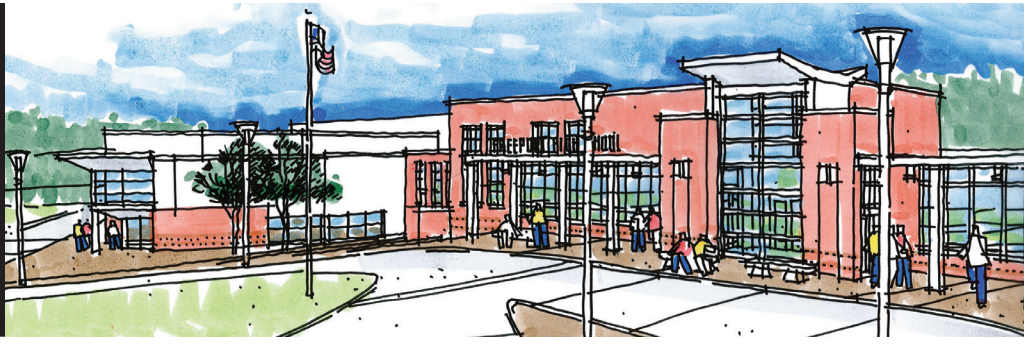


RENOVATE NOW!

UPGRADE FREEPORT HIGH SCHOOL



WHY NOW?

OVERCROWDING FHS is already overcrowded. The school can accommodate 500 students. Current enrollment is 540, and 10 year projections exceed 650.

AGE AND CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL The largest section of Freeport High School was built in 1961 and is over 50 years old. While the building has been well cared for, it no longer meets the educational needs of our children, is not ADA compliant, and it does not meet current safety standards.

INADEQUATE AND UNSAFE ATHLETIC FACILITIES FHS is one of three schools out of 33 in Class B that does not have a track. A track is a standard component of a modern HS facility. Current fields are unsafe and unplayable for much of the season. Repairing the drainage problems with the fields is the majority of the work. It makes sense to do this work at an efficient time, when needed equipment is already onsite.

WHAT WILL THE RENOVATION DO?

ADD A 30,000 SF ADDITION The poorly built industrial arts building will be demolished and a two-story addition built in its place. The addition will contain a kitchen, food court, new band room, fitness and wellness classrooms on the first floor. The second floor will have 9 new classrooms. The addition will be built to accommodate a third floor for future enrollment.

RENOVATE THE 1961 BUILDING The oldest section of the high school will be renovated with new energy efficient windows, roof, finishes and fiber optic backbone. The entire renovation will also address ADA accessibility issues and bring the building up to code. A new entrance will feature enhanced safety and become a more prominent main entry to the high school.

ADDRESS TRAFFIC ISSUES The bus drop off and pick up and loading dock will be relocated to the rear of the building. Parking spaces will be added, lighted walkways to the building and a lighted sidewalk will be built on the section of Snow Road that is within the RSU property.

BUILD A NEW TRACK AND FIELD The current fields will be replaced with a turf field surrounded by a track. The turf field will decrease maintenance costs, increase playable hours, and create a safer playing surface. The track will allow FHS to expand wellness classes to students, as well as be available to residents of Freeport, Pownal and Durham for wellness activities. The track and field will be ADA accessible. The track and field represent approximately 14% of the entire proposed cost.

A competitive construction market and the lowest interest rates in years make this an opportune time to move forward. If the bond is passed in June, it will take nearly 3 years to complete the project.

We cannot afford to wait.

PLEASE VOTE ON JUNE 11!

WEBSITE: www.renovatefhs.org EMAIL: FHSFacilities@rsu5.org FACEBOOK: [renovate freeport high school](https://www.facebook.com/renovatefreeporthighschool)

This brochure was created by the FHS Renovation Advisory Committee, a fully sanctioned committee of the RSU5 Board of Directors. 4.25.2013

THE REASONING BEHIND BUILDING A TRACK AND TURF FIELD

1. TURF USAGE COMPARISON After extended research, it was determined that there would need to be 2-1/2 grass playing fields to facilitate the use necessary by the FHS sport teams versus one turf field. A turf field is much more durable, and therefore, can take excessive use on a day to day basis which a grass field can not. Due to the seasonal weather restraints and playing time limits on grass, schools that have a grass playing field have at least one other additional field to hold practices on to preserve the grass "game" field. Because a turf field does not limit use, as does a grass field, and because it can handle continual usage in rain and snow, it is the best way to get the highest return from our investment.

2. TURF MAINTENANCE COMPARISON The surface of a turf field can last anywhere from 12 to 14 years. The annual cost savings for maintenance of a turf field versus a grass field is approximately \$18,000. If FHS continued with a grass field, the current grass field would have to be reconstructed, at an estimated cost of \$473,000. It would also be necessary to find space to construct two more grass "practice fields", each at similar costs in order to provide the necessary practice space that can be achieved with one turf field. Annual grass field maintenance costs would triple versus the maintenance of one turf field. And RSU5 would incur the cost to purchase and clear the land for those fields.

3. HUNTER ROAD FIELD AVAILABILITY The Hunter Road fields were constructed by the Town of Freeport to address field capacity needs for regional and town youth and adult recreation, as identified in a 2009 report prepared for the Town of Freeport by Milone and MacBroom. The fields were not constructed to address the need for high school athletic fields. This past fall, there were 25 youth soccer teams playing a total of 84 games on the new Hunter Rd Fields. In addition to the 25 soccer teams, there is an addition 120 K-2 soccer players that utilize the facility every weekend during the fall. This spring there are over 35 youth teams utilizing the Hunter Road fields. The facility is currently being fully utilized and the Town Committee responsible for scheduling and overseeing the fields is currently discussing shifting field usage and rescheduling to "help preserve the fields" and redistribute the wear and tear. The facility is providing exactly the type of support and opportunity that it was intended for, but it was not intended to replace RSU5 high school athletic fields.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT Multiple studies have found there is no elevated health or environmental risk associated with athletes playing on artificial turf vs. grass. Synthetic turf products have been evolving over recent years; the products are better and last longer (upwards of 15 years) than the turf of 10 years ago. There have been a lot of studies related to VOCs, leaching, bacteria growth, heat, etc., that have been performed by agencies such as the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, Connecticut DEP, NY State Dept of Environmental Conservation, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, and Penn State's Center for Sports Research. You can find their research and the research of others here: <http://plantscience.psu.edu/research/centers/ssrc/research/synthetic-turf-health>

5. TRACK NECESSITY: The addition of a track will satisfy unmet physical education and athletic program needs in the high school and wellness needs/activities for the RSU5 community. The track team is currently bused to Bowdoin College for practices and cannot host meets. A track located on campus will provide student athletes more time devoted to practice and less time devoted to travel. This will have a positive impact on academics and family time. A track will enable RSU5 to host track meets at our facility which will enhance fan support and community spirit. Of the 33 schools in Class B, Freeport High School is one of 3 schools without a track. All Class A schools have a track. Of the 63 Class A and Class B schools in the state of Maine, 95% have a track. A track is not a luxury, it is a standard component of a high school of our size in the state of Maine.