

From: "McCann, John" <John.McCann@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: RE: Lights at Butler Field
Date: June 14, 2019 at 11:48:12 AM EDT
To: "Mayor@Scarsdale.com" <Mayor@Scarsdale.com>
Cc: "rpappalardi@scarsdaleschools.org" <rpappalardi@scarsdaleschools.org>

Dear Mayor and the BOT,

As an empty nester I have heard many opinions from a cross section of people about the lights at Butler Field. Thru my many years in Scarsdale, I have played in games, attended games, coached games and announced games across all sports and genders for a number of years. Here are some thoughts about Butler Field and SHS sporting events in general:

- Sound system: Our AD has already discuss/mentioned upgrading the sound system. Just as LED lights stop light pollution, i am sure a new upgraded sound/speaker system would do the same (as opposed to our current system from the x year...1990's(a guess). Plus most games do not have announcing.
- Furthermore, the BOE has examined limiting announcing which to me is a reasonable compromise by the administration as opposed to a hard and fast time limit.
- Crowd noise: A dirty little secret. Whether during the day or at night or on weekends, besides parents and family and an occasional friend, no one comes to any games except football and playoff games.
- As for playoff games: At best, I have never seen the bleachers filled to capacity, let alone spilling into the walkways. Only sectional semis or finals get any numbers which are still small (see previous sentence). While Scarsdale teams always try hard, the neighbors should be made aware that sectional finals are not the norm.
- In the case of football and in fact for all sports, an early season game will get an above average crowd when hope springs eternal. If they aren't winning, no one shows. If there is cold, wind or rain (as in fall/spring weather) no one shows either. SATs the next day, no one shows. Games moved due to Jewish holidays, no one shows. Games on a school night, no one shows. Other Varsity sports playing at the same time, no one shows. Lastly, no one shows up for Freshman and JV games period.
- Practices: no crowds, no traffic, no announcing.

In addition, I live across from a school and I can tell you first hand, we get as many benefits as we do detriments from our location. My wife and I both agree, that we gladly make the trade-off of dealing with traffic

and busses and kids making gleeful noise to have one of the “biggest backyards” in Scarsdale. Furthermore, from the unsolicited letters we have received from people who want to purchase our home, the ease of going to school for our kids is a HUGE bonus to prospective purchasers. As they say in the Real Estate biz: Location, Location, Location.

In the end, lights will let all our school teams and community ISO teams play at an advantageous time for the participants enjoyment as opposed to being shoe horned in or cancelled or cut short to due sunset.

We have a fantastic turf field. Please let our entire community take full advantage of its benefits.

Thank you for all your time and efforts on behalf of Scarsdale .

John McCann
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