

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Revitalization of track and field at Applewood Heights Secondary School**

**Updated: May 2018**

#### **New/revised questions as of May 15, 2018**

##### **What is the distance between the track and property lines?**

In response to resident concerns, the track will be moved south of the property line. The distance from the property line to the edge of the walking/running track will be approximately 6 metres. Originally, it was designed to be 1.01 metres or 3.3 feet (same as existing track).

The Peel District School Board is considering enhanced landscaping between the new track location and the neighbouring properties, providing an additional layer of privacy.

##### **Will the fence be locked when not rented to permit holders? Or, will community members be able to access the track?**

A fence will be erected and locked at night to prevent activity that may otherwise disturb neighbours. The walking/running track will remain accessible to community, provided it has not been permitted out and/or is **not** being used by the school board—no different than how the facilities are operated currently. The Peel board is looking into setting aside free “community hours” for use of the field.

##### **Do the upgrades require a building permit?**

No. The upgrades do not necessitate the requirement of obtaining a building permit, as none of the upgrades fall within the jurisdiction of the Ontario Building Code.

##### **Will additional communication be provided to Applewood Heights Secondary School families and residents?**

The Peel District School Board will provide communication updates, as needed, regarding the project to Applewood Heights Secondary School families and residents to the school property through the school website.

##### **Is the use of the Applewood Heights facilities changing?**

No. Currently, the facilities are processed through a Peel District School Board permit process. Under the agreement with Community Sports Partners, they will partner with the Peel board to administer the permits. The nature of the activities will not change. Therefore, the use of the facilities will not be changing as a result. Community Sports Partners will act as “facility managers” with oversight by the Peel board.

##### **Will the field’s lights remain turned on when permits are not booked?**

The field’s lighting system will operate in accordance with the permit agreement and City of Mississauga’s bylaws. The lights will be on automatic timers, which will turn off at the end of a permit (no later than 11 p.m., as in accordance to the city bylaw), or when not in use.

**What are the timelines for construction?**

We expect the renovations to the Applewood Heights school track and field to begin in May, with an estimated completion date of September 2018.

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**New questions as of April 26, 2018****Why are permits booked until 11 p.m.?**

The agreement was based on City of Mississauga [Parks By-law 186-05](#), which allows permits for parks and fields to be open until 11 p.m. All by-laws must be adhered to under the terms of the agreement.

**How much light overflow will there be beyond the field?**

The LED lights—these are not floodlights—will be directionally focused with limited light overflow confined to the track. There will be no spill into the adjacent residential properties.

**What are the elevation heights of the berms?**

The berms are 6 feet in height from the surface of the field (with a 3 to 1 slope).

**Will the trees along the property line (between the houses and field) be removed during construction?**

No. There are no plans to remove already established trees.

**Will water run-off be increased because of the facility improvements?**

No. The field design contemplates the collection and controlled discharge at rates that are equal to or less than existing. The design was reviewed by an engineer and the City of Mississauga.

**How will the noise be controlled?**

The noise levels emitted from the field could be very similar to the noise levels at various fields spread throughout the city. The proposed berms are intended to direct noise down onto the field and reduce transmission of noise to adjacent properties. As well, to reduce disruption, City of Mississauga [Noise Control By-law 360-79](#) will be enforced at the field at Applewood Heights.

**Is the new track and field larger than the existing facilities at the school?**

The track and field will keep the same size and configuration.

**Did the land require zoning changes by the City of Mississauga?**

No. The Planning Department at the City of Mississauga reviewed the proposed improvements at Applewood Heights and no changes were required.

**Will any new structures be built on the property?**

This track and field improvement does not include any new buildings.

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**Will there be a public consultation and/or meeting for the construction at Applewood Heights Secondary School?**

No, a public meeting is not planned. The project includes revitalizing the existing track, field and facilities at the school. As of Monday, April 23, drawings of the project will be available in the front lobby of Applewood Heights Secondary School.

**What time will construction take place?**

The majority of construction will take place Monday to Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. There may be instances where work is completed on the weekend.

**What is the partnership between the Peel board and Community Sports Partners?**

The Peel District School Board entered into an agreement with *Community Sports Partners* for the construction and operation of a revitalized sports field at Applewood Heights Secondary School. The Peel board is covering the cost of the design and construction of the walking/running track and *Community Sports Partners* is covering all remaining design and construction costs associated with these improvements, including the artificial field and maintenance-related costs. The Peel board will retain ownership of the field.

**Who is Community Sports Partners?**

*Community Sports Partners* currently operates a number of amateur sports leagues across the province, along with the operation of facilities, such as the one at Applewood Heights Secondary School. *Community Sports Partners* looks to establish mutually beneficial partnerships with organizations

**What are the details of the partnership between the Peel District School Board and Community Sports Partners?**

The partnership between the Peel District School Board and Community Sports Partners is simply an agreement for the purpose of administering permits for the use of the track and field in the evenings and weekends. The Peel board retains ownership of the property and the school will have priority use of the field during the school day, and during additional hours as per the agreement with Community Sports Partners.

**Will the field be covered by a dome?**

The Peel District School Board has indicated that it is not constructing a dome at Applewood Heights Secondary School.

**Will a dome be added to the project at a later date. What assurance are there that this will not happen?**

There are no plans for a dome.

### **What will the field be made of?**

The turf field (artificial grass) is made of polyethylene, and the rubber pellets are ground up SBR (styrene-butadiene rubber). The rubber pellets are embedded as infill. The infill is contained within the field and normally does not get into the storm sewers.

### **Is the artificial turf safe for students to play on, and safe for the community?**

Over the last 20 years, more than 100 third-party, independent studies have been conducted to review the health effects of turf rubber components. These studies have concluded that there are no negative health effects associated with rubber in synthetic turf. The [USA Environmental Protection Agency](#) listed 41 independent projects showing no harmful effects. Health Canada does not regulate artificial turf since it isn't considered a consumer product.

Michael Peterson, a certified toxicologist at Gradient, an environmental and risk sciences consulting firm, evaluated all available North American data on chemical composition of recycled rubber and air sampling data on or near turf fields. The research team included scientists and experts in public health, environmental management and those certified in toxicology. The research was published in the [Journal of Environmental Research](#) and was subject to peer review. They found no elevated public health risk from playing on turf as compared to natural soil.

Recently, the City of Montreal contracted a study on the analysis of infill for synthetic turf fields. Using the EN 71-3 standard (safety of toys) all samples collected passed with a conclusion of no significant risk to players' health due to the presence of these granulates. The scrutiny of this standard is the same that is applied to baby pacifiers and baby bottles.

Also, Toronto Public Health completed a study on the [Health Impact Assessment of the Use of Artificial Turf in Toronto](#) in 2015. The report concluded that third-generation artificial turf posed no significant risks to human health, provided it is properly installed and maintained. The report also concluded that playing on artificial fields did not result in an overall increase in injuries compared to natural field surfaces.

### **Will my house be impacted by the field's lighting system?**

The revitalized field will feature LED lights, which are softer than halogen and incandescent lights—these are not floodlights. The lights will be directed towards the field to minimize overflow lighting beyond the field. We have heard concerns about the light system and the LED lights will help better direct the light onto the field—compared to conventional lighting systems.

### **What are the hours of operation for the field?**

Permits will not be booked past 11 p.m. The track and field will be closed between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Applewood Heights Secondary School will have priority use of the revitalized field during regular school hours and during additional hours as per the agreement with Community Sports Partners. As part of the agreement with the Peel District School Board, *Community Sports*

*Partners* will have the opportunity to use the facility for their leagues and to rent the field out to community groups outside of regular school hours.

**We are concerned that the field will cause an increase in traffic. Is this true?**

For years, the school, residents and community organizations have been booking permits at the current field at Applewood Heights Secondary School. It is reasonable to assume that *new* permit holders may use private vehicles to and from the field.

**If the school is building a new field, how come they did not provide more notice to residents?**

The Peel District School Board and Applewood Heights Secondary School is not building a new field and facilities. We are simply improving the existing facilities that we already have on the property. The City of Mississauga reviewed all site plans and are aware of the project. The Peel board shared information with the school, its families and community members as soon as we could.

**How high will the fence be? What materials will be used for the fence?**

The fence will be 6 feet high and will be a chain link fence.

**Will there be any other buildings constructed? Are changing areas and bathrooms planned?**

The plans do not include construction of any new buildings. The project is simply revitalizing the existing facilities. There are no plans for changing areas and/or bathrooms.

**Will there be commercial advertising?**

There will be no commercial advertising at the field.

**If you have any questions regarding Applewood Heights Secondary School or Peel District School Board**, please contact Greg Pearson, principal, at 905-279-6090, or Randy Wright, controller of planning and accommodation support services, at 905-890-1010 ext. 2212

**If you have any questions specifically about Community Sports Partners**, please call David Gisborne, director at Community Sports Partners, by phone at 289-643-0930 or email at [david@cspartners.ca](mailto:david@cspartners.ca).