

Dear Community Preservation Committee Members,

I am a parent of a fifth grade student at Willard Elementary School and assistant coach for Concord Carlisle Youth Football, a flag football program for kids from 1st through 8th grades across Concord and Carlisle. The flag football program is unique in that all of the teams practice and play games simultaneously on four fields set up in parallel across the length of the field: along with the fun competition, they serve as community events with more parents, siblings and grandparents gathering than boys and girls playing the games. The absolute highlights of the fall season for the kids and community alike are the Friday Night Lights games (sometimes on Fridays, sometimes on other nights of the weeks... but always, "Friday Night Lights") as they get to play under the lights just like the Varsity big kids. The kids and community cherishes these evenings under the lights, and while not all of those kids will go on to play varsity football, those experiences help stitch together the fabric of the community with a common bond and shared experience.

As part of a recreation program that engages players and volunteers from across Concord and uses Memorial Field regularly, I am strongly supportive of the Amenities Building to replace the porta potties. My mother- and father-in-law cherish seeing their grandson play sports, but the accessibility of the Memorial Field amenities is such that it's not practical for them to attend. A permanent facility would be much more convenient and comfortable for the players and importantly the families of all ages that congregate at the events, particularly late in the fall when the weather gets colder and porta potties are less usable even for the able-bodied.

Thank you for your consideration and for your efforts on this committee.

Steve Camp

CCYF Assistant Coach and Parent