

April 23, 2026, Board Meeting Written Comments
Received between Tuesday, April 21st and Friday, April 24th Submitted via
Written Comments Form

1	<p>This board should be ashamed of themselves especially Harden. You should not like the students but used by CTU as political pawns. We the parents will remember this come in November to vote most of you out this seat.</p>
2	<p>CPS has over 80,000 ELL students who require ESL services per ISBE statues. However, CPS still does not provide a dedicated and centrally funded ESL curriculum/resources to all schools that need it. Especially for official ESL Highschool courses that count as Language Arts credits, the district falls short of its obligation to provide these resources. Teachers are being forced to makeup their own curriculum, or even purchase it themselves! Skyline does not meet the language needs of our ELLs, especially newcomers, as it is not intended for teaching English as a new language. Kids are going years and years in our classrooms without learning English, and the data on long term ELLs shows this to be true. Chief Karime Asaf of OMME has shared with CTU that she's requested this curriculum be provided to schools multiple times, but is being ignored and sidelined by the Board. Our students cannot continue going without their most basic language needs being met. Stop ignoring the fastest growing demographic in CPS. Provide a <u>universally available and centrally funded ESL curriculum to all schools that require it now!</u></p>
3	<p>I am a concerned parent and community member writing about Haugan Elementary. We are a thriving school that aims to support all of our students. We need strong neighborhood schools to truly make CPS work for everyone. Our data shows we expect to grow by 20-30 students each year for the coming years. We need more space for our growing school. The Portfolio Department offered Haugan short term solutions such as converting teachers' lounges into classrooms or buying dividers to split one classroom into two. These short term solutions don't address our long term space needs and our current space crisis. To be honest, they could make learning more disruptive and further stress our space related concerns. Please consider supporting our need for space and a potential solution with the old Aspira building on Leland Ave. We know we can be a positive addition in the space and it could greatly help us to move our upper grades to that location. The transition would further support the 7th and 8th grade students as they prepare for High School. Please help us get real solutions that can make a positive impact on our Albany Park neighborhood.</p>
4	<p>I have been a teacher at neighborhood high schools in Chicago for the past 25 years. My wife is also a teacher in CPS and our two children graduated from Lindblom Math and Science Academy. (She and I both are graduates of Kenwood Academy as well.) My family and I live on the East Side just five minutes from where I teach. So please know that I remain committed to Chicago Public Schools and all it can offer our students and the community.</p> <p>Yet I am writing today to express my disappointment, anger, and frustration that CPS has yet to commit to constructing a new building and our OWN athletic facilities on our campus for George Washington High School. We have seen repeated issues with our building that only tend to get band-aid fixes. CPS is truly throwing away money by attempting to deal with all the issues that arise with our building instead of committing to a complete replacement of the facility.</p> <p>Our mobile classroom unit now has leaking water, falling tiles, and mold in that area, so that it had to be completely closed down to classes a week and a half ago. CPS tells us they are going to fix the roof and then deal with the interior issues that the leaking water has caused. However, this mobile unit is over 25 years old and realistically needs to be torn down. We deserve a building that is one solid unit so that students and staff do not have to walk outside during all kinds of weather.</p> <p>We have already had an issue with space since we are overcrowded. So the loss of those four classrooms makes it increasingly problematic for teaching and learning in our building now.</p>

In addition, the lack of central air conditioning in the hallways, both gymnasiums, and auditorium make for an uncomfortable environment to function in.

We have numerous broken windows throughout the building. When some windows break the solution is to bolt them shut since they can't be fixed. When shades are broken or missing we are told by our engineer that they can't be replaced.

The HVAC system is so messed up that we have to resort to opening windows in the classrooms and hallways to cool off those spaces DURING THE WINTER! A recent work request to repair one of our boilers will cost \$1 million!

Many of us in the 10th Ward have attended CPS Capital planning meetings, filled out the annual Capital planning survey, and even spoken up at the Board meetings to advocate for equity at George Washington High School AND George Washington Elementary School. We have never received sufficient response as to how CPS prioritizes building new schools and when WE will be a priority. Maybe it's because we are a neighborhood school, majority low income, and majority Latine population?

I worked at Hancock College Prep for three years when it was a neighborhood high school. After I left there to come teach at Washington H.S, Hancock became a selective enrollment school and promptly received a new building and athletic facilities, including their own football and soccer field and a track. We are slated to share a new soccer field with Jane Addams Elementary School that is many blocks away from our campus. Not to mention it looks like the new field will lack sufficient space to include stands for spectators to sit.

In considering what our community needs, please keep these realities in mind about George Washington High School:

- Top notch IB program and numerous Advanced Placement and Dual Credit options
- Competitive boys and girls soccer teams, volleyball teams, and girls softball.
- Illinois Democracy School
- Sustainable Community Schools grant
- High attendance and on-track rates

Respectfully,
Donald Z. Davis, NBCT (he/him/his/él)
Social Science Teacher
George Washington H.S.

5	Haugan is an excellent neighborhood school. It has experienced great growth and we are bursting at the seams. Our students and our community deserves better. Albany Park community deserves a school that provides appropriate sized classrooms and more space. It is not fair or equitable that our students have to go to a crowded old library to meet with a counselor. It is not fair that kindergarten students have nearly 30 students in their classrooms. How can a small child learn and focus if there is too much noise because there are too many other students in the classroom? How can a kindergarten teacher properly support students that are learning English or have special needs in a classroom that is overcrowded? Help give Albany Park students the school they deserve by giving space in the former Aspira Haugan building.
6	Please prioritize fixing the Onahan Elementary School field. Many students have sustained injuries and it is often unusable. Students deserve a safe and reliable place to play. This is the primary outdoor space for the school and has been neglected by CPS for too long.
7	As an Onahan parent of three, I am urging CPS to fund fixing our school's field. There have been so many injuries. One student had a torn ACL. Students are at risk every day it is not fixed! I truly worry about my kids' safety during playtime. With the recent rains, it has flooded terribly because of lack of drainage. Please fix this issue before more kids get hurt and CPS gets sued.
8	As a mom of three Onahan students and a resident of this community, I am urging immediate action on the condition of our school field. It is no longer just an inconvenience—it is a safety

	<p>issue. The field is in extremely poor condition, to the point where students are sometimes unable to have outdoor recess-use of the field, and there have already been so many injuries. This is not acceptable for our children or our community.</p> <p>Our students deserve a safe, functional outdoor space to learn, play, and simply be kids. The current conditions are limiting their daily experience at school and putting them at risk. This issue has been known for years, and unfortunately, it has only gotten worse.</p> <p>We respectfully but strongly urge you to make the Onahan field a top priority in the capital budget and move this project forward without further delay. Our community is counting on you to ensure a safe environment for our children.</p>
9	<p>As a parent of students at Onahan Elementary, I am writing to urge the Chicago Board of Education to prioritize funding for the urgent repair of our school field. The current condition of the field is simply unacceptable for a space where children are expected to learn, play, and be active.</p> <p>The surface is badly deteriorated — riddled with uneven ground, deep ruts, and loose gravel that create a serious risk of injury during physical education classes and recess. Students should not have to navigate a hazardous obstacle course just to enjoy outdoor time at school. Beyond school hours, the field serves our broader community on evenings and weekends, and in its present state it poses an ongoing safety liability for all who use it.</p> <p>The drainage infrastructure has also clearly broken down. After any significant rainfall, large portions of the field become completely waterlogged and unusable for days at a time. What should be a vibrant outdoor space for our children becomes a flooded, muddy area that no one can safely access. This is not a minor inconvenience — it is a public health and safety concern.</p> <p>Our children deserve a safe, functional, and welcoming outdoor space. I strongly ask the Board to approve the necessary funding to restore the Onahan school field to a condition that reflects the value we place on our students' wellbeing.</p>
10	<p>As a coach of 1st and 2nd grade girls soccer in the area, there is so much potential for our kids in this very vicinity to advance athletically with a simple, safe and well-maintained field. Right now, our kids have less opportunity to truly compete at a higher level because they just don't have the appropriate resource for play. They need access to a reliable place to play.</p>
11	<p>The field outside Onahan Elementary school is in a condition that is completely unacceptable and hazardous to all the students and community members who are forced to use it. In a city where productive activities for young children and teens is always a talking point, it's unacceptable for a green space to be left to rot like this. Any money invested into this plot of land will be well spent. This area serves as both a before and after school activity hub for our children, as well as, a recess and gym class option.</p>
12	<p>I am a parent of two children at Onahan and I live very close to the school. Onahan needs the new field that it was promised in 2023. This field has perpetually been a problem and kids have gotten hurt. Not only is it a liability during PE class, but also recess. Some kids don't do well in small busy areas, like the playground. Some like to play (tag, sports) in the open space of the field. This is not possible after it rains due to the flooding. In addition, the community utilizes the field when school is out of session. We take our kids there to practice baseball and play soccer. Many neighbors would use the walking track if it were in better condition. Please make this a safe, usable space for our students and community now. Thank you.</p>
13	<p>I am writing to express concern about the condition of the field at Onahan Elementary School. The current field conditions are unsafe for students. The area floods easily after rain, contains numerous potholes, and is not suitable for safe play or physical activity.</p> <p>These issues create a risk of injury and limit students' ability to participate in recess, sports, and outdoor learning. All students deserve access to safe, functional outdoor spaces that support their physical health and development.</p>

	I respectfully urge the Chicago Board of Education to prioritize renovations to the Onahan field so that it becomes a safe, accessible, and usable space for all students.
14	I cannot express enough the need for a new field at Onahan School. The field floods everytime it rains. Thus, cannot be used for days. Also, the field is unsafe for students. There have been several casualties with at least one student requiring surgery on her leg.
15	Hello, I am a parent member of the Onahan LSC. As you heard at the board meeting, we are seeking funding for a new field. Our current field is unsafe and unusable for our students. We are diligently and actively seeking outside funding from our federal and state representatives. We are working tirelessly on behalf of our students and community. We need CPS to work with us and help us get this project to fruition. A new or rehabilitated field would not only be an asset to the community but would also provide our children with a safe outdoor playspace—something every child deserves. Please carefully consider what CPS can do to help with this project. We are willing to explore an artificial or natural field. We are willing to work with MWRD (e.g eqbiosolids), but CPS representatives have told us no. Please don't let our already federally secured funding go to waste. We need to act now and work together to fix this essential resource for our children. Respectfully submitted.
16	The Onahan school community deserves better! The ongoing school field issues have created so many problems and injuries. We deserve the support and commitment of CPS to fix the field and give our kids the safe play space they deserve. Continuing to put it off will just result in increased costs, as it has already been clearly demonstrated.
17	I am thoroughly disappointed that the Onahan field project has been deferred for the past 3 years, resulting in an inflated cost to accomplish the repairs, and continuing to put our children and staff at risk for serious injury. Our community deserves better and I urge the board to step up and press CPS to fulfill their 2023 commitment to our school. Thank you. Onahan parent of two students.
18	I second Sara Heiderscheidt's sentiments regarding the state of Onahan's field. I am the parent of four children, all of whom have attended or currently attend Onahan Elementary. The current field poses safety concerns and is underutilized for school events, extracurricular sports, community gatherings, and general recreation. A renovated field would provide: A safe space for students during recess, PE, and athletics. Support for school programs and extracurriculars, fostering teamwork, physical health, and social-emotional growth. Opportunities for community engagement, hosting neighborhood events, and strengthening connections. Equitable access to high-quality outdoor spaces for all students. As a parent invested in the well-being and development of our children, and as a school nurse, I can attest to the importance of this field. Upgrading the field would directly improve safety, student engagement, and community activity, all of which align with CPS's priorities of safety, equity, and community support. Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope my kids will be able to enjoy the benefits of a new field and quality outdoor activities while they are students at Onahan. Sincerely, Bridget Joyce
19	As a parent of children who attend Onahan Elementary School , I would love to see a new field being installed.

	<p>Every day I pick up my kids I drive by the current pitch and sign in disbelief that the City has not done anything about the problems that occur on the field each semester. Kids do not deserve to get injured on the field. It should be a place where they have fun and nothing but fun.</p> <p>When we see other schools with proper sports facilities, it is hard to understand why the children at Onahan cannot get a proper field in which to play sports and outdoor activities. This is a wonderful school and neighborhood and having a proper field for all the children to play on would be fantastic.</p> <p>Sincerely David Freeley</p>
20	<p>Onahan Field is in dire condition - with several students hurt and the list growing every week. We cannot afford or should accept even ONE additional student injury. CPS had committed to funding this CRITICAL SAFETY PROJECT but has since walked back that commitment. That is unacceptable. Please put student safety first and fund this project!</p>
21	<p>I am a parent of students at Onahan, and I am asking the board to prioritize funding for the long overdue new field. This current field is unsafe for children to use. There are multiple holes, uneven and unstable ground and deteriorating conditions that have led to frequent injuries. Our children should not be at risk of getting hurt during school hours simply because the field isn't maintained and funding is battled. This is not a luxury, but a basic requirement for student safety. Please take action here as soon as possible. This is long overdue. Thank you.</p>
22	<p>We are writing to formally address the hazardous state of our school's athletic field—a space that has transformed from a community asset into a documented danger to our students. This is a Critical Safety Crisis for our students. The field's surface is currently "dangerously uneven" and "gravelly," creating a persistent slipping hazard. Furthermore, a total failure of the drainage system leads to frequent flooding, rendering the area completely unusable for long periods. The human cost of this neglect is undeniable. Since 2022, we have recorded 30 significant student injuries, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broken wrists A major knee surgery Emergency room visits for potential concussions <p>In 2023, CPS committed to fully funding this restoration at \$4.5 million, only to later withdraw those funds. In the time since, deferred maintenance and rising construction costs have caused the project's valuation to soar to \$8 million.</p> <p>The current funding landscape is insufficient: CPS Allocation: Only \$1 million has been set aside. Federal Support: Congressman Mike Quigley has committed significant federal aid. The Gap: Despite federal help, a massive funding gap remains that only a full commitment from CPS can bridge.</p> <p>The current condition of the field is an unacceptable liability and a direct threat to student well-being. We urge Chicago Public Schools to honor its original commitment and provide the necessary funding to prevent further injuries. Our students deserve a safe, accessible, and functional space to play and learn.</p>
23	<p>I am writing to respectfully urge Chicago Public Schools to prioritize finding a safe, and accessible field space for students. Access to quality outdoor facilities is not just a convenience—it is an essential part of students' physical health, social development, and overall well-being.</p> <p>CPS proudly stands by its mission of "For every child in every neighborhood," and this commitment should extend to ensuring that all students have equitable opportunities to participate in outdoor activities, athletics, and unstructured play. A well-maintained field provides a place for students to build teamwork, relieve stress, and stay active—experiences that are critical to their success both inside and outside the classroom.</p> <p>Our students deserve safe, reliable spaces where they can grow, connect, and thrive. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p>

24	Onahan School has one of the most unsafe fields. There is gravel/uneven and floods. I cringe when my son he wants to go to Onahan and play with his friends. PLease make this right
25	<p>I am writing to emphasize the urgent need for action and funding to move forward with the Onahan Field Improvement Project. I have two children that attend Onahan that utilize the field almost daily and complain about how awful it is. I have seen the unsafe conditions myself while volunteering at the school and attending school events.</p> <p>The current condition of our field at Onahan school poses serious safety and usability concerns. The uneven ground with rocks and holes, poor drainage leading to flooding after rain, and multiple documented student injuries during recess, PE, and sports activities highlight the urgent need for improvement. Some of these injuries witnessed by my young daughter. These unsafe conditions affect both school and community use of the field, making it a pressing issue for everyone involved.</p> <p>It's unacceptable to me that CPS has the funding approved for this field years ago and due to an administration change, the funding disappeared. It's time that CPS follow through on their promise to secure the funds for the field.</p>
26	<p>My name is Judy Velez. I am a CPS parent, community advocate, and mother tired of watching parents be ignored while political decisions are made about our children's education.</p> <p>There is a difference between teaching civics vs advancing political agendas. That is the issue here.</p> <p>We have sought legal council because we believe funneling school resources to politically charged events is illegal and a violation of school policy.</p> <p>The most recent demand from CTU regarding not wanting to submit any supplemental material for approval is an example of how badly they want free rein to politically indoctrinate our children. They want to do this without oversight and without accountability.</p> <p>Our legal council William Quinlin has submitted a letter to each of you, we would appreciate a prompt response.</p> <p>We demand three things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An immediate pause to this flawed May 1 agreement 2. The the board hold a full public vote with public discussion 3. Focus on what matters most, our children, not politics <p>Our children deserve to be taught HOW to think not WHAT to think.</p>
27	<p>The Onahan field has been an eyesore and an issue since I moved to our neighborhood 13 years ago. At that time a dedicated group of parents worked tirelessly on making it as playable as they could- but over and over I would hear how the field needed a rehaul from the bottom up- CPS needed to invest dollars in our school and address our field properly. What parents were doing was basically putting lipstick on a pig.</p> <p>The problem is, CPS has ignored our school for far too long. We've never been a priority because we don't "appear to be in need." Our students don't matter to CPS because the average income for our zip code exceeds the threshold for being important to politicians and CPS decision makers.</p> <p>Due to their inaction, countless children have been injured. Countless hours of play have been lost and our children suffer at the hands of the decision makers that continue to ignore our kids and this dangerous situation.</p> <p>Onahan's field and playground is the only park and field in our neighborhood that children do not need to cross a busy street to get to. Onahan students and neighborhood kids have the right to play without worrying they will break a bone!</p>

	Wake up and realize our kids matter too!
28	The field at William J Onahan public school at 6634 West Raven Street is in dire need of help. Children are playing on it and getting hurt due to the ditches and poor drainage. It is flooded and causing unsafe conditions for the entire neighborhood. Please take the time to research and address this for the betterment of the children and overall neighborhood. Thanks so much for your time.
29	<p>Hello</p> <p>I am writing in regards to the proposal for the field that Onahan school to be upgraded. Frankly, I should call it graded. Not only does the field need upgrading. It is in such poor condition that it is terribly unsafe. My children are in high school now, but when we went to school at Onahan, it was a regular occurrence that kids were getting hurt on the field. Twisting ankles, turning knees falling. Very common occurrence. In addition to the flooding. Living across the street from a school provides a pretty firsthand to look at a culture and the care. You can see that the community and friends of the school are taking care of an awful lot over there, whether it be gardens or vegetable growing, or just beautification efforts. That tells me that the city should be willing to invest in an upgrade for the same community. This community seems to prove that they take care of what they have.</p>
30	The Onahan field is a serious safety hazard. As a parent of 2 kids enrolled at Onahan, i believe the school urgently needs a new field to ensure the safety of all kids. Please fund this project to renovate/replace the field.

****ATTACHMENTS****

Community Commitment to the Onahan Field

Patten, Marianne <mlpatten@cps.edu>

Mon 10/3/2022 8:13 PM

To: Ward41 <ward41@cityofchicago.org>;ward45@cityofchicago.org
<ward45@cityofchicago.org>;WARD39@cityofchicago.org <WARD39@cityofchicago.org>

Cc: Melissa Meeks <mavenn@cps.edu>;Therese Fontana <theresefontana@gmail.com>;Mariam L. Hafezi <mhafezi@kaiserlawoffice.com>;Rose Cisarik <rcisarik@cps.edu>;Angela DeVinney <devinney.a@gmail.com>;Joseph Sisto <jgsisto@cps.edu>;Evan Trujillo <etruji93@gmail.com>;Lydia Kaiser <shoekaiser@yahoo.com>;Chris Neumann <lufs2bowl5@aol.com>;Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>;Deidra Kenar <dmsmiles@yahoo.com>;DeJulio, Sarah <srlohman@cps.edu>;Tamrazi, Maryann <mtamrazi@cps.edu>

Dear Alderman Gardiner, Alderman Napolitano, and Alderman Nugent,

I am writing as the Principal of Onahan, but mostly from the perspective of a resident who loves the Norwood Park community. Since the early 2000s, the Onahan LSC has been asking the City of Chicago and Chicago Public Schools for a usable field. We finally have some momentum and hope that it may happen if we can find support through the local government to fund 2.5 million to match CPS for a total of \$5 million. The Onahan Community is getting organized and would like your help to put out the word, and to help secure funding from local governmental entities for the cause. We are certain our neighbors will be actively involved to make sure this project is accomplished.

The 650 Onahan students and their families would not be the only ones to benefit from a safer and more beautiful place to have recess, gym, field day and sporting events, but the community would enjoy the green space, too. Over the past twenty five years that I have been connected with Norwood Park, I have happy memories of this field being a meeting point for impromptu baseball or soccer ball games, a place for a morning or late evening jog, or a great place for community movie nights. On a personal note, my husband and son spent many early mornings before school in the middle of January on the field for batting practice. On Thanksgiving, I have seen families show up and play football on the field. The fact that the field is built on a parking lot, causing poor drainage and substantial flooding is contributing to substantial and continuous erosion. The grass is sparse and the ground is rocky. This year alone, we have had multiple broken arms due to tripping and falling, both on the hard field and the sparsely graveled and uneven track. When it rains, the field is flooded for days and no one is able to utilize the space.

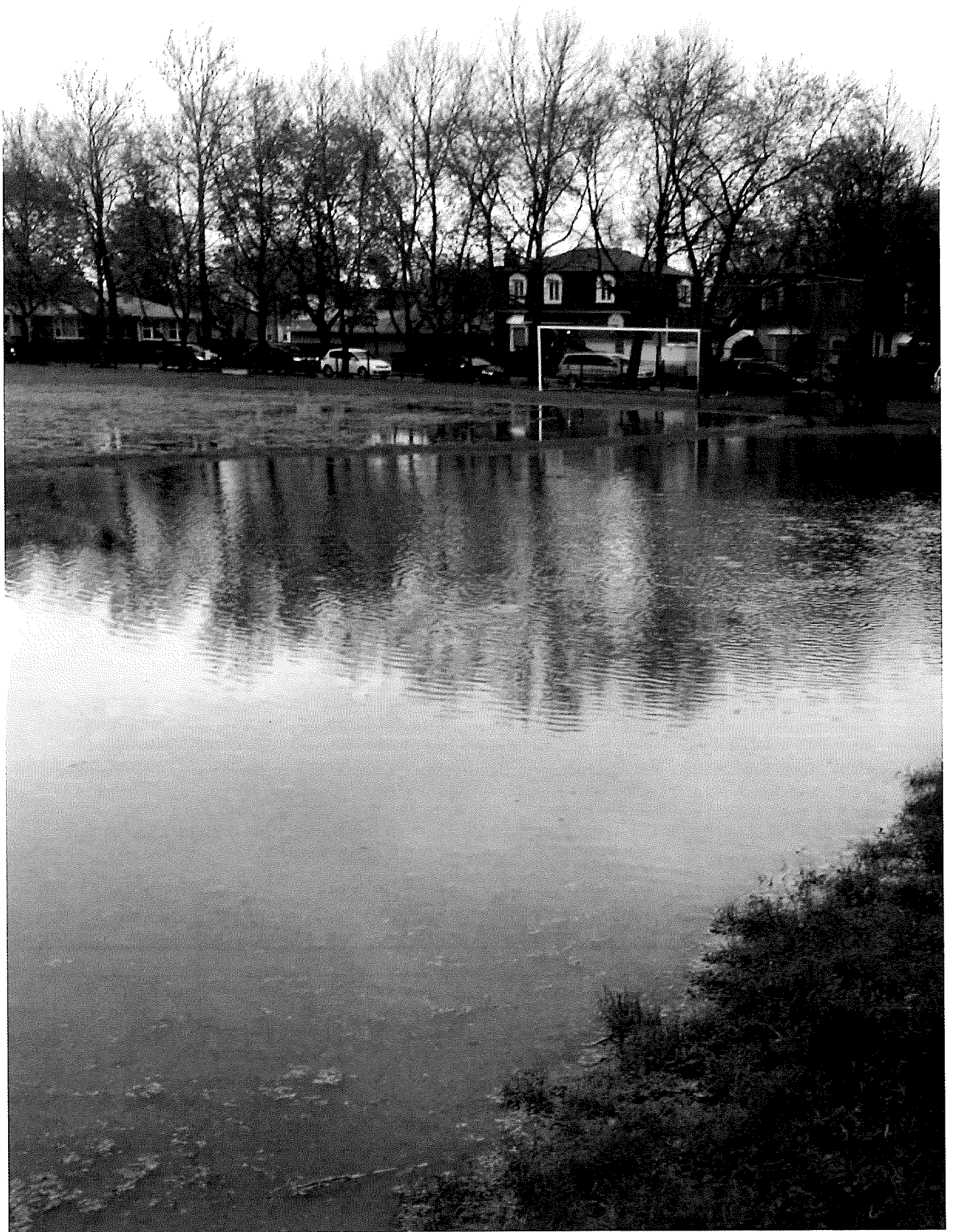
Your community deserves to have a fresh new multipurpose field. A space that is safe and one that can be used year round. The field is extremely large and should have the capacity to function as a community center for a variety of events beyond just sports and just Onahan. My vision would be to have specialized high UV turf, a softball/baseball diamond in the northwest corner, the soccer field and football field spanning the length of the field, a rubberized track painted for distance (400m laps), and a basketball court tucked in, if possible. I would love to see the Onahan logo in the center, too.

I would like to invite you to visit Onahan and the field to discuss how we can move this project forward together. This project would impact not only the 650 students and their families, but the neighbors that reside near and around Norwood Park. It would be an impressive win for all stakeholders who have taken so much time on this project and it is one that would hold your legacy.

Please let me know if you are interested in talking about this further. We are in the process of compiling resources and contacts to inform our neighbors.

Sincerely,

Marianne Patten, Principal
Resident of the 45th Ward







Date: November 7, 2022 at 8:23:32 AM CST
To: "Mcglade, Julie" <jamcglade@cps.edu>, ehoward15@hotmail.com, "Patten, Marianne" <mjpatten@cps.edu>, "DeJulio, Sarah" <srlohman@cps.edu>, Logan Black <kippoconnell@gmail.com>
Subject: Poor condition at Onahan Field

On November 3rd, Cassie was playing Frisbee at gym in the field as instructed and injured her ankle/leg. As she was running to catch the Frisbee, her foot got caught in one of the many holes. She was in a lot of pain and could not bear weight as she attempted to walk Friday am. Luckily we were able to get a 9:20 appointment for her to get an xray and determine what happened. She had to miss approximately 3 hours of valuable instruction time. It turns out she has a severe leg sprain and will have to remain with crutches and a brace for some time and have to miss out on her athletic training activities until healed. She will not be able to participate in gym. As an accomplished third degree brown belt in karate training for her black belt as well as advanced gymnastics, this greatly impacts her overall development. A doctor's note has been faxed to the school.

I know Onahan administration keeps asking for the field to get fixed but this continues to fall on deaf ears. When will this be addressed? The safety of students is directly impacted as my daughter's injury has proven. This could have been prevented. Where do I send her medical bills and athletic fees due to missed classes as a result of the continued negligence of CPS?

Thank you,
Jennifer and Kipp O'Connell

Anthony Napolitano
41st Ward Alderman
7442 N. Harlem Ave.
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-2241
www.chicago41.com

From: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 6:40 PM
To: Onahan Local School Council <onahanlsc@gmail.com>
Cc: Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org>; Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; info@senatormartwick.com <info@senatormartwick.com>; Ed Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>; Evan T <etruji93@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field

[Warning: External email]

Hello Everyone,
It has been over 24 hours and I have not heard a response from you. My daughter's injury could and should have been avoided. When will Onahan's field be fixed? How many more injuries will be suffered by students due to CPS negligence?

We look forward to hearing from you,
Jennifer and Kipp O'Connell

On Mon, Nov 7, 2022 at 2:31 PM Onahan Local School Council <onahanlsc@gmail.com> wrote:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please see the below message from the parents of Cassie, a Onahan Elementary student. The Onahan LSC, Staff, Administration, and community stakeholders have been asking CPS for a solution to our ongoing safety issues at the Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation area.

Unfortunately, this is yet another documented circumstance where an injury to a student can and should be 100% avoidable if the actions of CPS and the City of Chicago would become a priority.

We expect to continue moving forward with the draft plan for the replacement of the athletic and recreation area that was created on November 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.


Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC
Co-Chair

Fwd: Poor condition at Onahan Field

From Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Date Thu 11/10/2022 12:07 PM

To Rob Young <robert.young1012@gmail.com>; Onahan Men's Club <onahanmensclub@gmail.com>

 1 attachment (424 KB)

W41_Onahan ES_CPS Capital Plan11.9.22.pdf;

From: Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org>

Date: November 9, 2022 at 4:37:14 PM CST

To: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>, Onahan Local School Council <Onahanlsc@gmail.com>

Cc: Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>, Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>, friendsofonahan@gmail.com, Ed Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>, Chris Vittorio <Chris.Vittorio@cityofchicago.org>, onahanmensclub@yahoo.com, onahanpto@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field

Good afternoon all,

Jennifer and Kipp I am so sorry that your child suffered an injury at Onahan School and I pray that she has a speedy recovery.

We have all worked tirelessly advocating for this much needed field improvement for Onahan School. My office has spent years trying to work with state elected officials to fund this multi-million dollar renovation to no avail. I also repeatedly expressed the sense of urgency to our previous administration, I then opened a strong line of communication with our current administration.

I am happy to inform you that the Onahan field renovation will be included in the Chicago Public Schools 2023 Capital Plan. Please see the attached letter. I have asked CPS to keep Onahan updated on the design and construction schedule throughout the process.

Sincerely,
Anthony

Anthony Napolitano
41st Ward Alderman
7442 N. Harlem Ave.
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-2241
www.chicago41.com

From: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 6:40 PM
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Cc: Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org>; Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; info@senatormartwick.com <info@senatormartwick.com>; Ed Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>; Evan T <etruji93@gmail.com>
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Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please see the below message from the parents of Cassie, a Onahan Elementary student. The Onahan LSC, Staff, Administration, and community stakeholders have been asking CPS for a solution to our ongoing safety issues at the Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation area.

Unfortunately, this is yet another documented circumstance where an injury to a student can and should be 100% avoidable if the actions of CPS and the City of Chicago would become a priority.

We expect to continue moving forward with the draft plan for the replacement of the athletic and recreation area that was created on November 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC
Co-Chair

Date: November 7, 2022 at 8:23:32 AM CST
To: "Mcglade, Julie" <jamcglade@cps.edu>, ehoward15@hotmail.com, "Patten, Marianne" <mlpatten@cps.edu>, "DeJulio, Sarah" <srlohman@cps.edu>, Logan Black <kippoconnell@gmail.com>
Subject: Poor condition at Onahan Field

Fwd: Poor condition at Onahan Field

From Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>
Date Mon 3/10/2025 1:20 PM
To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Begin forwarded message:

From: ehoward15@hotmail.com
Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field
Date: November 17, 2023 at 5:33:43 PM CST
To: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>
Cc: Onahan Local School Council <Onahanlsc@gmail.com>, Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>, Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>

Hello Jennifer,

Thank you for the email. LSC has shared our similar concern as the timeline was extended on final Board approval for Capital projects which includes our Onahan field improvement. We look forward to having a site visit w our CPS reps in the near future and keep moving the project forward!

The feedback received below is a quote from the representatives of CPS and the CEO office.

"CPS did not propose a significant capital plan to our Board this year. After working with the Mayor's Office and the Alderman we did agree to propose the project to our Board for approval (which was recognized in the letter that was attached); nothing has changed and that is our intent. The next capital plan will most likely be proposed in the late Spring. The district doesn't have the ability to do a project of this magnitude without Board approval. I hope this helps. Happy to answer any other questions."

LSC will continue to push out info as it becomes available. Thank you again and have a happy Thanksgiving.

Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC

On Nov 16, 2023, at 11:40 AM, Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com> wrote:

Per CPS, the field repair/replacement was added to the budget of 2023, however this has still not been resolved and the field continues to further deteriorate putting the students at even more risk. As I stated on Nov 9th 2022, I feared that this may have continued to be neglected. Actions speak louder than words. Myself and all the other Onahan Families are waiting for the promised new field. I would appreciate further follow up as to when the field is planned to be replaced as promised per the CPS letter on 11/9/2022.

Thank you for your time,
Kipp and Jennifer O'Connell

On Wed, Nov 9, 2022 at 7:25 PM Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you to everyone who has advocated for Onahan's field to be repaired/replaced. This is excellent news and I am relieved another student will not become injured due to CPS negligence. I hope it doesn't get cut from the budget at a later date as this is a critical fix for the safety of children. We would also like to be kept up-to-date with plans going forward to ensure this plan actually takes place. Words are great and the letter is a step in the right direction, but actions speak louder than words. I know budgets change, but this can no longer be overlooked. I hope everyone will continue to hold CPS accountable for student safety.

Thank you for your time,
Kipp and Jennifer O'Connell

On Wed, Nov 9, 2022, 4:37 PM Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org> wrote:

Good afternoon all,

Jennifer and Kipp I am so sorry that your child suffered an injury at Onahan School and I pray that she has a speedy recovery.

We have all worked tirelessly advocating for this much needed field improvement for Onahan School. My office has spent years trying to work with state elected officials to fund this multi-million dollar renovation to no avail. I also repeatedly expressed the sense of urgency to our previous administration, I then opened a strong line of communication with our current administration.

I am happy to inform you that the Onahan field renovation will be included in the Chicago Public Schools 2023 Capital Plan. Please see the attached letter. I have asked CPS to keep Onahan updated on the design and construction schedule throughout the process.

Sincerely,
Anthony



Charles Swirsky
Senior Advisor to the CEO

42 West Madison, 3rd Floor • Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Alderman Napolitano,

Chicago Public Schools will include the multi-purpose field for Onahan Elementary School in our capital plan for 2023.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chuck Swirsky", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chuck Swirsky
Senior Advisor to the CEO



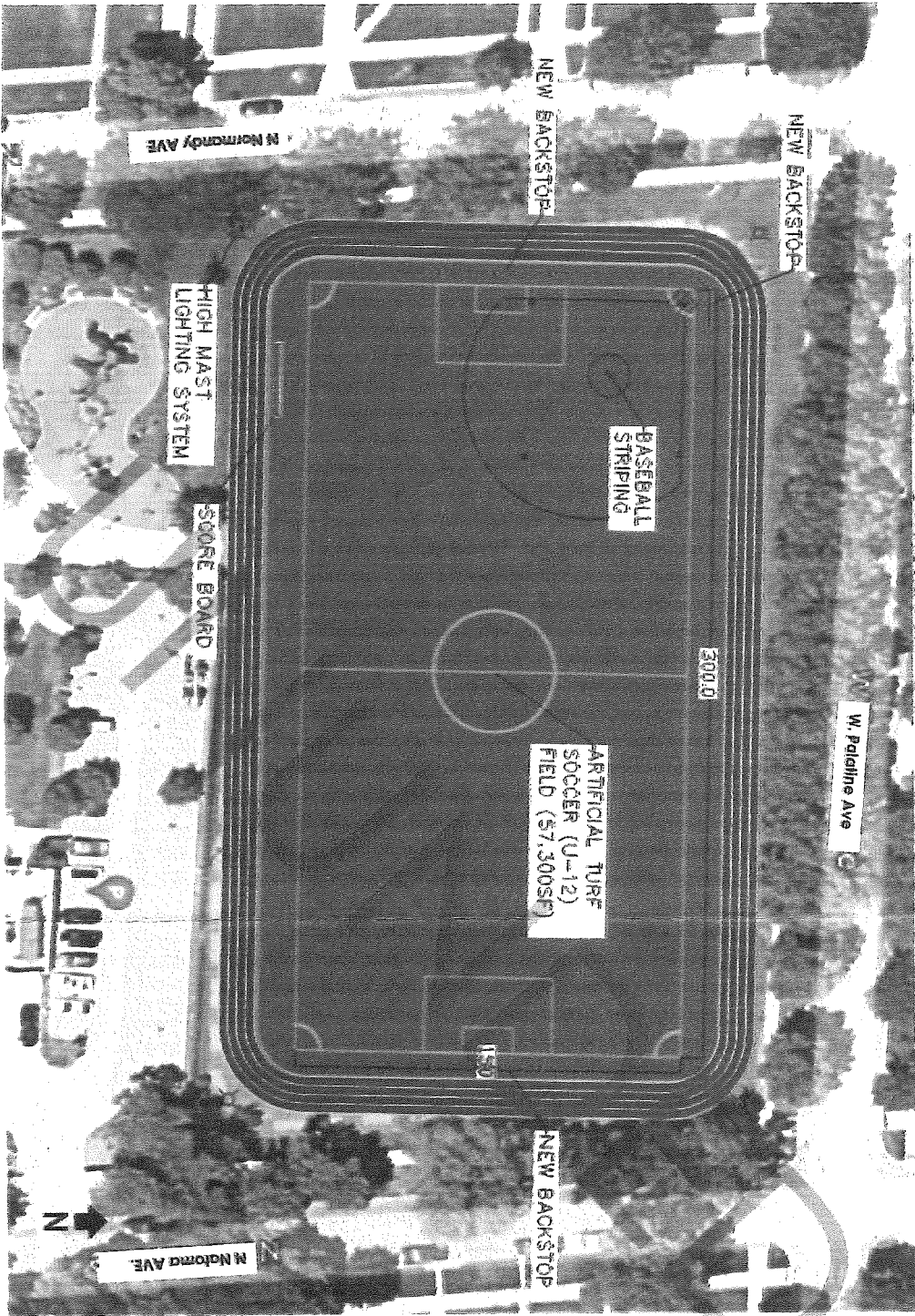
William J Onahan Public School

6634 W Raven St, Chicago, IL 60631

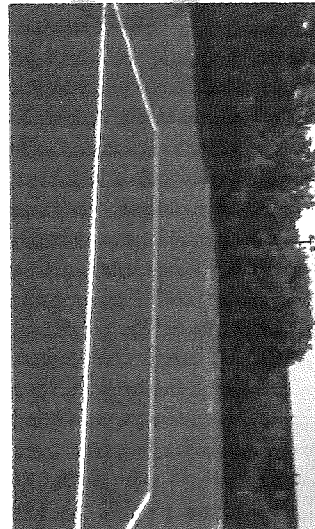
Network: Ward:

DRAFT for internal use only

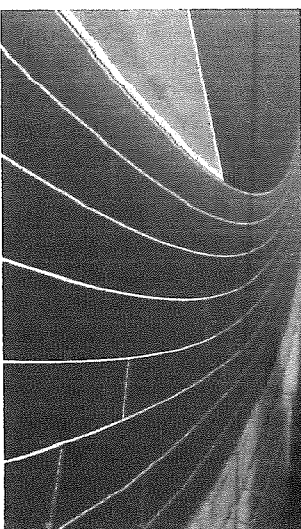
PROPOSED SITE PLAN



Artificial turf soccer field (57,300 sf)



Running track polyurethane rubber surface (14,200 sf)



Score board



William J Onahan Public School

6634 W Raven St, Chicago, IL 60631

Network: Ward:

DRAFT for internal use only

PURPOSE:

The school administration and community at William J Onahan Public School wants to replace the existing natural grass areas with the artificial turf soccer field (U-12) surrounded four-lane polyethylene rubber surface running track to meet the infrastructure needs. The purpose of this exercise is to assess the feasibility, scope of work required, and approximate cost for the aforementioned work.

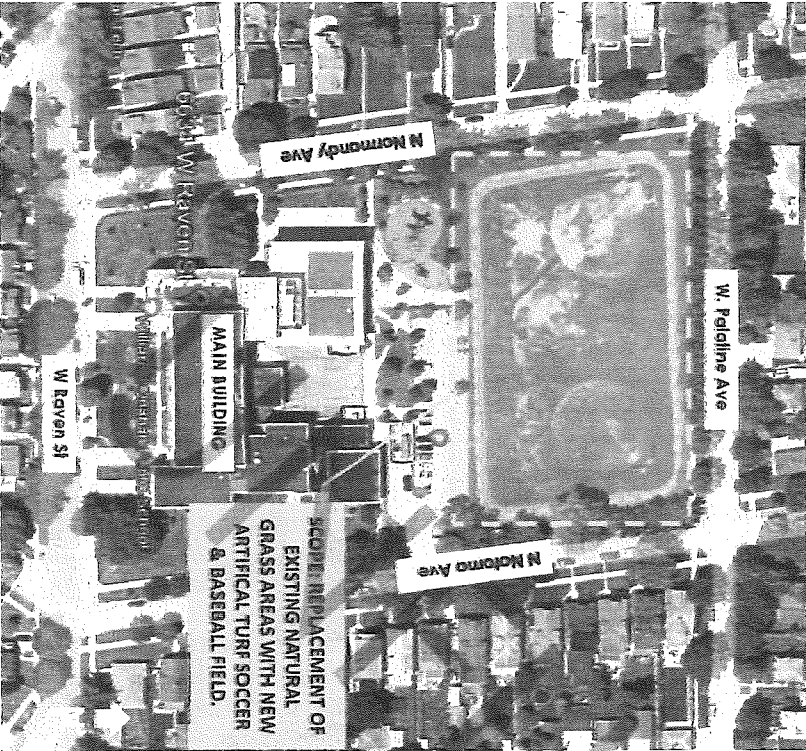
SCOPE:

The scope of work would include removal of existing natural grass areas and running track. The proposed improvement work includes: artificial turf soccer(U-12) & baseball field surrounded with four-lane polyethylene rubber surface running track, concrete curb & gutter, score board, high mast lighting system, stormwater management, and drainage infrastructure.

NOTES:

1. The estimates provided were developed without establishing formal design. All estimates must be substantiated based on design development.
2. Cost includes environmental costs. Note there is no accessibility scope as part of this project.
3. The cost noted include escalation of 4.7% per year for 2 years through 2023.

SITE MAP



OPINION OF PROBABLE PROJECT COST:

\$ 4,600,000

(Includes all CRP soft costs)

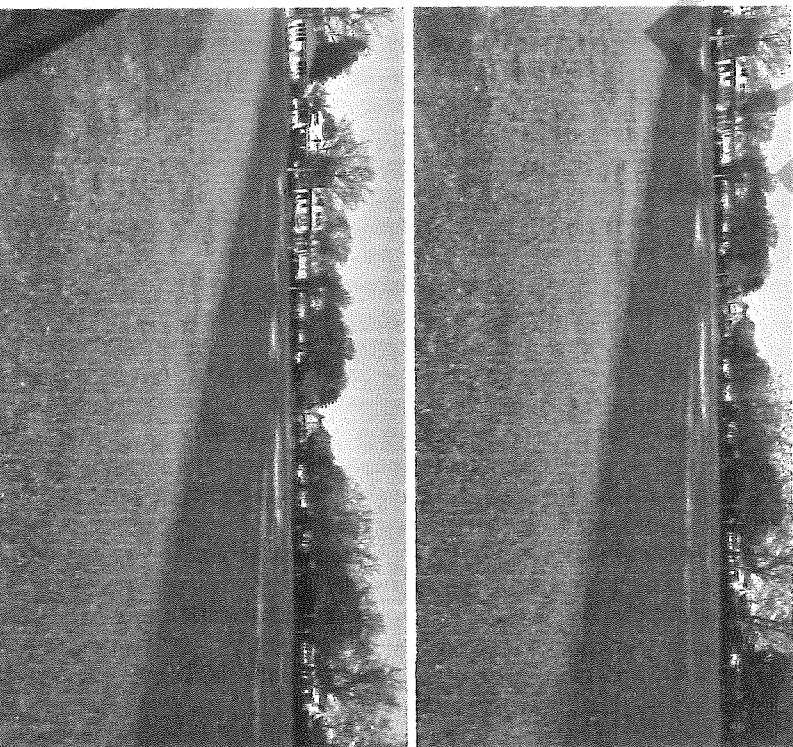
EARTHWORK AND DEMOLITION

\$ 1,100,000

- Clear & Grub and grass removal
- Asphalt pavement removal
- Excavation
- EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS
- Artificial turf soccer & baseball field
- four-lane polyethylene rubber surface running track
- High Mast Lighting system
- Score board
- Stormwater management and drainage infrastructure

\$ 3,500,000

EXISTING CONDITION





Chicago Public Schools
Capital Improvement Program

Meeting Minutes

School Name: <u>Onahan Elementary</u>	Date: <u>01.26.23 1 p.m.</u>
CPS Project No.: <u>2023-24761-UAF</u>	Design Manager: <u>Danny Park</u>
Address: <u>6634 West Raven Street</u>	Architect of Record: <u>Pamela Self Landscape Arch.</u>
<u>Chicago, IL 60631</u>	Construction Manager: _____
Region: _____	Contractor: _____

Onahan Schematic Design Meeting

Attending -

Onahan: Principal Marianne Patten, Sarah DeJulio (AP), Joe Sisto (PE), Evan Trujillo (LSC)

CPS PMO: Danny Park

AOR: Pamela Self, Ken Horinko (PSLA), Jerry Pilipowicz (SMP)

Meeting Notes:

- PSLA presented Schematic Design plan dated 1/26/23
- Schedule:
 - o Next milestone: 60% CD 2/16/23
 - o Design milestones: 60% and 100% for now, no OTB/construction schedule established yet.
- Scope
 - o Artificial Turf Field:
 - U12 soccer field
 - Kickball striping
 - Field can be used for baseball practice
 - AOR to add circle around pitching mound, infield/outfield line
 - Other striping requested by school: Lacrosse, Football
 - AOR will look at feasibility based on available space
 - o 4-lane track
 - o Pedestrian lighting (no sports lighting)
 - School OK with current lighting output at playground
 - AOR to assess current lighting on site and from surrounding streetlight sources
 - o Scoreboard location on East side of field; controller likely to be wireless
 - o Soccer goals: will include 4 moveable goals to provide extra play during recess.
 - o Fencing: existing gate on West side OK; will add gate on East side as well.
 - o Seating: tables good, bleachers not necessary
 - o Security cameras: request to include cameras in scope.
 - AOR to work with Vic Sassolino at CPS to incorporate cameras in scope as Alternate for pricing at 60%.
 - AOR will look into possible CPD connection.



Chicago Public Schools
Capital Improvement Program

Meeting Minutes

School Name: <u>Onahan Elementary</u>	Date: <u>04.04.23 2 p.m.</u>
CPS Project No.: <u>2023-24761-UAF</u>	Design Manager: <u>Danny Park</u>
Address: <u>6634 West Raven Street</u>	Architect of Record: <u>Pamela Self Landscape Arch.</u>
<u>Chicago, IL 60631</u>	Construction Manager: _____
Region: _____	Contractor: _____

Onahan 100% Review Meeting

Attending –

CPS/School: Marianne Patten (Principal), John Javier, Edward Howard

CPS PMO: Kimberly Eulingborough, Bill Guinea, June Park, Kelsey Watterworth

AOR: Pamela Self, Ken Horinko (PSLA)

MEC: Kyle Boyd

Meeting Notes:

- PSLA presented 100% Design plan dated 3/23/23 and Concord cost estimate dated 3/29/23.
- Budget: Construction budget \$3.5M; adjusted 100% estimate base bid \$2.9M + camera alternate \$128K = \$3.03M.
- Schedule:
 - o Construction slated for FY24.
 - o Aiming for October out-to-bid date, pending confirmation of funding (J. Park to confirm).
 - o Project will go through zoning variance process to get approval for pedestrian light poles; AOR to confirm timeframe.
- Scope
 - o Artificial Turf Field:
 - Striping changed to remove Lacrosse and add additional ballfield ?
 - Added space behind soccer striping and backstops per 60% meeting.
 - o Pedestrian lighting: 12 lights around track, will require zoning variance.
 - School requested electrical outlet access at one or more poles, AOR to check with electrical consultant on feasibility.
 - o Walkway from West gate to track added per 60% meeting.
 - o Security cameras: 5 cameras within budget, will be in base scope for OTB.
 - J. Park to set up coordination meeting with CPS ITS and AOR to confirm needs in construction documents and further coordination.

Next steps:

- J. Park to confirm funding and OTB schedule.
- J. Park to set up ITS coordination meeting for cameras.
- AOR to start permit process and confirm zoning variance process timeline.
- AOR to provide hard copy drawing set to school.

Re: Onahan Elementary Athletic and Student Recreation Area

From Swirsky, Chuck <cbswirsky@cps.edu>

Date Fri 9/8/2023 2:29 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc vdye@cps.edu <vdye@cps.edu>; matorres16@cps.edu <matorres16@cps.edu>; Mcglade, Julie <jamcglade@cps.edu>; bdkittle@cps.edu <bdkittle@cps.edu>; jdchambers3@cps.edu <jdchambers3@cps.edu>; mpmistry2@cps.edu <mpmistry2@cps.edu>; ihansen2@cps.edu <ihansen2@cps.edu>; esmith78@cps.edu <esmith78@cps.edu>; mlpatten@cps.edu <mlpatten@cps.edu>; onahanlsc@gmail.com <onahanlsc@gmail.com>; DeJulio, Sarah <srlohman@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>; A41- Anthony Napolitano <Chris.Vittorio@cityofchicago.org>

Hi everyone,

Thank you for the email. As you already know, CPS did not propose a significant capital plan to our Board this year. After working with the Mayor's Office and the Alderman we did agree to propose the project to our Board for approval (which was recognized in the letter that was attached); nothing has changed and that is our intent. The next capital plan will most likely be proposed in the late Spring. The district doesn't have the ability to do a project of this magnitude without Board approval. I hope this helps. Happy to answer any other questions.

Have a great weekend.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 2:20 PM Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the Onahan LSC, Staff, and Onahan Community, we would like to continue our conversation in regards to the immediate need for constructing a final timeline for construction of the Onahan Elementary School Athletic and Student Recreation Area.

Onahan received our Order of Magnitude One Pager via Capital Operations office in November 2021. We have had subsequent meetings and site visits throughout the 2022/23 school years. To date, we have participated in the 100% Design Review Meeting dated 4/4/2023 and received the Concord cost estimates. Additionally, the 41st Ward Alderman office and Onahan Administration received the attached letter in November of 2022 from Chuck Swirsky, Senior Advisor to the CEO, stating that CPS will include the multi-purpose field for Onahan Elementary School in our capital plan for 2023.

We would like to thank everyone involved to date and note that the LSC has reviewed and presented all this information during our regular monthly meetings to our school community. I believe I can speak for most by stating, we have identified the need for a safe solution to an ongoing issue with the Onahan outdoor activity field and recess

environment. The stakeholders of this community have inquired with CPS representatives and local officials on how best to provide a safe environment where the students and staff can participate in daily outdoor physical education, recess, and after school sports without the risks of sustaining injuries due to holes, exposed rocks, uneven ground surfaces, field equipment in disrepair, or large open amounts of standing water that exist. The LSC continues to receive concerns expressed through conversations from parents in regards to these ongoing conditions. Our goal is to provide the opportunity for the construction and installation of an upgraded field and running track designed to make recess and school outdoor activities both safer and more flood resistant than the unsafe poor conditions that currently exist. This type of improvement will certainly build a bright future for students and staff while becoming a hub where students, staff, coaches and players can gather, learn, and play.

Our school is an anchor of our neighborhood and directly affects our residents. We can agree that being forced to close our athletic area due to conditions and risk of liability from accidents would create additional negative community impacts. As we look forward to our school curriculum night and LSC meeting next week, this is surely a topic the LSC parent reps will be asked to provide an updated status?

We would like to again formally request to expedite this ongoing condition to our CPS representatives. We look forward to hearing back on this matter and discussing a bright future!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC Co-Chair
847.338.9165

--

Chuck Swirsky | Senior Advisor, Chief Executive Office
Chicago Public Schools
42 W Madison St, Chicago, IL 60602
Phone: 773-553-1420
Email: cbswirsky@cps.edu

“You don’t make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas.”
— Shirley Chisholm

Re: CPF Funding

From Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Date Tue 3/11/2025 8:01 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc Adam Winters <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>; Charles Chamness <Charlie.Chamness@mail.house.gov>; Kody Keckler <Kody.Keckler@mail.house.gov>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>

Good afternoon,

We are part of the Onahan Elementary local school council and wanted to touch base to check the status of a community project funding grant for Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation field space that was to be included in the Fall 2024 legislative session. We look forward to hearing back from Staff in Congressman Quigley's office. Thank you in advance!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Co-Chair
Onahan LSC
847.338.9165

On Mar 11, 2025, at 2:57 PM, Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Ed,

I'm no longer with Rep. Quigley, but I've copied Rep. Quigley's Deputy Chief of staff, Charlie Chamness, and Kody Keckler, his staffer assisting on Community Project Funding requests.

Best,

Jessica Merritt
Legislative Director
Congressman George Latimer (NY-16)

From: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 3:49 PM

To: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>

Cc: Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: CPF Funding

Good afternoon Jessica and Adam,

I reached out prior with a call into the office and wanted to also follow up via email. We are part of the Onahan Elementary local school council and would like to check the status of the community project funding grant for Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation field space that was to be included in the Fall 2024 legislative session. If you have a moment to respond we look forward to hearing from Congressman Quigley's office. Thank you in advance!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Co-Chair
Onahan LSC
847.338.9165

On Oct 15, 2024, at 1:46 PM, Merritt, Jessica
<Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Hi Mr. Howard,

Just to follow up on Adam's email, as you know, our office submitted a community project funding request for Onahan's outdoor field. The request was \$1,000,000 and we submitted it to the House Appropriations Committee in May 2024. This request was included in the Economic Development Initiatives account of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill at a level of \$850,000.

At this point in time, that bill has not passed the House of Representatives, therefore the project funding has yet to be finalized. We anticipate funding negotiations to restart when Congress returns to Washington in November ahead of the December 20th funding deadline. We will be sure to update you when this funding moves forward.

Best,

Jessica
Jessica Merritt (She/Her)
Legislative Director
2083 Rayburn HOB | (202) 225-4061



From: Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:14 PM
To: ehoward15@hotmail.com

Cc: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Fritz, Dana
<Dana.Fritz@mail.house.gov>

Subject: CPF Funding

Hi Mr. Howard,

I touched base with the staff and the funding has not yet passed into law. Once it is signed into law, the process to release the funds to Onahan will begin which will take additional time. To better assist you with updates going forward, I have cc'd Jessica Merritt and Dana Fritz on this email who handle the bulk of CFPs.

Sincerely,

Adam Winters (He/Him)

District Operations Manager & Veteran Liaison

1925 N. Clybourn Ave STE 402, Chicago, IL 60614 | (773) 267-5926



Re: CPF Funding

From Keckler, Kody <Kody.Keckler@mail.house.gov>

Date Wed 3/12/2025 3:35 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc Chamness, Charles <Charlie.Chamness@mail.house.gov>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>; Sklodowski, Maxim <Maxim.Sklodowski@mail.house.gov>

Hi Ed,

Thank you for reaching out! Unfortunately, the matter of FY25 Appropriations is still being worked out. As of yesterday, the House passed a Continuing Resolution for the rest of the fiscal year that would not provide funding for CPFs at all in FY25. If the Senate should pass that bill (which is yet to be determined), we would likely have to start over for FY26. In that case, we would reach out to all of the organizations that we worked with on FY25 CPF applications with next steps.

It's a bit confusing and a lot is up in the air — I'm happy to chat on the phone if it would help! Our DC office number is 202-225-4061.

Best,
Kody

From: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 9:01 PM

To: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc: Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>; Chamness, Charles <Charlie.Chamness@mail.house.gov>; Keckler, Kody <Kody.Keckler@mail.house.gov>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: CPF Funding

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Congressman George Latimer (NY-16)

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Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 3:49 PM
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Cc: Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>
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Jessica
Jessica Merritt (She/Her)
Legislative Director
2083 Rayburn HOB | (202) 225-4061



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Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:14 PM
To: ehoward15@hotmail.com
Cc: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Fritz, Dana <Dana.Fritz@mail.house.gov>
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Sincerely,

Adam Winters (He/Him)
District Operations Manager & Veteran Liaison
1925 N. Clybourn Ave STE 402, Chicago, IL 60614 | (773) 267-5926





*** ATTENTION ALL EMPLOYEES!! ***

Full-time, Part-time & Temp workers are all eligible

These plans work with or without health insurance, and are designed to pay THOUSANDS of dollars to YOU in the event of an emergency.

Optional Insurance (for you or your whole family). Supplemental coverage pays money to you and your family for Major Illnesses, Accidents and Injuries... Stay healthy and get a REFUND!

In addition to injuries, there are many other things that can affect your income.

- **Cancer** (Affects 1 out of 2 men and 1 out of 3 women)
- **Heart Attack or Stroke** (Every 29 seconds someone suffers from a heart attack)
- **Other Hospitalization** (1 in 8 people will be hospitalized THIS YEAR)

What makes coverage with Family Heritage different?:

- Pays **CASH** directly to you (remember health insurance pays doctor bills only).
- Pays in addition to sick pay, disability or any other coverage you have (even if primary insurance is through your spouse)
- Designed to help out with lost income and the indirect costs not covered by health insurance: co-payments, travel expenses, housing costs, etc.
- Covers everyone in your family 24 hours a day, at work or at home, and whether you can work or not.
- Premiums are **AFFORDABLE** (starting at \$10/week). Rates DO NOT increase with age or claims.

Examples of Claim Payouts

INJURCARE PLUS
24-hour coverage + ICU

- Initial Hospitalization: \$3,200
- 5 days hospital (@ \$800/day): \$4,000
- Broken leg: \$10,000
- 6 Physical Therapy Sessions (@ \$200/each): \$1,200
- Ambulance: \$1,200

TOTAL PAID TO PATIENT=
\$19,600

CANCERCARE PLUS
Cancer + Hospital ICU

- Diagnosis: \$6,000
- 10 days hospital (@ \$800/day): \$8,000
- Surgery: \$16,000
- 30 Chemo Treatments (@ \$480/treatment): \$14,400
- Travel: \$5,500

TOTAL PAID TO PATIENT=
\$49,900

CARDIACARE PLUS-
Heart/Stroke + ICU

- Diagnosis: \$6,000
- 6 days hospital (@ \$800/day): \$4,800
- Surgery: \$8,000
- Ambulance: \$1,200
- 2 days ICU: \$3,200

TOTAL PAID TO PATIENT=
\$23,200

All policies offer 100% return of premiums paid, less any claims filed.

Community Commitment to the Onahan Field

Patten, Marianne <mlpatten@cps.edu>

Mon 10/3/2022 8:13 PM

To: Ward41 <ward41@cityofchicago.org>;ward45@cityofchicago.org
<ward45@cityofchicago.org>;WARD39@cityofchicago.org <WARD39@cityofchicago.org>

Cc: Melissa Meeks <mavenn@cps.edu>;Therese Fontana <theresefontana@gmail.com>;Mariam L. Hafezi <mhafezi@kaiserlawoffice.com>;Rose Cisarik <rcisarik@cps.edu>;Angela DeVinney <devinney.a@gmail.com>;Joseph Sisto <jgsisto@cps.edu>;Evan Trujillo <etruji93@gmail.com>;Lydia Kaiser <shoekaiser@yahoo.com>;Chris Neumann <lufs2bowl5@aol.com>;Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>;Deidra Kenar <dmsmiles@yahoo.com>;DeJulio, Sarah <srlohman@cps.edu>;Tamrazi, Maryann <mtamrazi@cps.edu>

Dear Alderman Gardiner, Alderman Napolitano, and Alderman Nugent,

I am writing as the Principal of Onahan, but mostly from the perspective of a resident who loves the Norwood Park community. Since the early 2000s, the Onahan LSC has been asking the City of Chicago and Chicago Public Schools for a usable field. We finally have some momentum and hope that it may happen if we can find support through the local government to fund 2.5 million to match CPS for a total of \$5 million. The Onahan Community is getting organized and would like your help to put out the word, and to help secure funding from local governmental entities for the cause. We are certain our neighbors will be actively involved to make sure this project is accomplished.

The 650 Onahan students and their families would not be the only ones to benefit from a safer and more beautiful place to have recess, gym, field day and sporting events, but the community would enjoy the green space, too. Over the past twenty five years that I have been connected with Norwood Park, I have happy memories of this field being a meeting point for impromptu baseball or soccer ball games, a place for a morning or late evening jog, or a great place for community movie nights. On a personal note, my husband and son spent many early mornings before school in the middle of January on the field for batting practice. On Thanksgiving, I have seen families show up and play football on the field. The fact that the field is built on a parking lot, causing poor drainage and substantial flooding is contributing to substantial and continuous erosion. The grass is sparse and the ground is rocky. This year alone, we have had multiple broken arms due to tripping and falling, both on the hard field and the sparsely graveled and uneven track. When it rains, the field is flooded for days and no one is able to utilize the space.

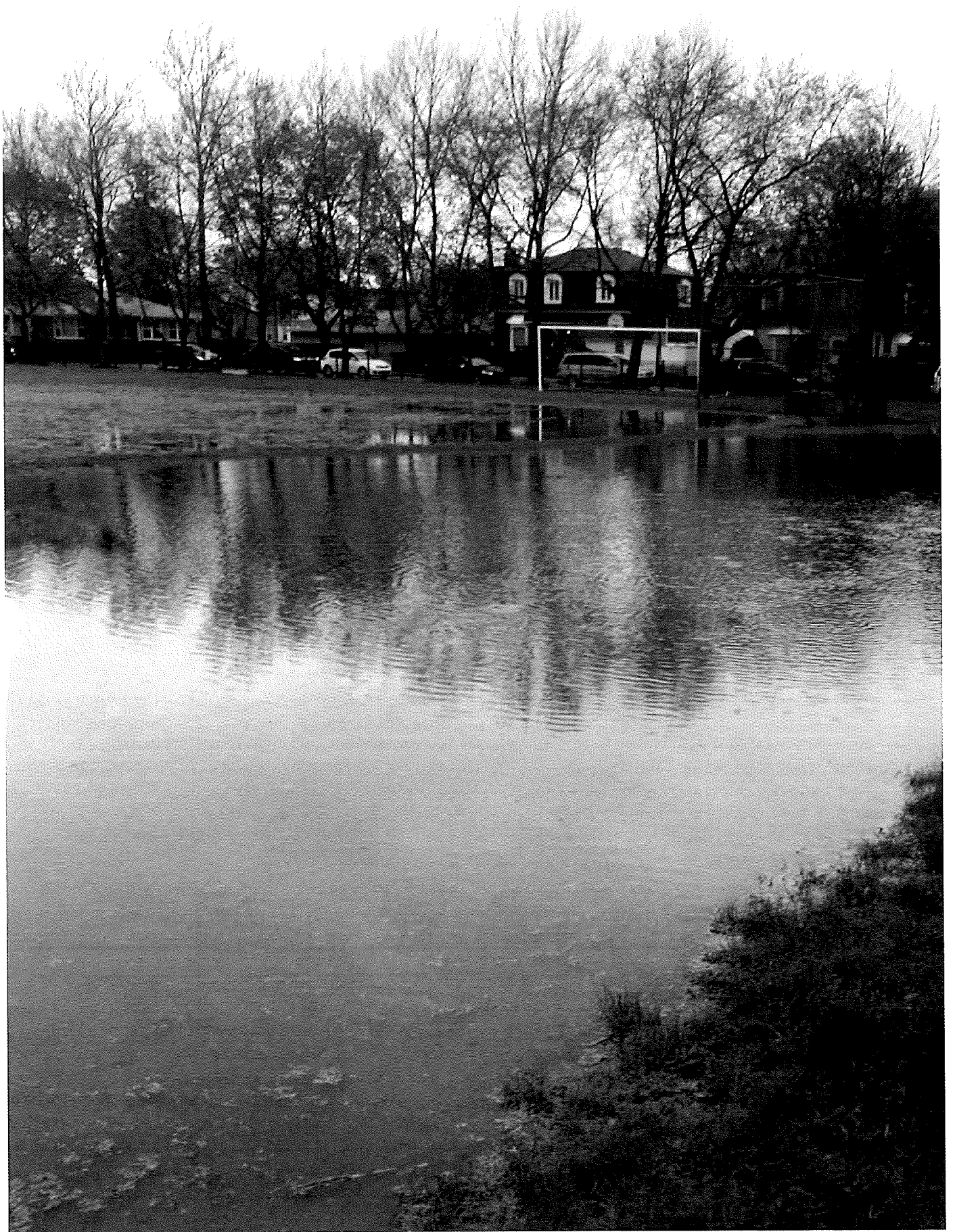
Your community deserves to have a fresh new multipurpose field. A space that is safe and one that can be used year round. The field is extremely large and should have the capacity to function as a community center for a variety of events beyond just sports and just Onahan. My vision would be to have specialized high UV turf, a softball/baseball diamond in the northwest corner, the soccer field and football field spanning the length of the field, a rubberized track painted for distance (400m laps), and a basketball court tucked in, if possible. I would love to see the Onahan logo in the center, too.

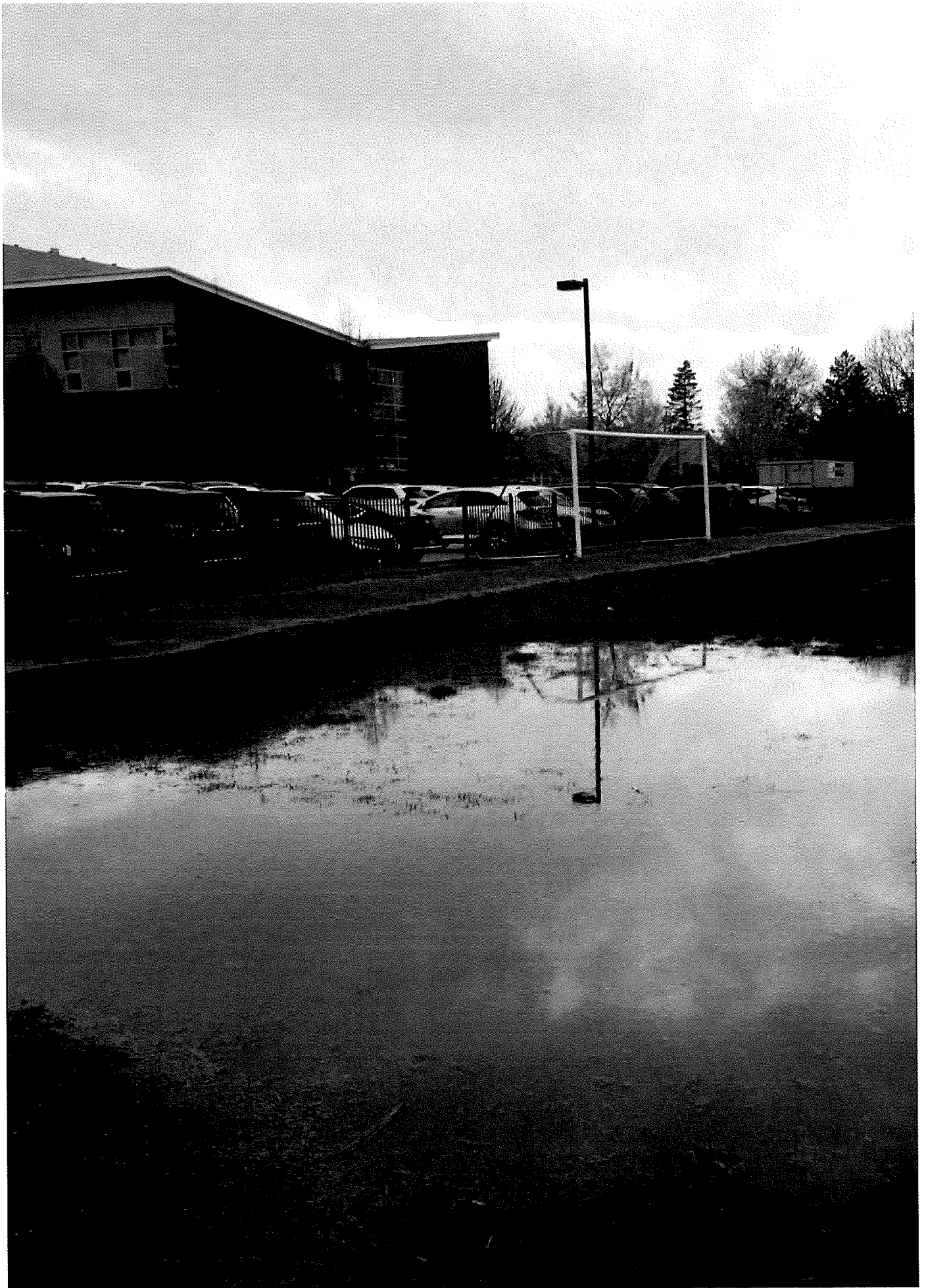
I would like to invite you to visit Onahan and the field to discuss how we can move this project forward together. This project would impact not only the 650 students and their families, but the neighbors that reside near and around Norwood Park. It would be an impressive win for all stakeholders who have taken so much time on this project and it is one that would hold your legacy.

Please let me know if you are interested in talking about this further. We are in the process of compiling resources and contacts to inform our neighbors.

Sincerely,

Marianne Patten, Principal
Resident of the 45th Ward







Date: November 7, 2022 at 8:23:32 AM CST
To: "Mcglade, Julie" <jamcglade@cps.edu>, ehoward15@hotmail.com, "Patten, Marianne" <mjpatten@cps.edu>, "DeJulio, Sarah" <srlohman@cps.edu>, Logan Black <kippoconnell@gmail.com>
Subject: **Poor condition at Onahan Field**

On November 3rd, Cassie was playing Frisbee at gym in the field as instructed and injured her ankle/leg. As she was running to catch the Frisbee, her foot got caught in one of the many holes. She was in a lot of pain and could not bear weight as she attempted to walk Friday am. Luckily we were able to get a 9:20 appointment for her to get an xray and determine what happened. She had to miss approximately 3 hours of valuable instruction time. It turns out she has a severe leg sprain and will have to remain with crutches and a brace for some time and have to miss out on her athletic training activities until healed. She will not be able to participate in gym. As an accomplished third degree brown belt in karate training for her black belt as well as advanced gymnastics, this greatly impacts her overall development. A doctor's note has been faxed to the school.

I know Onahan administration keeps asking for the field to get fixed but this continues to fall on deaf ears. When will this be addressed? The safety of students is directly impacted as my daughter's injury has proven. This could have been prevented. Where do I send her medical bills and athletic fees due to missed classes as a result of the continued negligence of CPS?

Thank you,
Jennifer and Kipp O'Connell

Anthony Napolitano
41st Ward Alderman
7442 N. Harlem Ave.
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-2241
www.chicago41.com

From: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 6:40 PM
To: Onahan Local School Council <onahanlsc@gmail.com>
Cc: Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org>; Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; info@senatormartwick.com <info@senatormartwick.com>; Ed Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>; Evan T <etruji93@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field

[Warning: External email]

Hello Everyone,
It has been over 24 hours and I have not heard a response from you. My daughter's injury could and should have been avoided. When will Onahan's field be fixed? How many more injuries will be suffered by students due to CPS negligence?

We look forward to hearing from you,
Jennifer and Kipp O'Connell

On Mon, Nov 7, 2022 at 2:31 PM Onahan Local School Council <onahanlsc@gmail.com> wrote:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please see the below message from the parents of Cassie, a Onahan Elementary student. The Onahan LSC, Staff, Administration, and community stakeholders have been asking CPS for a solution to our ongoing safety issues at the Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation area.

Unfortunately, this is yet another documented circumstance where an injury to a student can and should be 100% avoidable if the actions of CPS and the City of Chicago would become a priority.

We expect to continue moving forward with the draft plan for the replacement of the athletic and recreation area that was created on November 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.


Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC
Co-Chair

Fwd: Poor condition at Onahan Field

From Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Date Thu 11/10/2022 12:07 PM

To Rob Young <robert.young1012@gmail.com>; Onahan Men's Club <onahanmensclub@gmail.com>

 1 attachment (424 KB)

W41_Onahan ES_CPS Capital Plan11.9.22.pdf;

From: Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org>

Date: November 9, 2022 at 4:37:14 PM CST

To: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>, Onahan Local School Council <Onahanlsc@gmail.com>

Cc: Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>, Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>, friendsofonahan@gmail.com, Ed Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>, Chris Vittorio <Chris.Vittorio@cityofchicago.org>, onahanmensclub@yahoo.com, onahanpto@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field

Good afternoon all,

Jennifer and Kipp I am so sorry that your child suffered an injury at Onahan School and I pray that she has a speedy recovery.

We have all worked tirelessly advocating for this much needed field improvement for Onahan School. My office has spent years trying to work with state elected officials to fund this multi-million dollar renovation to no avail. I also repeatedly expressed the sense of urgency to our previous administration, I then opened a strong line of communication with our current administration.

I am happy to inform you that the Onahan field renovation will be included in the Chicago Public Schools 2023 Capital Plan. Please see the attached letter. I have asked CPS to keep Onahan updated on the design and construction schedule throughout the process.

Sincerely,
Anthony

Anthony Napolitano
41st Ward Alderman
7442 N. Harlem Ave.
Chicago, IL 60631
(773) 631-2241
www.chicago41.com

From: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 6:40 PM

To: Onahan Local School Council <onahanlsc@gmail.com>

Cc: Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org>; Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; info@senatormartwick.com <info@senatormartwick.com>; Ed Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>; Evan T <etruji93@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field

[Warning: External email]

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

Please see the below message from the parents of Cassie, a Onahan Elementary student. The Onahan LSC, Staff, Administration, and community stakeholders have been asking CPS for a solution to our ongoing safety issues at the Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation area.

Unfortunately, this is yet another documented circumstance where an injury to a student can and should be 100% avoidable if the actions of CPS and the City of Chicago would become a priority.

We expect to continue moving forward with the draft plan for the replacement of the athletic and recreation area that was created on November 2021.

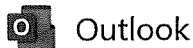
We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC
Co-Chair

Date: November 7, 2022 at 8:23:32 AM CST

To: "Mcglade, Julie" <jamcglade@cps.edu>, ehoward15@hotmail.com, "Patten, Marianne" <mlpatten@cps.edu>, "DeJulio, Sarah" <srlohman@cps.edu>, Logan Black <kippoconnell@gmail.com>

Subject: Poor condition at Onahan Field



Fwd: Poor condition at Onahan Field

From Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Date Mon 3/10/2025 1:20 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Begin forwarded message:

From: ehoward15@hotmail.com

Subject: Re: Poor condition at Onahan Field

Date: November 17, 2023 at 5:33:43 PM CST

To: Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com>

Cc: Onahan Local School Council <Onahanlsc@gmail.com>, Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>, Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>

Hello Jennifer,

Thank you for the email. LSC has shared our similar concern as the timeline was extended on final Board approval for Capital projects which includes our Onahan field improvement. We look forward to having a site visit w our CPS reps in the near future and keep moving the project forward!

The feedback received below is a quote from the representatives of CPS and the CEO office.

"CPS did not propose a significant capital plan to our Board this year. After working with the Mayor's Office and the Alderman we did agree to propose the project to our Board for approval (which was recognized in the letter that was attached); nothing has changed and that is our intent. The next capital plan will most likely be proposed in the late Spring. The district doesn't have the ability to do a project of this magnitude without Board approval. I hope this helps. Happy to answer any other questions."

LSC will continue to push out info as it becomes available. Thank you again and have a happy Thanksgiving.

Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC

On Nov 16, 2023, at 11:40 AM, Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com> wrote:

Per CPS, the field repair/replacement was added to the budget of 2023, however this has still not been resolved and the field continues to further deteriorate putting the students at even more risk. As I stated on Nov 9th 2022, I feared that this may have continued to be neglected. Actions speak louder than words. Myself and all the other Onahan Families are waiting for the promised new field. I would appreciate further follow up as to when the field is planned to be replaced as promised per the CPS letter on 11/9/2022.

Thank you for your time,
Kipp and Jennifer O'Connell

On Wed, Nov 9, 2022 at 7:25 PM Jennifer Oconnell <oconnell.jenn@gmail.com> wrote:

Thank you to everyone who has advocated for Onahan's field to be repaired/replaced. This is excellent news and I am relieved another student will not become injured due to CPS negligence. I hope it doesn't get cut from the budget at a later date as this is a critical fix for the safety of children. We would also like to be kept up-to-date with plans going forward to ensure this plan actually takes place. Words are great and the letter is a step in the right direction, but actions speak louder than words. I know budgets change, but this can no longer be overlooked. I hope everyone will continue to hold CPS accountable for student safety.

Thank you for your time,
Kipp and Jennifer O'Connell

On Wed, Nov 9, 2022, 4:37 PM Anthony Napolitano <Anthony.Napolitano@cityofchicago.org> wrote:

Good afternoon all,

Jennifer and Kipp I am so sorry that your child suffered an injury at Onahan School and I pray that she has a speedy recovery.

We have all worked tirelessly advocating for this much needed field improvement for Onahan School. My office has spent years trying to work with state elected officials to fund this multi-million dollar renovation to no avail. I also repeatedly expressed the sense of urgency to our previous administration, I then opened a strong line of communication with our current administration.

I am happy to inform you that the Onahan field renovation will be included in the Chicago Public Schools 2023 Capital Plan. Please see the attached letter. I have asked CPS to keep Onahan updated on the design and construction schedule throughout the process.

Sincerely,
Anthony



Charles Swirsky
Senior Advisor to the CEO

42 West Madison, 3rd Floor • Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Alderman Napolitano,

Chicago Public Schools will include the multi-purpose field for Onahan Elementary School in our capital plan for 2023.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Chuck Swirsky
Senior Advisor to the CEO



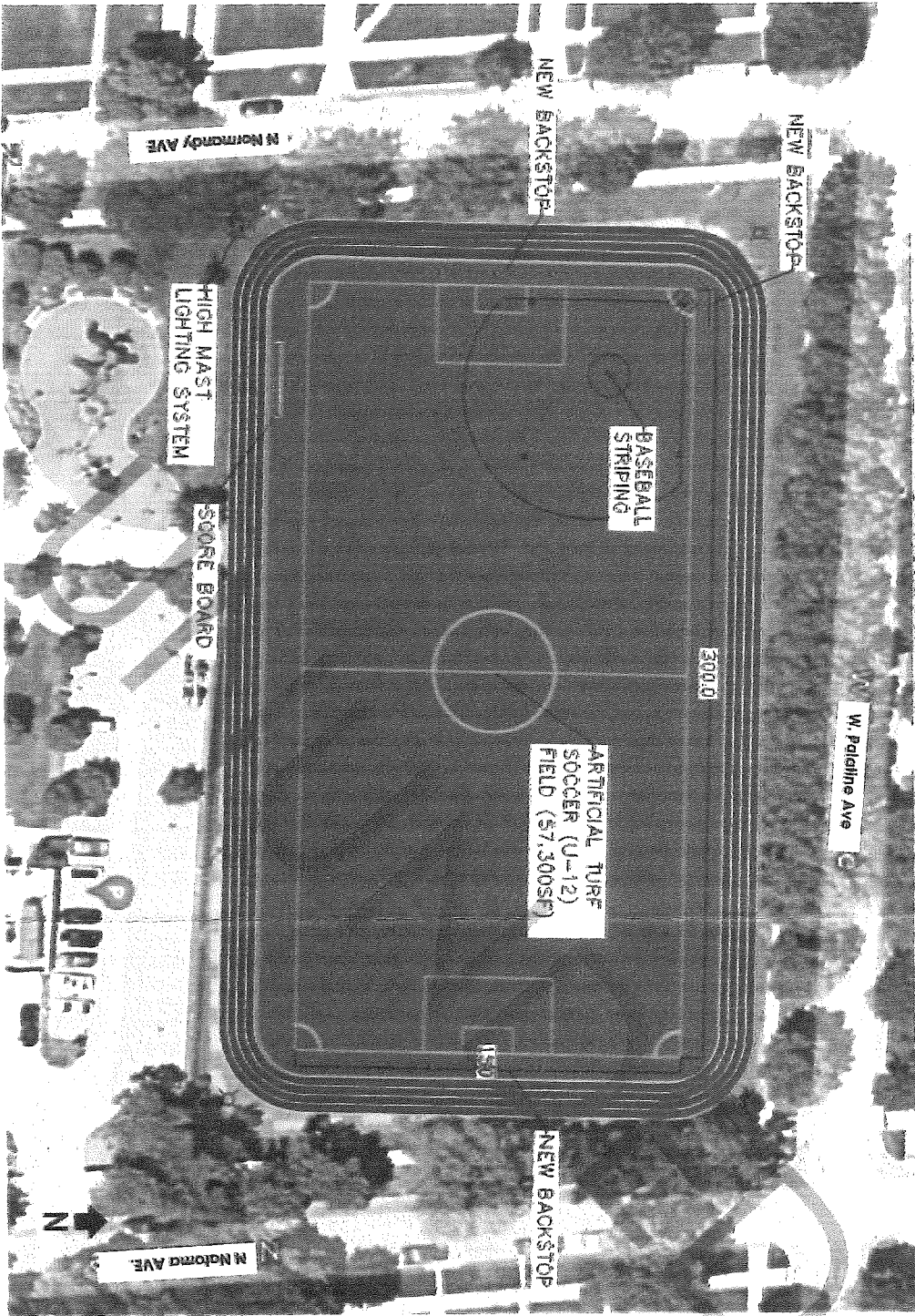
William J Onahan Public School

6634 W Raven St, Chicago, IL 60631

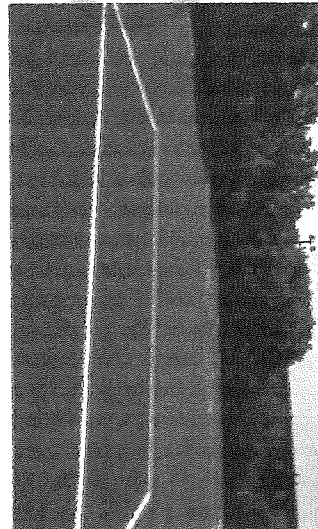
Network: Ward:

DRAFT for internal use only

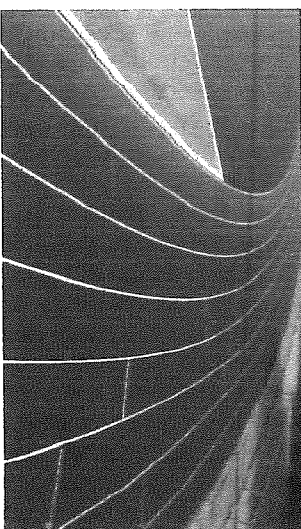
PROPOSED SITE PLAN



Artificial turf soccer field (57,300 SF)



Running track polyurethane rubber surface (14,200 SF)



Score board



William J Onahan Public School

6634 W Raven St, Chicago, IL 60631

Network: Ward:

DRAFT for internal use only

PURPOSE:

The school administration and community at William J Onahan Public School wants to replace the existing natural grass areas with the artificial turf soccer field (U-12) surrounded four-lane polyethylene rubber surface running track to meet the infrastructure needs. The purpose of this exercise is to assess the feasibility, scope of work required, and approximate cost for the aforementioned work.

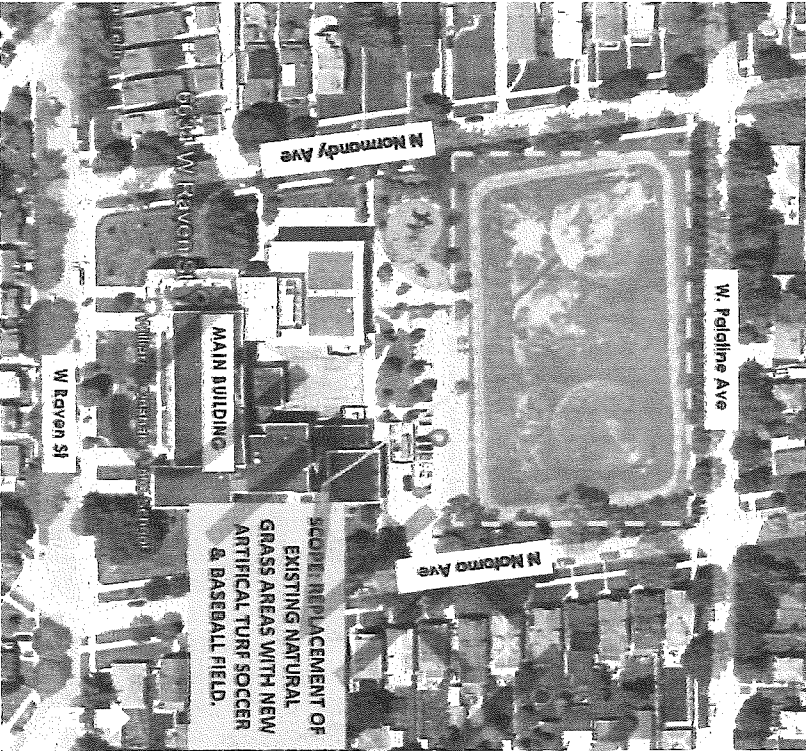
SCOPE:

The scope of work would include removal of existing natural grass areas and running track. The proposed improvement work includes: artificial turf soccer(U-12) & baseball field surrounded with four-lane polyethylene rubber surface running track, concrete curb & gutter, score board, high mast lighting system, stormwater management, and drainage infrastructure.

NOTES:

1. The estimates provided were developed without establishing formal design. All estimates must be substantiated based on design development.
2. Cost includes environmental costs. Note there is no accessibility scope as part of this project.
3. The cost noted include escalation of 4.7% per year for 2 years through 2023.

SITE MAP



OPINION OF PROBABLE PROJECT COST:

\$ 4,600,000

(Includes all CRP soft costs)

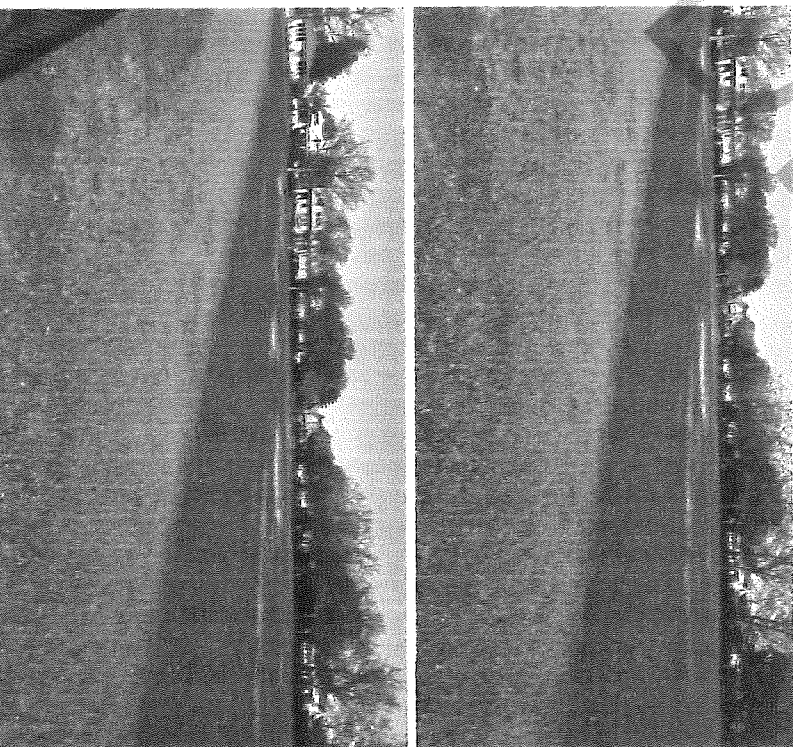
EARTHWORK AND DEMOLITION

\$ 1,100,000

- Clear & Grub and grass removal
- Asphalt pavement removal
- Excavation
- Exterior Improvements
- Artificial turf soccer & baseball field
- four-lane polyethylene rubber surface running track
- High Mast Lighting system
- Score board
- Stormwater management and drainage infrastructure

\$ 3,500,000

EXISTING CONDITION





Chicago Public Schools
Capital Improvement Program

Meeting Minutes

School Name: <u>Onahan Elementary</u>	Date: <u>01.26.23 1 p.m.</u>
CPS Project No.: <u>2023-24761-UAF</u>	Design Manager: <u>Danny Park</u>
Address: <u>6634 West Raven Street</u>	Architect of Record: <u>Pamela Self Landscape Arch.</u>
<u>Chicago, IL 60631</u>	Construction Manager: _____
Region: _____	Contractor: _____

Onahan Schematic Design Meeting

Attending -

Onahan: Principal Marianne Patten, Sarah DeJulio (AP), Joe Sisto (PE), Evan Trujillo (LSC)

CPS PMO: Danny Park

AOR: Pamela Self, Ken Horinko (PSLA), Jerry Pilipowicz (SMP)

Meeting Notes:

- PSLA presented Schematic Design plan dated 1/26/23
- Schedule:
 - o Next milestone: 60% CD 2/16/23
 - o Design milestones: 60% and 100% for now, no OTB/construction schedule established yet.
- Scope
 - o Artificial Turf Field:
 - U12 soccer field
 - Kickball striping
 - Field can be used for baseball practice
 - AOR to add circle around pitching mound, infield/outfield line
 - Other striping requested by school: Lacrosse, Football
 - AOR will look at feasibility based on available space
 - o 4-lane track
 - o Pedestrian lighting (no sports lighting)
 - School OK with current lighting output at playground
 - AOR to assess current lighting on site and from surrounding streetlight sources
 - o Scoreboard location on East side of field; controller likely to be wireless
 - o Soccer goals: will include 4 moveable goals to provide extra play during recess.
 - o Fencing: existing gate on West side OK; will add gate on East side as well.
 - o Seating: tables good, bleachers not necessary
 - o Security cameras: request to include cameras in scope.
 - AOR to work with Vic Sassolino at CPS to incorporate cameras in scope as Alternate for pricing at 60%.
 - AOR will look into possible CPD connection.



Chicago Public Schools
Capital Improvement Program

Meeting Minutes

School Name: <u>Onahan Elementary</u>	Date: <u>04.04.23 2 p.m.</u>
CPS Project No.: <u>2023-24761-UAF</u>	Design Manager: <u>Danny Park</u>
Address: <u>6634 West Raven Street</u>	Architect of Record: <u>Pamela Self Landscape Arch.</u>
<u>Chicago, IL 60631</u>	Construction Manager: _____
Region: _____	Contractor: _____

Onahan 100% Review Meeting

Attending –

CPS/School: Marianne Patten (Principal), John Javier, Edward Howard

CPS PMO: Kimberly Eulingborough, Bill Guinea, June Park, Kelsey Watterworth

AOR: Pamela Self, Ken Horinko (PSLA)

MEC: Kyle Boyd

Meeting Notes:

- PSLA presented 100% Design plan dated 3/23/23 and Concord cost estimate dated 3/29/23.
- Budget: Construction budget \$3.5M; adjusted 100% estimate base bid \$2.9M + camera alternate \$128K = \$3.03M.
- Schedule:
 - o Construction slated for FY24.
 - o Aiming for October out-to-bid date, pending confirmation of funding (J. Park to confirm).
 - o Project will go through zoning variance process to get approval for pedestrian light poles; AOR to confirm timeframe.
- Scope
 - o Artificial Turf Field:
 - Striping changed to remove Lacrosse and add additional ballfield ?
 - Added space behind soccer striping and backstops per 60% meeting.
 - o Pedestrian lighting: 12 lights around track, will require zoning variance.
 - School requested electrical outlet access at one or more poles, AOR to check with electrical consultant on feasibility.
 - o Walkway from West gate to track added per 60% meeting.
 - o Security cameras: 5 cameras within budget, will be in base scope for OTB.
 - J. Park to set up coordination meeting with CPS ITS and AOR to confirm needs in construction documents and further coordination.

Next steps:

- J. Park to confirm funding and OTB schedule.
- J. Park to set up ITS coordination meeting for cameras.
- AOR to start permit process and confirm zoning variance process timeline.
- AOR to provide hard copy drawing set to school.

Re: Onahan Elementary Athletic and Student Recreation Area

From Swirsky, Chuck <cbswirsky@cps.edu>

Date Fri 9/8/2023 2:29 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc vdye@cps.edu <vdye@cps.edu>; matorres16@cps.edu <matorres16@cps.edu>; Mcglade, Julie <jamcglade@cps.edu>; bdkittle@cps.edu <bdkittle@cps.edu>; jdchambers3@cps.edu <jdchambers3@cps.edu>; mpmistry2@cps.edu <mpmistry2@cps.edu>; ihansen2@cps.edu <ihansen2@cps.edu>; esmith78@cps.edu <esmith78@cps.edu>; mlpatten@cps.edu <mlpatten@cps.edu>; onahanlsc@gmail.com <onahanlsc@gmail.com>; DeJulio, Sarah <srlohman@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>; A41- Anthony Napolitano <Chris.Vittorio@cityofchicago.org>

Hi everyone,

Thank you for the email. As you already know, CPS did not propose a significant capital plan to our Board this year. After working with the Mayor's Office and the Alderman we did agree to propose the project to our Board for approval (which was recognized in the letter that was attached); nothing has changed and that is our intent. The next capital plan will most likely be proposed in the late Spring. The district doesn't have the ability to do a project of this magnitude without Board approval. I hope this helps. Happy to answer any other questions.

Have a great weekend.

On Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 2:20 PM Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com> wrote:

Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the Onahan LSC, Staff, and Onahan Community, we would like to continue our conversation in regards to the immediate need for constructing a final timeline for construction of the Onahan Elementary School Athletic and Student Recreation Area.

Onahan received our Order of Magnitude One Pager via Capital Operations office in November 2021. We have had subsequent meetings and site visits throughout the 2022/23 school years. To date, we have participated in the 100% Design Review Meeting dated 4/4/2023 and received the Concord cost estimates. Additionally, the 41st Ward Alderman office and Onahan Administration received the attached letter in November of 2022 from Chuck Swirsky, Senior Advisor to the CEO, stating that CPS will include the multi-purpose field for Onahan Elementary School in our capital plan for 2023.

We would like to thank everyone involved to date and note that the LSC has reviewed and presented all this information during our regular monthly meetings to our school community. I believe I can speak for most by stating, we have identified the need for a safe solution to an ongoing issue with the Onahan outdoor activity field and recess

environment. The stakeholders of this community have inquired with CPS representatives and local officials on how best to provide a safe environment where the students and staff can participate in daily outdoor physical education, recess, and after school sports without the risks of sustaining injuries due to holes, exposed rocks, uneven ground surfaces, field equipment in disrepair, or large open amounts of standing water that exist. The LSC continues to receive concerns expressed through conversations from parents in regards to these ongoing conditions. Our goal is to provide the opportunity for the construction and installation of an upgraded field and running track designed to make recess and school outdoor activities both safer and more flood resistant than the unsafe poor conditions that currently exist. This type of improvement will certainly build a bright future for students and staff while becoming a hub where students, staff, coaches and players can gather, learn, and play.

Our school is an anchor of our neighborhood and directly affects our residents. We can agree that being forced to close our athletic area due to conditions and risk of liability from accidents would create additional negative community impacts. As we look forward to our school curriculum night and LSC meeting next week, this is surely a topic the LSC parent reps will be asked to provide an updated status?

We would like to again formally request to expedite this ongoing condition to our CPS representatives. We look forward to hearing back on this matter and discussing a bright future!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Onahan LSC Co-Chair
847.338.9165

--

Chuck Swirsky | Senior Advisor, Chief Executive Office
Chicago Public Schools
42 W Madison St, Chicago, IL 60602
Phone: 773-553-1420
Email: cbswirsky@cps.edu

“You don’t make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas.”
— Shirley Chisholm

Re: CPF Funding

From Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Date Tue 3/11/2025 8:01 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc Adam Winters <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>; Charles Chamness <Charlie.Chamness@mail.house.gov>; Kody Keckler <Kody.Keckler@mail.house.gov>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>

Good afternoon,

We are part of the Onahan Elementary local school council and wanted to touch base to check the status of a community project funding grant for Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation field space that was to be included in the Fall 2024 legislative session. We look forward to hearing back from Staff in Congressman Quigley's office. Thank you in advance!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Co-Chair
Onahan LSC
847.338.9165

On Mar 11, 2025, at 2:57 PM, Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Ed,

I'm no longer with Rep. Quigley, but I've copied Rep. Quigley's Deputy Chief of staff, Charlie Chamness, and Kody Keckler, his staffer assisting on Community Project Funding requests.

Best,

Jessica Merritt
Legislative Director
Congressman George Latimer (NY-16)

From: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 3:49 PM

To: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>

Cc: Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: CPF Funding

Good afternoon Jessica and Adam,

I reached out prior with a call into the office and wanted to also follow up via email. We are part of the Onahan Elementary local school council and would like to check the status of the community project funding grant for Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation field space that was to be included in the Fall 2024 legislative session. If you have a moment to respond we look forward to hearing from Congressman Quigley's office. Thank you in advance!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Co-Chair
Onahan LSC
847.338.9165

On Oct 15, 2024, at 1:46 PM, Merritt, Jessica
<Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Hi Mr. Howard,

Just to follow up on Adam's email, as you know, our office submitted a community project funding request for Onahan's outdoor field. The request was \$1,000,000 and we submitted it to the House Appropriations Committee in May 2024. This request was included in the Economic Development Initiatives account of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill at a level of \$850,000.

At this point in time, that bill has not passed the House of Representatives, therefore the project funding has yet to be finalized. We anticipate funding negotiations to restart when Congress returns to Washington in November ahead of the December 20th funding deadline. We will be sure to update you when this funding moves forward.

Best,

Jessica
Jessica Merritt (She/Her)
Legislative Director
2083 Rayburn HOB | (202) 225-4061



From: Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:14 PM
To: ehoward15@hotmail.com

Cc: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Fritz, Dana
<Dana.Fritz@mail.house.gov>

Subject: CPF Funding

Hi Mr. Howard,

I touched base with the staff and the funding has not yet passed into law. Once it is signed into law, the process to release the funds to Onahan will begin which will take additional time. To better assist you with updates going forward, I have cc'd Jessica Merritt and Dana Fritz on this email who handle the bulk of CFPs.

Sincerely,

Adam Winters (He/Him)

District Operations Manager & Veteran Liaison

1925 N. Clybourn Ave STE 402, Chicago, IL 60614 | (773) 267-5926



Re: CPF Funding

From Keckler, Kody <Kody.Keckler@mail.house.gov>

Date Wed 3/12/2025 3:35 PM

To Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc Chamness, Charles <Charlie.Chamness@mail.house.gov>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>; Sklodowski, Maxim <Maxim.Sklodowski@mail.house.gov>

Hi Ed,

Thank you for reaching out! Unfortunately, the matter of FY25 Appropriations is still being worked out. As of yesterday, the House passed a Continuing Resolution for the rest of the fiscal year that would not provide funding for CPFs at all in FY25. If the Senate should pass that bill (which is yet to be determined), we would likely have to start over for FY26. In that case, we would reach out to all of the organizations that we worked with on FY25 CPF applications with next steps.

It's a bit confusing and a lot is up in the air — I'm happy to chat on the phone if it would help! Our DC office number is 202-225-4061.

Best,
Kody

From: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 9:01 PM

To: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>

Cc: Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>; Chamness, Charles <Charlie.Chamness@mail.house.gov>; Keckler, Kody <Kody.Keckler@mail.house.gov>; Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: CPF Funding

Good afternoon,

We are part of the Onahan Elementary local school council and wanted to touch base to check the status of a community project funding grant for Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation field space that was to be included in the Fall 2024 legislative session. We look forward to hearing back from Staff in Congressman Quigley's office. Thank you in advance!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Co-Chair
Onahan LSC
847.338.9165

On Mar 11, 2025, at 2:57 PM, Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Ed,

I'm no longer with Rep. Quigley, but I've copied Rep. Quigley's Deputy Chief of staff, Charlie Chamness, and Kody Keckler, his staffer assisting on Community Project Funding requests.

Best,

Jessica Merritt
Legislative Director
Congressman George Latimer (NY-16)

From: Edward Howard <ehoward15@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 3:49 PM
To: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Marianne Patten <mlpatten@cps.edu>; Evan TRUJILLO <etruji93@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: CPF Funding

Good afternoon Jessica and Adam,
I reached out prior with a call into the office and wanted to also follow up via email. We are part of the Onahan Elementary local school council and would like to check the status of the community project funding grant for Onahan outdoor student athletic and recreation field space that was to be included in the Fall 2024 legislative session. If you have a moment to respond we look forward to hearing from Congressmen Quigley's office. Thank you in advance!

Regards,
Ed Howard
Co-Chair
Onahan LSC
847.338.9165

On Oct 15, 2024, at 1:46 PM, Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov> wrote:

Hi Mr. Howard,

Just to follow up on Adam's email, as you know, our office submitted a community project funding request for Onahan's outdoor field. The request was \$1,000,000 and we submitted it to the House Appropriations Committee in May 2024. This request was included in the Economic Development Initiatives account of the [Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill](#) at a level of \$850,000.

At this point in time, that bill has not passed the House of Representatives, therefore the project funding has yet to be finalized. We anticipate funding negotiations to restart when Congress returns to Washington in November ahead of the December

20th funding deadline. We will be sure to update you when this funding moves forward.

Best,

Jessica

Jessica Merritt (She/Her)

Legislative Director

2083 Rayburn HOB | (202) 225-4061



From: Winters, Adam <Adam.Winters@mail.house.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 12:14 PM

To: ehoward15@hotmail.com

Cc: Merritt, Jessica <Jessica.Merritt@mail.house.gov>; Fritz, Dana <Dana.Fritz@mail.house.gov>

Subject: CPF Funding

Hi Mr. Howard,

I touched base with the staff and the funding has not yet passed into law. Once it is signed into law, the process to release the funds to Onahan will begin which will take additional time. To better assist you with updates going forward, I have cc'd Jessica Merritt and Dana Fritz on this email who handle the bulk of CFPs.

Sincerely,

Adam Winters (He/Him)

District Operations Manager & Veteran Liaison

1925 N. Clybourn Ave STE 402, Chicago, IL 60614 | (773) 267-5926





Patten, Marianne <mlpatten@cps.edu>

Follow-Up | CEO/COO Response

7 messages

Mayfield, Charles <cemayfield@cps.edu>

Mon, Mar 2, 2026 at 3:54 PM

To: Marianne Patten <MLPatten@cps.edu>

Cc: Julie Mcglade <jamcglade@cps.edu>, Ivan Hansen <ihansen2@cps.edu>, Kimberly Watson <kwatson7@cps.edu>

Hi Principal Patten,

Please share the following message with the students of William J. Onahan Elementary School and their families.

Dear Students of William J. Onahan Elementary School,

Thank you for the wonderful letters and beautiful drawings you sent to us. Dr. King and I were very happy to read your messages and see the care and creativity you put into every page. Your ideas, pictures, and words showed how much you care about your school and one another.

We could tell that you worked hard to explain why having a new school field is important to you. You used your voices in a respectful and thoughtful way, and that is what strong student leadership looks like. Dr. King, who used to be an elementary school principal, was especially impressed by your excellent writing and the way you expressed your ideas so clearly. Your literacy skills truly stood out!

We want you to know that your voices matter. Every year, the district holds a capital planning process where schools share their ideas and needs for future building and improvement projects. That process will take place next month, and it is one way your school community can continue sharing this request.

Right now, district funding is being used for projects that address the most urgent needs across many schools. Because of that, there is not currently funding set aside for a new field at Onahan. Sometimes projects like this can move forward when outside partners or additional funding are found, and your advocacy helps keep the idea visible for future opportunities.

Thank you again for speaking up, working hard, and showing such pride in your school. We are proud of you for using your words and creativity to make a difference.

With concurrence from Dr. King, Interim Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer,



Charles E. Mayfield

Chief Operating Officer

42 W. Madison St | Chicago, IL 60602

Operations Assistant: LaTisha Carter

O 773.553.2372

E coo-mayfield@cps.edu

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Just two weeks ago, E4E–Chicago stood before this board and urged you to place a resolution on educator mental health on your agenda. [The resolution](#) calls for a districtwide strategy with clear support, accountability, and measurable outcomes.

We are extremely disappointed that this resolution is not on today's agenda.

As we shared at the last meeting, educator mental health is foundational to student success. And while Chicago Public Schools and district leaders are taking steps to address this issue, those efforts will fall short without a clear, systemwide strategy anchored by this board.

Right now, we lack basic answers: Are educators using existing supports? How many? Are those supports working? Are resources being allocated where they are needed most? Without clear metrics and accountability, we simply don't know.

What we have today is a patchwork. We have programs without a coherent strategy, without transparency, and without a way to measure impact.

This resolution is not a costly mandate or a new budget item. It is a commitment to transparency and accountability. It aligns existing efforts across departments, sets clear goals, tracks progress, and ensures resources are used effectively and equitably. That is the core responsibility of this board.

Every day without action is a day that the voices of hundreds of educators, who have signed a petition calling for this, go unheard.

We invite each of you to [join us on Tuesday, April 28th at 4:30 p.m at the National Public Housing Museum](#). to hear directly from educators, policymakers, and district leaders working on this issue. Those closest to the problem must be part of the solution.

It would be a disservice to our schools if we must return to another board meeting after today and still be asking for movement on this resolution.

Thank you.

Dr. Angel Alvarez, CPS Board Written Public Comments Meeting 4/24/2026

Dear CEO/Superintendent King and CPS Board Members:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding Chicago Public Schools' handling of the May Day events and the decisions surrounding student participation, scheduling, and implementation. As a CPS parent and education activist, I am troubled by the lack of transparency, limited family input, and insufficient planning associated with this initiative.

Initially, families were informed through media reports that classes would be canceled for the day. That plan was later changed with little explanation or opportunity for meaningful community engagement. This shift, communicated without adequate notice or clarity, has contributed to confusion among families and staff and has eroded trust in the decision-making process. Major districtwide actions such as this warrant clear communication, advance planning, and authentic opportunities for families to provide feedback.

Of particular concern is the complete absence of guidance regarding how CPS intends to support students with disabilities during the May Day events. Neither the Memorandum of Understanding nor subsequent public statements have addressed how required supports, accommodations, related services will be provided to students with disabilities. The potential for teacher and staff shortages will further strain a system that fails to meet all the needs of our students. Questions about how CPS will ensure the safety of all students when they are at a large public gathering remain unanswered.

Additionally, questions remain about student safety and logistical preparedness. Large-scale events involving changes to the school day, student movement, or participation in public-facing activities require robust safety planning, staffing, and coordination. To date, CPS has not clearly articulated how these concerns will be addressed, nor how risks to students and staff will be mitigated. These omission raises serious equity and compliance concerns and is evidence that the needs of students with disabilities were not adequately considered in the planning process. The central mantra, *Nothing about us without us*, is routinely ignored when decisions that impact students with disabilities are made.

The financial costs associated with the May Day events also deserve public explanation. In a district facing ongoing resource constraints, underfunded classrooms, and unmet student needs, families and taxpayers have a right to understand how district funds are being spent, what costs are being incurred, and how those expenditures align with CPS's core educational mission.

Finally, it is disappointing that this initiative was not more thoughtfully developed as a meaningful learning experience. With adequate planning, transparency, and collaboration with educators and families, this could have been an opportunity for rich,

standards-aligned instruction incorporating civic engagement, labor history, student voice, and inclusive participation. Instead, the lack of preparation has resulted in uncertainty and concern rather than educational impact. The lesson that is being taught is that CPS continues to overlook the needs of students with disabilities.

I respectfully urge the Board and district leadership to provide clear answers to these concerns, to better center families and students, particularly students with disabilities, in future planning, and to recommit to transparent, inclusive, and educationally grounded decision-making.

Thank you for your time and attention. I look forward to your response and to greater clarity moving forward.

Thank you and be well,

Dr. Angel Alvarez