



## DEERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 113  
1959 North Waukegan Road  
Deerfield, Illinois 60015-1897

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August 4, 2020

Dear Ms. Jodi Shapira and Dr. Bruce Law -

I kindly request that you read this letter in its entirety on August 10, 2020, during the President's Report section of the 7:00 pm District 113 Board of Education (BOE) meeting.

District 113 School Board Members -

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Mike Danielewicz, VP of the DHS Athletic Booster Club, and myself met with Ms. Shapira and Dr. Law. One of the things we discussed was the DHS Athletic Booster Club's written proposal for support of the digital scoreboard projects. As you know, the DHS Athletic Department, on behalf of the DHS Athletic Booster Club, shared this written proposal on January 9<sup>th</sup> with the BOE. On March 18<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Kathy Anderson again presented this written proposal at the BOE meeting. The proposal stated that the DHS Athletic Booster Club would provide \$100,000 to District 113 to be used toward the digital scoreboard on Adams Field and \$50,000 for additional scoreboard(s) in 2022; a total contribution of 55% of the digital scoreboard bid (\$271,055). Subsequent to this meeting, we advised Ms. Shapira and Dr. Law of the more than \$150,000 in Letters of Intent the Booster Club has from local businesses and community advertisers. These advertisers are waiting to sign DHS Athletic Booster Club Advertising contracts, if and when, District 113 moves forward with the digital scoreboards.

Also, during our July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, we discussed the upcoming Booster Club Executive Board meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup> and the DHS Athletic Booster Club Monthly meeting on August 4<sup>th</sup>. During our Booster Club meeting this evening (8/4), we discussed the status of the digital scoreboard project and next steps to be taken for the Booster Club with regards to this capital expense. At this meeting, a motion was presented and *approved* as follows:

If a decision is made by District 113 Board of Education (BOE) to take no action on the existing digital scoreboard Request For Proposal (RFP) in the amount of \$271,055 *or* if the RFP expires on 9/15/2020 (90 days after effective on 6/15/2020), the DHS Athletic Booster Club will release \$50,000 of the \$100,000 designated as Restricted Funds for the digital scoreboard. The \$50,000 will be transferred from Restricted Funds to the General Fund to be used for 2020-2021 funding requests, general purchases, etc. By taking this action, the DHS Athletic Booster Club is withdrawing the written proposal, dated 1/9/2020, for the digital scoreboard projects.

We recognize the challenging times that we are facing as a community and the difficult decisions that need to be made. As a non-profit organization, we too have many challenges to consider as we plan for the future. At this time, we do not wish to maintain a large cash reserve for projects that do not have a start date. Instead, we will move forward based on the wishes of the DHS Athletic Booster Club and our members and will refocus our efforts on 2020-2021 funding requests that support our mission. We plan to invest in facilities, equipment, and support Athletic Department and Coaches requests that can have an immediate and positive impact on our student-athletes this upcoming school year.

For more than 2.5 years the DHS Athletic Booster Club has worked with the Athletic Department, Athletic Directors, Dr. Kathy Anderson, and the BOE to make the digital scoreboard on Adams Field a reality. We strongly believe in this project and the other scoreboard projects and the incredible long-term benefits they will eventually provide for our student-athletes and the entire Deerfield community.

Here are few of the reasons why we support the digital scoreboard...

1. The digital scoreboard will be a long-term investment by District 113 that will benefit 10,000+ students, over the next 25 years, as well as the entire Deerfield community.
2. DHS Sport Teams that use the Adams Field will benefit from this enhancement during games and during practices (Field Hockey, Boys and Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Boys and Girls Track & Field, Football and Warrior Dance Team). In addition, the DHS Marching Band and Physical Education classes will also see benefits from this facility improvement.
3. Advertising from the digital scoreboard will serve as a DHS Athletic Booster Club revenue generating vehicle for years to come. Revenue generated from the proposed digital scoreboard will be allocated *back to the DHS Athletic Booster Club* and used for the 30 different sports teams and 900+ student-athletes by way of facility improvements, equipment, athletic scholarships, leadership training programs, senior-athlete award recognition, concussion baseline testing, etc.
4. Students interested in sports broadcasting and similar media fields at DHS will have additional *educational* opportunities to obtain hands on experience.
5. Enhancement of the spectator experience and engagement for all high school contests and events held on Adams Field. This will bring out the community and showcase our high school.
6. Be a tool to help us celebrate the success of all sports teams and enhance senior night presentations, service projects, team recognitions, graduations, etc.
7. Reliability and functionality for years to come.

On behalf of the DHS Athletic Booster Club, we would like to thank Ms. Shapira, Dr. Law, Nate Flannery, Gayle Luehr, Randy Oberembt, Robert Ruiz, and Kathy Anderson for their tremendous support and leadership. We look forward to collaborating with you on this capital expense project when the BOE is ready to move forward.

If either of you or any of the District 113 School Board Members have questions, please reach out to me at the number below. Stay Safe and Healthy! **GO WARRIORS!**

Warm Regards,  
Larry Letwat  
President, DHS Athletic Booster Club  
312 320-6029