/55yd minimum width soccer field. This would also require the fields to be mirrored, with one infield situated in the current ropes course and the other infield near the intersection

of Valley Street & Hixon Place. That said, such a plan may not allow sufficient space to relocate the ropes course. We don't have complete survey information of the Project Adventure area, so additional design work, tree clearing, and/or modifications to standard softball field dimensions or ropes course size may be required to accommodate the fields in such a layout.

- Project Adventure cost \$190,000 to build in 2012 from what I found online. Adjusting for inflation, that's \$260,000 in 2023 dollars if it were to be replaced in kind. Considering costs to disassemble, relocate, and erect, as well as various unknowns, we would budget at least \$300-350K if it had to be relocated to accommodate a revised field plan.

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NOTE: Project Adventure would need to be relocated if a grass field was installed. No relocation is required if a turf field is installed.