



# YARMOUTH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Empowering all students

Andrew R. Dolloff, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Shanna H. Crofton  
Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

Zak A. Harding  
Director of Business Services

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**May 14, 2026**  
**Yarmouth School Committee**  
**7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting**  
**Log Cabin**

**Zoom Link: <https://maine.zoom.us/j/89145413755>**

**Agenda**

**I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Roll Call

<input type="checkbox"/> Emily Bryson	<input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Olivares	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Dolloff
<input type="checkbox"/> Anne Fleming	<input type="checkbox"/> Christina Patrick	<input type="checkbox"/> Linnaea Herring
<input type="checkbox"/> Kellie Hall	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Wilbur	<input type="checkbox"/> Elise Garcia de Reynal
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom McGintee		

**II. Agenda Adjustments**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

A Special School Committee meeting was held on April 6, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. at the Superintendent’s Office.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Bryson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Olivares	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Linnaea Herring
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anne Fleming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christina Patrick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elise Garcia de Reynal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kellie Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Wilbur	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom McGintee		

II. Public Comment

III. Executive Session

a. For the purpose of conducting interviews with final candidates for Superintendent, and to discuss candidate qualifications and hiring pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A).

b. For the purpose of discussing contract negotiations with a final candidate for the Superintendent role, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(D).

Motion Anne Fleming to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A), to conduct confidential candidate interviews and to discuss the employment of appointees.

Second Michael Wilbur. Vote 7-0. Student Vote 2-0.

Return to regular session at 9:30 p.m.

IV. Adjournment



45 Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm

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50 A Regular School Committee meeting was held on April 9, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the YHS Alumni  
51 Room.

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53 I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

54 Roll Call

55   x   Emily Bryson        x   Sarah Olivares        A   Andrew Dolloff

56   x   Anne Fleming        x   Christina Patrick        x   Linnaea Herring

57   x   Kellie Hall        x   Michael Wilbur        x   Elise Garcia de Reynal

58   x   Tom McGintee        x   Shanna Crofton

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60 II. Recognition of Yarmouth High School State Championship Robotics Team

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62 III. Agenda Adjustments

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64 IV. Approval of Minutes

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66 A Regular School Committee meeting was held on March 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Log  
67 Cabin.

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69 Motion: Sarah Olivares to approve the March 26, 2026, School Committee minutes as presented.

70 Second: Kellie Hall Vote: 5-0. Student Vote: 2-0.

71

72 V. Reports

73 a. Chairperson – Christina Patrick

74 b. Superintendent – Andrew Dolloff

75 c. Finance Committee – Anne Fleming

76 d. Policy Committee – Sarah Olivares

77 e. Mission Committee – Kellie Hall

78 f. Other Committees or Liaison Reports

79 g. Student Senate - Linnaea Herring and Elise Garcia de Reynal

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81 VI. Public Comment

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83 VII. Unfinished Business

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85 VIII. New Business

86 a. Appointment of Instructional Personnel for the 2026-2027 school year.

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88 Motion Tom McGintee to approve Miranda Eisenhart, Emma Garschagen, Michael Hayashida,  
89 Carran Smith, Jessica Crowley, Gregory Langham, and Jake Haugevik as instructional personnel  
90 with the Yarmouth School Department beginning in the 2026-2027 school year.

91 Second Kellie Hall Vote 7-0. Student Vote 2-0.

92

93 a. Appointment of Superintendent of Schools

94

95 Motion Anne Fleming to approve Shanna Crofton

as the Superintendent of Schools for the Yarmouth School Department as of July 1, 2026.  
Second Michael Wilbur . Vote 7-0 . Student Vote 2-0 .

IX. Executive Session

a. For the purpose of discussing the employment of officials pursuant to  
1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A).

Motion Anne Fleming to enter into Executive Session, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A), for  
the purpose of discussing the employment of officials.

Second Michael Wilbur . Vote 7-0 . Student Vote 2-0 .

Return to regular session at 8:22 p.m.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

V. Reports

- a. Chairperson – Christina Patrick
- b. Superintendent – Andrew Dolloff
- c. Finance Committee – Anne Fleming
- d. Policy Committee – Sarah Olivares
- e. Mission Committee – Kellie Hall
- f. Other Committees or Liaisons
- g. Student Senate – Linnaea Herring and Elise Garcia de Reynal

VI. Public Comment

VII. Unfinished Business

VIII. New Business

- a. Appointment of Administrative Personnel for the 2026-2027 school year
  - i. Sonia Croft, Director of Instructional Support  
*We are pleased to recommend Sonia Croft for this position. Sonia brings 12 years of experience as an Assistant Director of Instructional Support with the South Portland and MSAD6 school systems. Before that, she had 11 years of experience in special education as a teacher, strategist, and behavior consultant. Sonia has a bachelor's degree in Special Education from UMF, a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction in Special Education from Arizona State University, and has taken courses in Administrative Leadership through the University of Southern Maine.*
  - ii. Robert Cody, Principal, Yarmouth High School  
*We are pleased to recommend Robert Cody for this position. Robert brings with him 24 years of experience as a Principal and Head of School. Currently,*

144 *he serves as the Head of School at Mont’Kiara International School in*  
 145 *Malaysia. Previously, he held principal positions at schools in Qatar, Hawaii,*  
 146 *Cambodia, and Colorado. Robert earned a bachelor’s degree in Social*  
 147 *Studies at Molloy University and a master’s degree in Educational Leadership*  
 148 *at Keene State College.*

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155 b. Appointment of Instructional Personnel for the 2026-2027 school year

156 i. Sarah Wheeler, Kindergarten Teacher, William H. Rowe School

157 *We are pleased to recommend Sarah Wheeler for this position. She comes back*  
 158 *to the Yarmouth School Department after a brief absence. She has 4 years of*  
 159 *experience teaching Grade 1 at Rowe School and 4 years in the Saco School*  
 160 *District. Sarah graduated from the University of Maine–Farmington with a*  
 161 *bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education.*

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168 c. Election of first-year probationary teachers to a second one-year contract

169 *Teachers in Maine are provided two one-year probationary contracts before being moved to*  
 170 *a “continuing contract” in their third year. We appoint teachers from their probationary*  
 171 *contracts to either the next probationary year or their first continuing contract year through*  
 172 *the same process followed when hiring them: superintendent recommendation, school*  
 173 *committee appointment, and superintendent issuing of a contract. These teachers are*  
 174 *observed and evaluated thoroughly during their probationary period, and it is not unusual*  
 175 *for several each year to determine that they are not a “best fit” for the Yarmouth Schools.*  
 176 *The names being brought forward this evening represent those we believe contribute*  
 177 *significantly to student learning.*

178  
 179 I recommend the following teachers receive a second one-year probationary contract:

Emily Marsters	Katherine Alexander	180
Megan Josephs	Naomi Couture	181
Jenna Block	Amanda Robson	182
Eliza Kenigsberg	Jake Haugevik	183
Emily Banks	Miranda Eisenhart	184
Emily Shopland		185
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d. Election of second-year probationary teachers to a two-year continuing contract

I recommend that the following probationary teachers receive a two-year contract:

Catherine Gross	Sarah Loranger
Taylor Robison	Robin Seeker
Allyson Hobbs	Julie Kirby
Maria D’Andrea	Julie Marsh
Erika Ouellette-Vigneault	Courtney Doughty
Allison Roberts	Samantha Durham

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e. Artificial turf replacement and playground upgrades

TO: Yarmouth School Committee  
FROM: Andrew Dolloff, Superintendent  
RE: YHS Turf Field and Synthetic Track, HMS and YES Playgrounds  
DATE: May 6, 2026

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I am pleased to present this report outlining the recommended solutions for the facilities' needs at the Yarmouth High School athletic complex (Part I) and the playgrounds at Yarmouth Elementary School and Frank Harrison Middle School (Part II). As you know, these have been ongoing discussions for the past two years, as the existing artificial turf field and synthetic track surface are beyond their expected lifespans and in need of replacement, and the YES and HMS playgrounds require safety and accessibility considerations.

**Part I: Yarmouth High School Artificial Turf and Synthetic Track**

For some historical perspective, please be aware of the following timeline:

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2001: Installation of the first Artificial Turf Field and Synthetic Track at YHS, including lights (Turf 1). The total project cost at that time was \$1.7 million.



*As shown in this 2001 photo, the lighting, track, and artificial turf field were all installed as part of a single project. The bleachers were added in 2005 as a result of the "Our House" project.*

*An interesting side note: The Army National Guard installed the light poles, as reported by the Portland Press Herald in 2001.*

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2005: Our House campaign results in the installation of bleachers at a cost of \$224,000, of which all but \$59,000 was funded through private fundraising. \$53,000 came from Town reserves, and \$6,000 was covered by YHS Athletic gate receipts.

2013: Installation of the second Artificial Turf Field at YHS (Turf 2) and repair and resurfacing of the synthetic track. Total project cost: \$1.5 million, approved by voters at referendum.

*The 2013 repair and replacement project included a new artificial turf surface and resurfacing of the synthetic track (not a total replacement).*



259 **Note:** At the time of the installation of Turf 2, the Town and School Department entered into an  
260 agreement in which YSD took over ownership of the complex (See Appendix 1: Turf  
261 Management Plan 2012) with the understanding that the School Department would maintain a  
262 flat budget amount for Debt Service, setting aside the difference between the budgeted amount  
263 and the required payment each year in an effort to build a reserve account for the installation of  
264 Turf 3. That strategy has yielded \$1.1 million to be applied to this project (See Appendix 2: Turf  
265 Funding Plan 2012).

- 266
- 267 2013-2025: Minor repairs to various locations of both the track and the field surfaces.
- 268
- 269 2025: Maine Track and Tennis provided a quote of \$350,000, not including new  
270 asphalt, disposal, etc., to replace the synthetic track. Consultants would not offer  
271 a resurfacing option due to the condition of the track's subsurface.
- 272
- 273 2026: Formation of Track and Artificial Turf Study Group to consider options for  
274 repairing or replacing Turf 2 and the synthetic track.
- 275

276 As the current track and field systems have been used beyond their 10-year life expectancy,  
277 more frequent repair requests have occurred. The “carpet” (for lack of a better term) has begun  
278 to wear down, with frays, tears, and a thread-worn appearance appearing in many areas. Aging  
279 of the track surface has resulted in bubbling and tears that have required repair and indicate the  
280 need for a full replacement of the track system (surface and substratum).

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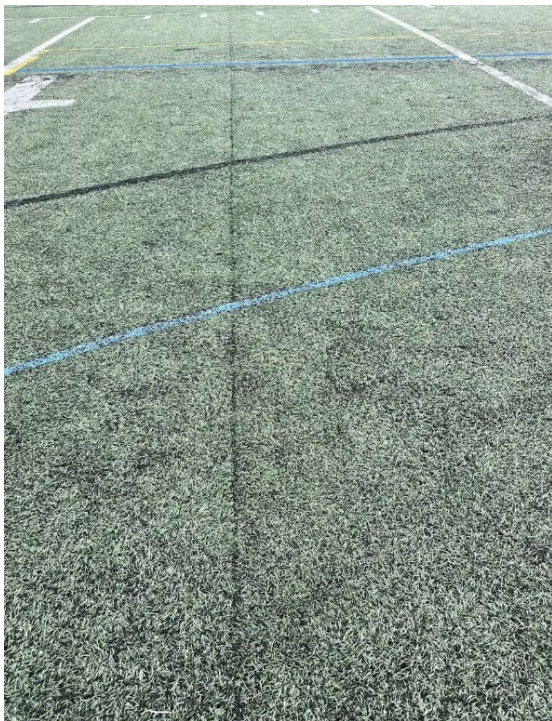
284 **Artificial Turf Field**

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*The 2026 photos to the left and below illustrate many tears that have developed over the past five years. While photos can't quite show the full extent of the damage, the tear in the photo to the left extends toward the lower right and left center of the picture, creating a "flap" that is disruptive to lay and potentially dangerous to athletes.*

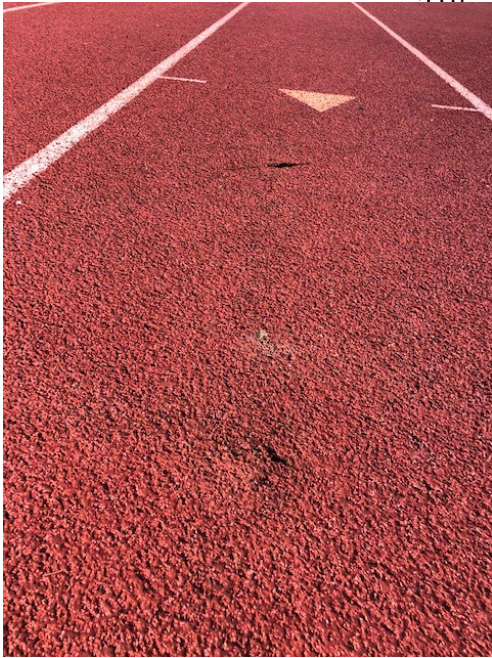
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*Along with tears in the general playing surface, seams that hold the “carpet” together begin to show more wear and separation over time. This major seam across the main portion of the field is typical of the breakdown observed after a dozen years of use. These seams are visible in several locations across the field.*

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### Synthetic Track



*This photo from 2025 shows significant delamination and indicates softening of the asphalt and base layer of the track.*

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337 *Over the past 5 years, several significant repairs have been*  
 338 *made to the track surface. This photo from 2025 shows areas*  
 339 *where the track has been cut and new rubber laid over the*  
 340 *existing asphalt. Consultants indicate this is no longer a*  
 341 *sustainable approach, as the asphalt and base layer beneath*  
 342 *have broken down over the past two decades and require full*  
 343 *replacement.*

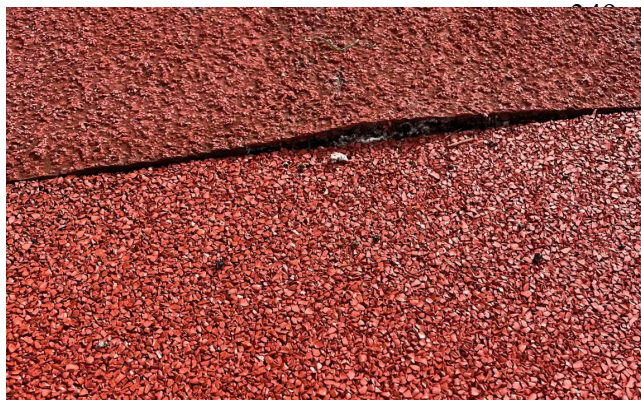
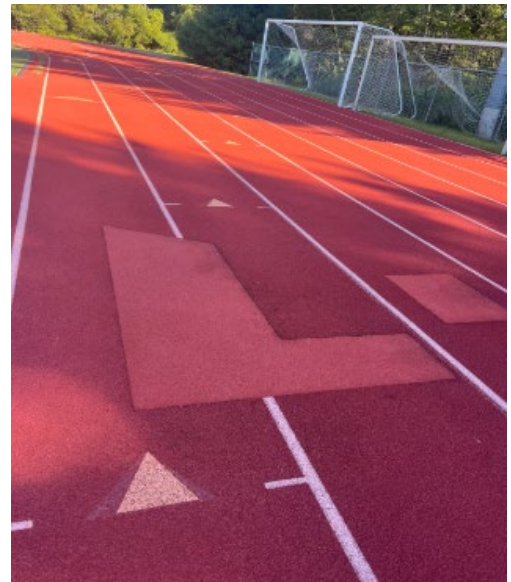
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*This 2026 photo provides a close-up view of a long tear in the track's surface; one of many that have appeared over time.*

356 In the fall of 2025, the School Committee created the Track and Artificial Turf Study Group,  
357 charging the group as follows:

358

359 *This group will be charged with studying the costs and benefits of various field surface*  
360 *solutions, including environmental, health, and financial impacts. The group will work*  
361 *with the district's consultant to make recommendations to the Superintendent and then*  
362 *to the School Committee, with the understanding that the School Committee retains*  
363 *authority to select the desired surface and determine the timeline for voter approval and*  
364 *installation.*

365

366 The group was composed of the following members:

367 Two (2) School Committee members

- 368 • Tom McGintee and Emily Bryson, Chairperson of the Study Group

369 The Director of Business Operations

- 370 • Zak Harding

371 The Director of Facilities

- 372 • Bruce Bickford

373 The Athletic Director

- 374 • Sarah Holmes

375 The Director of Community Services

- 376 • Karyn MacNeill

377 Four (4) Varsity Coaches of programs that use the Track and Turf complex

- 378 • Dorothy Holt (Lacrosse)
- 379 • Nick Orsi (Football)
- 380 • Bre Page (Field Hockey)
- 381 • Josh Hontz (Outdoor Track and Field)

382 Two (2) Parents of high school athletes who use the Track and Turf complex

- 383 • Angela Naveschuk and Paul Lattanzi

384 Two (2) Athletes who compete on the Track and Turf complex

- 385 • Miah Jacobs and Matt LeBlanc

386 One (1) Representative from the Yarmouth Climate Action Board

- 387 • David Ertz

388

389 The group met monthly during January, February, and March. Each time, the group was joined  
390 by consultants from Activitas Inc., a specialized firm focusing on planning, landscape  
391 architecture, civil engineering, and athletic facility design with offices in Greater Boston and  
392 Gorham, Maine. (Activitas installed Turf 2 at the YSH complex in 2013.)

393

394 On pages 6-9 of this memo, I am pleased to present the Track and Artificial Turf Study Group's  
395 report, including their recommended solution for the replacement of the athletic surface  
396 systems at YHS. Following the Study Group's report, I have provided my own research and  
397 recommendations for the School Committee's consideration.

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399 **Yarmouth High School Track and Turf Replacement**  
400 **Study Group Project Recommendations**

401 March 14, 2026

402  
403 The Yarmouth High School Track and Turf Working Group reviewed the condition of the  
404 existing facility and evaluated design recommendations presented by the project consultants. The  
405 group consisted of coaches, athletes, parents, school staff, members of the School Committee  
406 and a member of the Yarmouth Climate Action Board. The original recommendation provided  
407 by Activitas totaled \$2,985,688.93. Throughout the process, the working group carefully  
408 considered the budget and financial impact on the Town. As a result, the current proposal has  
409 been reduced to \$2,584,864.90.

410  
411 After careful discussion and review, the working group reached consensus on the following  
412 recommendations for the replacement and improvement of the track and field complex.

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413  
414 Consideration of Natural Grass Field

415 The working group carefully evaluated the option of converting the field to a natural grass  
416 surface and determined that it is not a viable alternative. The current field supports  
417 approximately 1,000 hours of use annually, including school, community, and recreational  
418 programming, while a natural grass field in Maine can typically support no more than 360 hours  
419 per year. Meeting current demand would require the construction of at least two additional grass  
420 fields. This would increase project costs by approximately \$917,000, excluding any costs  
421 associated with land acquisition and construction of additional fields. Furthermore, annual  
422 maintenance costs for a natural grass field are estimated at approximately \$40,000, versus the  
423 annual maintenance cost of less than \$500 for the turf field maintenance. Given the significant  
424 limitations in field usage and the substantially higher capital and ongoing costs, the working  
425 group does not recommend conversion to a natural grass field.

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426  
427 Replacement of the Synthetic Turf Field

428 Recommendation:

429 The working group recommends a full replacement of the existing turf field. Activitas did the  
430 previous carpet work on the track in 2013. It came with an 8-year warranty. The field is now in  
431 year 13 of its usable life, beyond the original warranty period.

432 Key elements to include:

- 433 • Installation of a new multi-use synthetic turf system using dual fiber turf material and  
434 maintaining thatch.
- 435 • Will maintain existing lines and size designed to support:
  - 436 • Football
  - 437 • Soccer
  - 438 • Boys' and girls' lacrosse
  - 439 • Field hockey
- 440 • These choices were made for their durability, safety, and the experience of the sports  
441 played on the field
- 442 • We can reuse our pad as it has a 25-year warranty which will not be impacted by the  
443 replacement of the carpet.

- The working group evaluated multiple turf types, including slit film, monofilament, and dual fiber systems. Dual fiber turf, which combines slit film and monofilament fibers, was selected due to its durability and performance across multiple sports. The existing field utilizes dual fiber turf and has performed well, supporting a positive experience for athletes.
- There was also discussion regarding thatch versus non-thatch systems. Thatch is designed to help stabilize and retain infill. The current field includes thatch, and feedback from coaches and players indicates a strong preference for its performance. Based on this feedback, the working group recommends maintaining consistency with a thatch-based system in the new field.

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#### Turf Infill System

##### Recommendation:

The working group is recommending an infill of Sand and Crumb Rubber.

##### Points to cover:

- Crumb rubber is made from recycled tires; it creates a cushioned feel to the Turf and is the least expensive infill.
- This is our current infill and the surface has performed very well.
- Based on discussion with the working group member representing the Yarmouth Climate Action Plan, this option was identified as one of the more environmentally responsible choices currently available.
- There were multiple options for infill; factors that were considered were their susceptibility to extreme temperatures (freezing or melting), as well as their impact on the sports played on the field.

Brock Infill was discussed at length; it is an infill made from sustainably grown softwood trees. However, it would cost an additional \$32,837.38, and in discussion with the representative from the Yarmouth Climate Action Plan, he felt the recycled tires are the more sustainable option. The working group also discussed concerns related to PFAS. While PFAS has been identified in some turf systems, it was determined that this was historically associated with a lubricant previously used in turf manufacturing. This is no longer part of current turf systems and is not considered a present concern.

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#### Recycling and Repurposing of the Existing Turf

The working group recommends that the existing turf material be recycled or repurposed where possible as part of the field replacement process.

##### Specifically, the group supports:

- Recycling the majority of the existing turf through appropriate disposal or reclamation programs.
- Salvaging usable sections of the existing turf for community reuse, including potential installation in local batting cages or similar recreational facilities

This approach supports sustainability goals while allowing the district and community to extend the useful life of portions of the existing material.

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#### Full Reconstruction of the Running Track

The track's initial construction was in 2004. The asphalt below the mat is now more than 20 years old and needs to be replaced due to degradation. There are no major concerns with grading

490 or drainage. The project will include regrading the surface, removal of the existing asphalt,  
491 installation of new asphalt, and replacement of the track surface.

492 Recommendation:

493 Recommend complete reconstruction of the running track system.

494 Key components:

- 495 • Removal of existing track surface
- 496 • Replacement of the concrete base / structural pad
- 497 • Installation of a new track surface
- 498 • Final configuration:
  - 499 • 400-meter track
  - 500 • Eight-lane oval
  - 501 • Eight-lane straightaway

502 Complete reconstruction is recommended to ensure long-term durability, proper drainage, and  
503 compliance with current athletic standards.

504 The working group evaluated six track replacement options. The selected paved system is the  
505 most commonly used for high school facilities and represents the most cost-effective option. It  
506 has an average lifespan of approximately 25 years; the current track has reached year 22 of  
507 service.

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509 Improvements to Track and Field Event Areas

510 The working group recommends updating several track and field events to improve safety,  
511 usability, and compliance with competition standards.

512 Recommended improvements include:

513 Long Jump Facilities

- 514 • Construction of new long jump pits with sand catchers
- 515 • Appropriate runway length for training and competition

516 Pole Vault

- 517 • Installation of a dedicated pole vault runway
- 518 • Updated landing and event configuration

519 Shot Put

- 520 • Renovation of the shot-put throwing area to improve functionality and safety

521 Javelin

- 522 • Creation of a formalized javelin throwing area to support track and field programming

523 These improvements will allow the facility to better support both athletic practices and track and  
524 field competitions.

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526 Lighting Upgrade

527 The working group reviewed two options for the existing field lighting:

- 528 • Relamping existing lights (short-term solution)
- 529 • LED lighting retrofit (long-term investment)

530 Based on budgetary concerns the group recommends relamping current lights. A breakdown of  
531 the 25-year cost comparison between relamping and LED retrofit is outlined below:

- 532 • Relamp
  - 533 • Relamp, ballasts and capacitors = \$30,500
  - 534 • Relamp year 12 = \$40,025 (4% escalation each year)
  - 535 • Relamp year 24 = \$64,081 (4% escalation each year)

- 536 • Energy, maintenance and controls costs = \$331,362
- 537 • Total = \$465,968 over 25 years
- 538 • Retrofit LED
- 539 • Retrofit installation = \$397,901.80
- 540 • Energy, maintenance and controls costs = \$100,738
- 541 • Total = \$498,639 over 25 years

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#### Estimated Project Cost

The preliminary opinion of probable project costs for the track and turf renovation is approximately: \$2.58 million

### 547 **Superintendent's recommendation**

548 After receiving the Study Group's report, I sought to better understand the reasons behind their  
549 recommendations. I am confident the Study Group considered all relevant data, and I am  
550 comfortable supporting their recommendation, including one proposed component of the turf  
551 field that was not discussed in their report, which I will address in the following paragraph.

552

#### 553 Turf field recommendation

554 The current turf field (Turf 2) has a "thatch" layer that helps retain the crumb rubber infill. This  
555 layer was necessary in 2013 when Turf 2 was installed. The consultants from Activitas do not  
556 feel it is as critical for the proposed field, as the improved synthetic fibers will prevent  
557 significant loss of infill. However, during discussions of the Study Group, it was clear that the  
558 preferred surfaces athletes play on are those that contain the thatch layer, as it improves  
559 retention of the infill and, therefore, provides a better, more consistent surface (in their  
560 experience). This cost is relatively small (approximately \$60,000) but is worth noting. While  
561 inclusion of the thatch layer will likely mean that Yarmouth's Turf 3 will remain a preferred  
562 surface for athletes for the next decade, our consultants believe the field would be just as  
563 functional and preferable without it. Therefore, I do not support the Study Group's  
564 recommendation to include the thatch layer for Turf 3 as presented. This is the only adjustment  
565 I would make to the field proposal.

566

#### 567 Synthetic track recommendation

568 I recommend adopting the plan for the full replacement of the synthetic track. As shown in the  
569 pictures on page 3, the track – now two decades old – is breaking down beyond the depth of the  
570 rubberized surface, indicating that the substratum needs to be replaced. To continue using the  
571 track safely, resurfacing is required. To complete this work without replacing the base layer  
572 would be shortsighted and wasteful. To best ensure the track is safe for the next two decades,  
573 complete replacement is the wise move.

574

#### 575 Lighting recommendation

576 Finally, I agree with the recommendation to relamp the existing lights rather than retrofit the  
577 facility with LED lighting. The projected additional energy and maintenance costs of \$32,671  
578 over the next 25 years (\$1,307 annually) are not significant enough to justify the \$398,000  
579 upfront cost in the first year (versus the \$30,500 relamping cost).

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Summary

I recommend that the School Committee adopt the Study Group’s proposal for the replacement of the artificial turf field, with the exception of the thatch layer, the replacement of the synthetic track, and the relamping of the lighting fixtures, at an approximate projected cost of \$2.52 million.

**Offsetting the overall cost with reserve funds**

As shown in Appendix 1, the School Department has been preparing for this project since 2012, when Turf 2 was installed, and YSD took over management of the facility (see Appendix 2). Because of the School Department’s adherence to that plan, a reserve fund of just over \$1.08 million is on pace to offset a portion of these costs. This lowers the required bonded amount to \$1.44 million. A rough estimate of the annual payment is \$185,000 (10-year bond at 5% interest).

**Planning for Turf 4**

The cyclical replacement of synthetic field surfaces requires intentional planning to avoid significant bond projects every 10-14 years. The Turf Funding Plan adopted in 2012 provides a good model for ensuring adequate funds are available when needed without causing major disruptions to school funding through local taxes. I propose that the School Department adopt a similar model in preparation for Turf 4, which will likely occur between 2038 and 2040.

Essentially, this plan would require the School Department to maintain the current budget line for existing debt service for the next 12-13 years. The table below illustrates the amount of money to be set aside each year by starting this practice in FY27, as provided in the Proposed FY27 School Department Budget.

Fiscal Year	Scheduled Deb Service	Difference from FY27
2027	2,451,132	16,590
2028	2,418,381	49,341
2029	2,387,627	80,094
2030	2,373,100	94,621
2031	2,383,611	84,110
2032	2,373,605	94,117
2033	2,351,299	116,422
2034	2,331,271	136,450
2035	2,330,217	137,504
2036	2,332,775	134,947
2037	2,334,550	133,172
2038	2,349,246	118,475
2039	2,359,070	108,651

606  
607

This would result in a total contribution of \$1,304,495 to the reserve fund over 13 years. If the

608 turf project is financed for a ten-year period (the low-end life expectancy of the field), and the  
609 School Department is able to once again experience thirteen years of use with the system, the  
610 final two years, when no debt service is due on the field, budgeted funds of approximately  
611 \$400,000 could also be placed in the reserve fund. This would bring the total contribution to  
612 approximately \$1.7 million without increasing the debt service line in the budget in any year  
613 other than FY28, when the new field debt service takes effect.

614  
615 This would likely allow the fourth generation of the field to be funded by the reserve line, with  
616 no additional debt required. The track would likely not need to be replaced at that time,  
617 although resurfacing (a much less expensive project) may occur at some point during Turf 4's  
618 projected lifespan.

619  
620 **Part II: Yarmouth Elementary School and Frank H. Harrison Middle School Playgrounds**  
621 Playground structures and accessibility are important parts of the learning opportunities we  
622 provide for students. Appropriate play is critical to student development – physically, mentally,  
623 and socially. Over the past decade, the structures at Yarmouth Elementary School (YES) and  
624 Harrison Middle School (HMS) have begun to show wear and tear that require replacement.

625  
626 For many years, playground maintenance throughout Yarmouth – including on School  
627 Department spaces – was the responsibility of the Town of Yarmouth, with little (or no)  
628 financial support from the schools. Over the past decade, the School Department (YSD) has  
629 become a more engaged partner in ensuring that playgrounds are safe, accessible, and  
630 appropriate for each grade level. This includes engagement in both the planning and design of  
631 the playgrounds and in funding each project.

632  
633 Examples of YSD planning and funding of playground improvements include:  
634

- 635 • Installation of the Grade 5 playground at YES (as part of the 2022 renovation)
- 636 • Installation of the PreK playground at Rowe School (2023)
- 637 • Upgrades to playground accessibility at YES (2023)
- 638 • Upgrades to the main playground at Rowe School (2025)

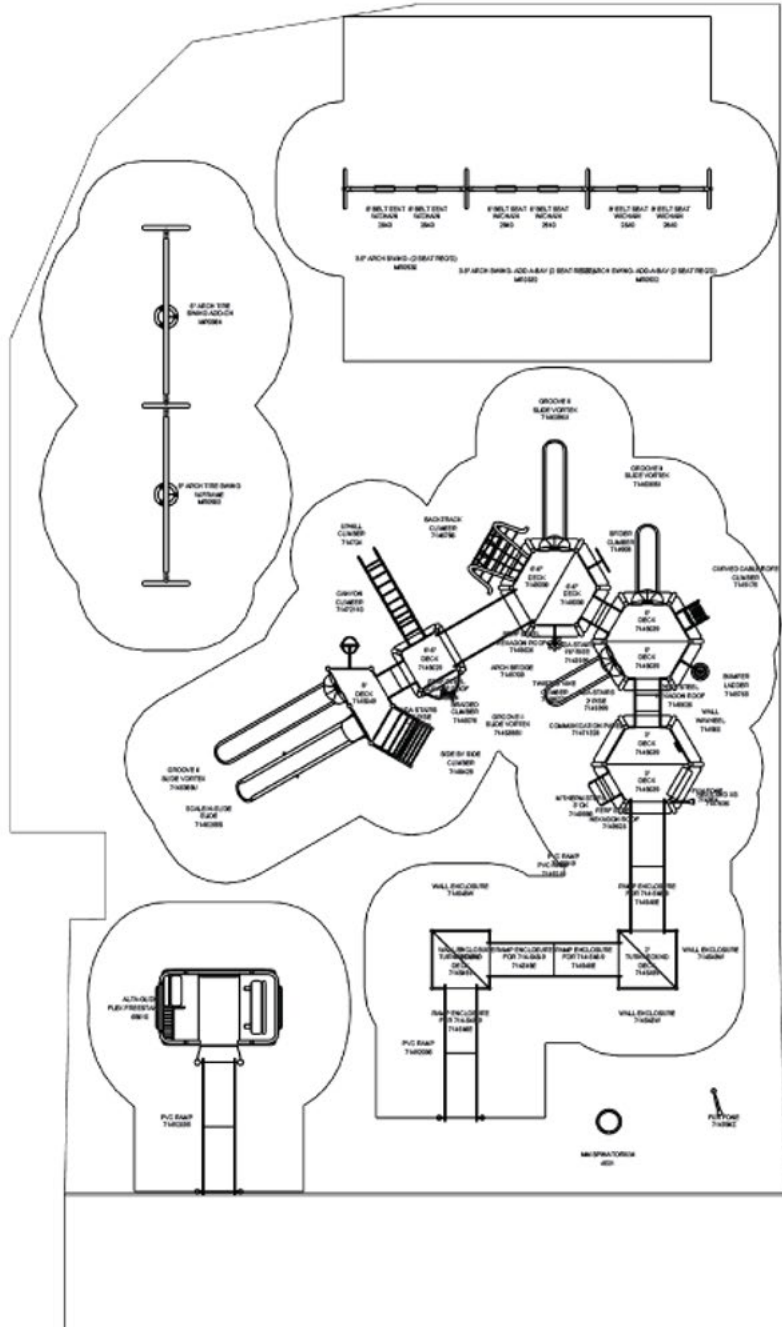
639 To provide safe, accessible play structures for students at YES and HMS, significant work is  
640 required. Most notably at YES, a complete overhaul of the main playground along McCartney  
641 Street is needed, as current structures are failing. Repairs are particularly problematic for  
642 playgrounds, as those repairs must meet industry safety standards, and older structures are no  
643 longer supported by manufacturers. While the layperson may believe a slide could be welded  
644 and sanded by our own maintenance crew or a certified professional, such repair does not meet  
645 industry standards, placing students at risk of injury.

646  
647 To address needs at YES, school leadership joined with Yarmouth Community Services staff  
648 and sought input from playground design consultants to develop a plan to replace play  
649 structures that are at or beyond their life expectancy. This effort resulted in a complete  
650 makeover of the YES main playground, replacing failing swings, slides, and climbing

651 structures, adding accessible play structures, and improving accessibility throughout the  
 652 playground for students with disabilities.

653  
 654 A sketch of the proposed layout for the YES playground is provided below. The total project  
 655 cost for upgrades to the YES playground is estimated to be \$426,372. This will result in a new  
 656 playground with a cohesive layout, accessible elements integrated with other structures, and  
 657 greater accessibility for students with disabilities throughout the entire play area.  
 658

659 **Yarmouth Elementary School Playground Layout**  
 660



**MAINE RECREATION & DESIGN**  
 347 LUNT ROAD  
 BRUNSWICK, ME  
 PHONE NO: Enter Phone No.  
 FAX NO: Enter Fax numbe  
 GROUND SPACE: 54' x 95'-6"  
 PROTECTIVE AREA: 69' x 109'  
 DRAWN BY: Keenan Welzel  
 DATE: 06/16/2025

**Yarmouth Elementary School Playground Total Project Quote**

Quote

## Maine Recreation & Design

347 Lunt Road  
Brunswick, ME 04011

**Name/Address**

Yarmouth Elementary School  
121 McCartney Street  
Yarmouth, ME 04096

Date	Quote No.
06/17/25	51

Item	Description	Quantity	Cost	Total
003	Playground Equipment Design #25006968	1	205848.00	205,848.00
001	Freight Charge Design #25006968	1	9,600.00	9,600.00
004	Installation Charge Design #25006968	1	63,893.50	63,893.50
005	Off-Loading of Playground Equipment Design #25006968	1	1,500.00	1,500.00
013	Removal of Existing Playground Equipment and Safety Surfacing	1	8,735.00	8,735.00
014	Ground Preparation for Playground Turf (Includes Cutting Asphalt)	1	26,688.00	26,688.00
011	Turf Playground Safety Surfacing 7,950 SF with 2" Brock Pad Note: Poured in Place Surfacing Option at \$17.50 psf = \$139,125.00	7,950	13.85	110,107.50
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$426,372.00</b>

664 To address concerns at Harrison Middle School, we propose expanding the play area and adding several  
665 pieces of equipment appropriate for students in grades 6-8.  
666



Miracle Recreation Equip. Co.  
878 E. US Hwy 60  
Monett, MO 65708  
1-888-458-2752

QUOTE: OE26009378  
CUSTOMER: X401D04  
PROJECT: 26008172  
DESIGN NAME: Design 3 Frank  
Harrison Middle - Yarmouth

**Prepared For:**

ERIC WELZEL

MAINE RECREATION & DESIGN  
347 LUNT ROAD  
BRUNSWICK, ME 04011  
207-751-4323 Ext. (phone)

**Project Name & Location:**

Frank H Harrison Middle School  
(Yarmouth)

**Prepared by:**

MAINE RECREATION & DESIGN

Keenan Welzel  
347 LUNT ROAD  
BRUNSWICK, ME 04011  
207-729-9368 (phone)

**Ship To Address:**

Zac Wiest  
Yarmouth Community Services  
161 ~~Mccartney~~ Street  
Yarmouth, ME 04096, USA  
(207) 749-0281 (phone)

**End User:**

Mandy Lewis  
Frank H. Harrison Middle  
School  
220 ~~McCartney~~ Street  
Yarmouth, ME 04096, USA  
+12078462499 (phone)

Quote Number: OE26009378  
Quote Date: 4/28/2026  
Valid For: 30 Days From Quote Date

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**PlayArea\_1**

Product line: ~~KidsChoice~~  
Age group: 5-12\_ASTM

**Global defaults**

Accent Climber	GREEN
Accent Climber 01	BLUE
Accent Climber 02	RED
Accent Climber 03	RED
Accent Handhold	GREEN
Clamp	GREEN
Leg	BLUE
Post	GREEN
Post - FS	BLUE
<del>Rockite</del>	RED
Rope - Swing	BLUE
Swing Seat	TAN
<del>Toprail</del>	BLUE
Touch Up Paint	

667

**Components**

Part Number	Description	Qty	Weight	Unit Price	Total
2740	SWG PART THERAPEUTIC SWG SEAT W/CHAIN (8' TR)	1.00	135.00	1,680.00	1,680.00
2840	SWG PART SLASH PROOF SEAT W/CHAIN (8' TR)	5.00	10.00	168.00	840.00
4541	CROSSWAY CLIMBER LARGE	1.00	445.00	7,741.00	7,741.00
4542	CROSSWAY CLIMBER SMALL	1.00	185.00	3,477.00	3,477.00
4549	VECTOR PASS	1.00	455.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
714552	5" OD X 136" POST (3' TO 5' DKS)	4.00	75.00	480.00	1,920.00
7146955	CIRCLES CLIMBER ONLY	1.00	130.00	2,292.00	2,292.00
925920Z	TOUCH UP PAINT KIT - <u>FREESTANDING</u> (NO PRICE)	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MR0930	3.5" ARCH SWING- (2 SEAT REQ'D)	1.00	286.00	2,822.00	2,822.00
MR0932	3.5" ARCH SWG- ADD-A-BAY (2 ST REQ'D)	2.00	179.00	1,694.00	3,388.00
MR0938	3.5" MULTI-USER ARCH SWING	1.00	375.00	4,587.00	4,587.00

**RiskSign Included**

Product line: Freestanding  
Age group:

**Global defaults**

Post - FS

**Components**

Part Number	Description	Qty	Weight	Unit Price	Total
787Z	RISK MANAGEMENT SIGN - ENGLISH (NO PRICE)	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Additional Items**

Part Number	Description	Qty	Weight	Unit Price	Total
105295	BAG ZIPLOCK 12" X 14" X <u>4MIL</u> (OFFICE USE)	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
925961	THUMB DRIVE 2GB - MREC	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INSTALL BOOK	INSTALL BOOK FOR PP ORDERS	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Totals:**

Equipment Weight:	2,719.00 lbs
Equipment List:	\$35,747.00
Equipment Price:	\$35,747.00
Products Subtotal:	\$35,747.00
Freight:	<u>\$2,190.97</u> Code: Needed
Installation:	\$14,300.00
SubTotal:	\$52,237.97
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$52,237.97</b>

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673

The Quote for the HMS playground does not include sitework, which is estimated at \$55,000, bringing the projected total cost for this project to \$107,238.

674 **SUMMARY OF PROJECTED COSTS**

675

676	Track, Turf and Lighting at Yarmouth High School Athletic Complex	\$2,524,865
677	Playground at Yarmouth Elementary School	\$426,372
678	Playground at Harrison Middle School	\$107,238
679		<hr/>
680		<b>\$3,058,475</b>

681 Bonded for 10 years at 5%, the impact on debt service in the annual YSD operating budget will be  
682 \$389,280. This represents an increase on the overall operating budget of 0.9%.

683

684 **NEXT STEPS**

685 I recommend that the School Committee deliberate on this recommendation and that they consider a  
686 motion to: ***Present to the Town Council a request for a Municipal Bond Project in the amount of***  
687 ***\$3,068,475 for the purpose of upgrading the playgrounds at Yarmouth Elementary School and Frank***  
688 ***Harrison Middle School and replacing the artificial turf, synthetic track, and outdoor lighting at the***  
689 ***Yarmouth High School athletic complex.***

690

691 The Council will be encouraged to take action on this proposal, hopefully choosing to present the voters  
692 in town with a bond question in November, 2026.

693  
694  
695

**Appendix 1: Turf Funding Plan 2012**

696  
697 An advisory task force was established jointly by the Town Council and the School Committee for the  
698 purpose of making recommendations to the Town Council and Yarmouth School Committee regarding  
699 the following:

- 700  
701 a. Prioritization and cost identification of the most important project elements and identification of  
702 additional project aspects and amenities that may be reasonably excluded, deferred, or held for funding  
703 availability.  
704 b. A recommended budget, scope of services, and timeline for final engineering, design, cost estimating  
705 and bid and construction contract document development.  
706 c. Recommended practices and budget for construction contract supervision and administration.  
707 d. Recommended financing terms and conditions, subject to a referendum approval to be submitted to  
708 the citizens of Yarmouth not prior to November, 2012  
709 e. Recommended use and management policies for maximum sustainable use and beneficial return to  
710 the Town and athletes from the facility.  
711 f. Recommended future maintenance and capital re-investment practices to be adopted by the Town  
712 Council and/or School Committee  
713 g. Other related concerns and considerations as the Task Force may identify and recommend.  
714

715 While the advisory task force recommended that debt service payments for the \$1.5 million bond that was  
716 approved by the Yarmouth voters in November, 2012 will be carried on the town side, the group also  
717 recommended that a reserve fund be established by the school department and contributions be made to  
718 that fund such that adequate funds will be available for the third cycle of turf renovations/replacement.  
719

720 Specifically, the School Committee will pledge (and the Town Council will require) that beginning in FY  
721 14 the School Committee annually budget a contribution to a capital reserve to be established for future  
722 repairs, replacements and improvements to the facility (turf, track, lights, fencing, bleachers, drains,  
723 etc.). The athletic capital reserve fund balance shall be no less than the amount established in the chart  
724 below, which is based upon cumulative contributions from the difference between the debt service  
725 obligation on the 2002 school improvement bonds for the upcoming fiscal year and \$1,422,622 (the FY  
726 13 debt service budget), not to exceed \$85,000 annually. Contributions to this fund may be made through  
727 gate receipts, field use fees, undesignated fund balances, and annually budgeted amounts. This obligation  
728 shall remain through FY 2025 (which should generate no less than \$708,930 plus interest earnings  
729 thereon). This athletic capital reserve fund can be used for other athletic capital needs, should the balance  
730 exceed the goals listed below.  
731

FYE 6/30	Annual	Cumulative
FY 13	\$0	\$0
FY 14	\$25,197	\$25,197
FY 15	\$17,122	\$42,319
FY 16	\$7,497	\$49,816
FY 17	\$19,222	\$69,038
FY 18	\$44,892	\$113,930
FY 19	\$85,000	\$198,930
FY 20	\$85,000	\$283,930
FY 21	\$85,000	\$368,930
FY 22	\$85,000	\$453,930
FY 23	\$85,000	\$538,930
FY 24	\$85,000	\$623,930
FY 25	\$85,000	\$708,930

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## Appendix 2: Turf Management Plan 2012

An advisory task force was established jointly by the Town Council and the School Committee for the purpose of making recommendations to the Town Council and Yarmouth School Committee regarding issues pertaining to both the funding and management of the turf field and facilities. Such recommendations are designed for maximum sustainable use and beneficial return to the Town and athletes from the facility and include future maintenance practices and responsibilities to be adopted by the Town Council and/or School Committee.

The task force recommends that the town continue maintenance through the Yarmouth Community Services (YCS) Parks Division, unchanged from current and past practice. The Parks Division shall perform all routine maintenance, such as mowing, watering, lining, coordinating specialized and/or contractual maintenance, port-a-potty maintenance (coordinated with an outside vendor), trash and rubbish removal, general grounds and bleacher clean-up, and preparing athletic fields and facilities for regular MPA season events. The school department had previously assumed responsibility for the lighting management and CMP bills and that will continue.

The town and schools will continue the current practice of scheduling athletic fields, including the turf field. Athletic game and practice schedules shall be forwarded to Community Services for input into ActiveNET, the scheduling software. In addition to Yarmouth High School athletic events, youth sport leagues, adult leagues, and community members may request use of the facilities through YCS. Final approval decisions for use of the facility are made by the School Department. Appropriate insurance riders are secured from outside users. If fees are assessed, they are invoiced and collected by YCS. All fees in excess of personnel and other costs shall be deposited to the athletic capital reserve fund, maintained by the Yarmouth School Department. Policies on use (fees, signage, dogs permitted, smoking, foul language, respect for game officials, practice times/permissions) will be determined by the school department.

“Owner” decisions will be vested in the School Department going forward rather than through the Town Manager/Town Council (e.g. decisions to add amenities to the facility or to remove snow from the turf) go to the Yarmouth School Department or the School Committee for a determination. Once the improvements contemplated in the Nov 2012 authorized turf field bond referendum are completed, the school shall be responsible for planning and authorizing any future or additional capital improvements which may be deemed necessary, prudent and desirable. On any matters requiring permits (e.g. expansion of bleachers, change in hours, amendment to night use policy enacted by the Zoning/Planning Board in 2000), the School will be the “applicant.” Additionally, the athletic facility property that includes the turf will be deemed a “school” facility when allocating insurance premium.

This plan can be modified, as needed, upon agreement by both the superintendent and the town manager.

774 f. Consideration of Policy JICJ – Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic  
775 Devices for a first reading

776  
777 Governor Mills signed into law the FY27 state budget, which included the following language:  
778

779 **23. Cellular telephone policy.** *By August 1, 2026, a school board shall adopt and implement a policy*  
780 *prohibiting student use of personal electronic devices for the duration of the school day, from starting bell*  
781 *to dismissal bell. The policy must restrict student use of cellular telephones and other personal electronic*  
782 *devices with Internet or cellular network capabilities. The Department of Education, in coordination with*  
783 *the Maine School Management Association or a successor organization and other relevant stakeholders,*  
784 *shall make available a model policy for school boards. The model policy must include exceptions for*  
785 *compliance with a student's individualized education program, a documented accommodation under*  
786 *Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 United States Code, Section 794 (2026) regarding*  
787 *an individual student, the delivery of prescribed medical care as outlined in a student's individualized*  
788 *health care plan and language support services for a student who is an emergent English language learner*  
789 *when no other translation option is available.*

790  
791 **Purpose**

792 The School Committee recognizes that many students possess personal electronic devices (PEDs),  
793 including mobile phones and other devices. PEDs may not be used in any manner that disrupts the  
794 instructional process, is harmful to others, or violates School Committee policies or school rules.

795  
796 The Yarmouth School Department recognizes the importance of and is obligated to ensure the privacy  
797 and safety of all students and educators in all schools and on school grounds. Limiting the use of student  
798 personal devices creates safer schools that are more conducive to learning environments and supports the  
799 academic, physical, and mental well-being of all students.

800  
801 **Definitions**

- 802 • Instructional Time: Educator-led time dedicated to teaching and learning.
- 803 • Personal Electronic Devices: Cell phones, smartphones, headphones or audio earpieces, handheld  
804 games, smartwatches, eyeglasses, tablets, or other devices used for creating, accessing,  
805 processing, protecting, monitoring, storing, retrieving, displaying, or transmitting data.
- 806 • School Day: Time from the first bell to dismissal (“bell-to-bell”) during which instruction can be  
807 provided, including lunch time, in-between classes, passing time, advisory, and recess.
- 808 • School Grounds: A school building, property on which a school building or facility is located,  
809 and property that is owned, leased, or used by a school for a school-sponsored activity, function,  
810 program, instruction, or training, including school-organized transportation.
- 811 • Storage Options: Identified place, determined by school administration, where student personal  
812 devices are stored during the school day/instructional time and students access and retrieve at the  
813 identified appropriate times. This could include, but is not limited to, a student’s backpack or  
814 locker, a locked pouch, or other designated school space.

815  
816 The following provisions apply to student use of cell phones and other electronic devices:

- 817  
818 ~~A. Students are prohibited from using privately owned electronic devices including but not limited~~  
819 ~~to mobile phones, MP3 players, handheld computers/PDAs, and electronic games at school or~~  
820 ~~during school activities except when the teacher or building principal authorizes use for a specific~~  
821 ~~educational, health or safety purpose, as indicated in each school’s student handbook. During the~~  
822 ~~school day, bell-to-bell, students are restricted from unauthorized access to and use of their~~  
823 ~~personal devices. While students may bring a personal device to school, the device must be~~

824 silenced, turned off, and stored throughout the duration of the school day - or until students  
825 otherwise leave school grounds - in the storage option determined by the school administration.

826  
827 The school administration will develop procedures to implement this policy, including: (1)  
828 storage options that may require additional school space or school staff; (2) enforcement and  
829 appropriate progressive disciplinary rules and procedures; and (3) addressing exceptions for  
830 medical and other approved needs as described below. Additional procedures will be developed  
831 for school-sponsored events outside of the school day that may include field trips, sporting  
832 events, and club activities.

- 833
- 834 B. The use of ~~mobile phones, digital cameras, watches, or any PED~~ personal electronic device as a  
835 recording device is strictly prohibited in locker rooms, bathrooms, and other places where privacy  
836 is generally expected. In all other school locations, permission must be obtained before  
837 photographing or video- or audio-recording any other person.
- 838
- 839 C. Students shall not e-mail, post to the Internet or otherwise electronically transmit images or  
840 recordings of other individuals taken at school without first obtaining their permission.
- 841
- 842 D. ~~School administrators may designate appropriate times, places, and reasons when mobile phones~~  
843 ~~and other listening devices may be used (e.g., during lunch periods, study halls, or on school~~  
844 ~~buses traveling to school activities).~~
- 845
- 846 E. The use of a mobile phone or other electronic device in any manner that violates School  
847 Committee policy or school rules is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to violations of  
848 the student code of conduct. If a School Committee policy or school rule is violated, the teacher  
849 or school administrator may confiscate the device for the remainder of the school day. Student  
850 mobile phones and other electronic devices may be subject to search if there is reasonable  
851 suspicion of a violation.
- 852
- 853 F. Students who violate School Committee policy or school rules will be subject to disciplinary  
854 consequences which may include:
- 855 a. Confiscation of the device until the end of the school day;
- 856 b. A conference with the student's parent/guardian;
- 857 c. Exclusion of the device from school for an extended period of time;
- 858 d. Penalties up to suspension or expulsion from school, depending upon the nature and  
859 circumstances of the violation and the student's prior disciplinary record; and
- 860 e. Referral to law enforcement.
- 861
- 862 G. ~~PEDs~~ Personal electronic devices may be subject to search if there is reasonable suspicion that a  
863 student is violating School Committee policies, procedures or school rules, or engaging in other  
864 misconduct.
- 865
- 866 H. School administrators may confiscate a ~~PEd~~ personal electronic device for as long as necessary  
867 to complete their investigation. Students violating these rules will be subject to discipline  
868 consistent with the nature of the offense and the student's disciplinary record.
- 869
- 870 I. Evidence of illegal activities involving ~~PEds~~ personal electronic devices may be referred to  
871 appropriate law enforcement authorities, and a building administrator may give a device to law  
872 enforcement authorities upon request.
- 873

874 J. The Yarmouth School Department shall not be responsible for the loss, theft, or damage to cell  
875 phones or other electronic devices that students bring ~~with them~~ to school or school activities or  
876 use on school transportation.  
877

878 The Superintendent/designee may develop additional rules to implement this policy. The policy and rules  
879 will be communicated to students and parents through the student handbook and/or the student code of  
880 conduct.  
881

882 **Exceptions**

883 The District shall make exceptions for student personal device use that provide access to assistive  
884 technology necessary to comply with individualized student 504 plans, Individualized Education Plans  
885 (IEPs), and/or plans to support emergent multilingual learners (MLs) with appropriate language access  
886 programs and services to ensure the provision of appropriate, meaningful public education. The allowable  
887 exceptions must be written into the student’s identified plan and approved by the appropriate team or  
888 coordinator.  
889

890 The policy must be implemented equitably to ensure that students who use personal devices are fully  
891 included and not subject to stigma. Students who receive an exception to this policy should participate  
892 alongside all other students and not be separated unless in accordance with their plan.  
893

894 The District shall also make exceptions for student medical and/or family emergency needs in accordance  
895 with this policy.  
896

897 **Communication About the Policy**

898 The policy shall be distributed to students, families, educators through each school’s handbook and  
899 posted to the Yarmouth School Department website.  
900

901 As part of the school emergency planning, schools will have in place a comprehensive communications  
902 plan utilizing school-provided communication tools, such as school phones, when students and families  
903 need to communicate with each other during the school day.  
904

905 **Policy Compliance**

906 The District recognizes the importance of administrative leadership in setting expectations and creating a  
907 climate that is safe, conducive to learning, and non-discriminatory. The school administration is  
908 responsible for upholding and enforcing the policy.  
909

910 Cross Reference:

911 JIC–Student Code of Conduct

912 JIH–Questioning and Searches of Students

913 Adopted: March 23, 2023  
914  
915  
916  
917  
918  
919

920 IX. Executive Session

- 921
- 922 a. Superintendent Evaluation, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A)
  - 923 b. Board Self-Evaluation, pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405(6)(A)

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Return to public session at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ pm