



## KIDDER COUNTY SPORTS COMPLEX FUNDRAISER

The Kidder County School District has initiated a fundraising campaign to make needed improvements to the sports complex in Steele. We are asking for the generous support of the residents of Kidder County, alumni of Kidder County schools, businesses and civic organizations located in Kidder County as well as businesses located elsewhere but doing business in Kidder County.

There will be varied levels of recognition for donors that contribute at various threshold amounts. A sign will be placed at the entrance of the football field that will include the names of those individual and businesses that contribute \$500 or more with the following levels of recognition:

Platinum	\$50,000 and more
Gold	\$10,000 - \$49,999
Silver	\$ 5,000 - \$ 9,999
Bronze	\$ 1,000 - \$ 4,999
Gridiron	\$ 500 - \$ 999

In addition, for those donors making Platinum levels of contributions, we intend to make attractive 4' X 8' recognition signs that will be placed in conspicuous locations in or around the sports complex.

This planned project includes replacing the football field lighting and sprinkler system, building a grandstand at the baseball diamond and resurfacing the track.

Because of the size of the project and the funding required, we have decided to do the project and fundraising in two phases. Phase I which has a fundraising goal of \$100,000 and planned end date of May 1, 2009 includes replacing the football field lights and sprinkler system and building a grandstand at the baseball diamond. Our hope is to have the football field lights and sprinkler system in place for the 2009-2010 season. If we reach our Phase I fundraising goal of \$100,000 by May 1, 2009, then we would also hope to construct the grandstand at the baseball diamond sometime during the summer or fall of 2009.

Phase II of the project has a fund raising goal of \$150,000 (for a total goal of \$250,000) and planned end date of May 1, 2010. If we reach our Phase II fundraising goal by May 1, 2010, our hope would be to have a new polyurethane track surface in place before the 2011 track season.



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The football field lighting is estimated to be over 50 years old. They were placed at the football field in Steele around 1980 and were purchased used at that time. The lighting is inadequate, the poles cracked and rotting, and the light bulbs will soon no longer be able to be purchased. We are planning to replace the 8 existing poles that sit between the track and football field with stadium lighting that consists of 4 metal poles located outside the track, one in each corner. These 4 poles will produce significantly more light yet reduce overflow outside the field, and they will be more efficient. In addition, if the company that provided the estimate is hired, the purchase price of approximately \$75,000 includes installation and a 25-year maintenance agreement. The football field lighting is the first priority in this project.

The underground sprinkler at the football field is just plain worn out. Once the season starts the old sprinkler heads literally cannot be used and any watering that is necessary is done via garden hose. The estimated cost of a new underground sprinkler system that will water the entire football field and sidelines is \$8,000.

The construction of a grandstand at the baseball diamond has been needed since the diamond was moved to the sports complex. Although some funds have been raised for this purpose, we are nowhere near the \$15,000 - \$20,000 estimated to be needed to complete the project.

The track surface has deteriorated to the point that we can no longer host track meets. The day will soon be here that the track will not be usable at all - even to hold track practice. The estimated cost of a new, durable, weather-resistant, polyurethane track surface is in the neighborhood of \$150,000. A polyurethane surface is a preferred surface because it's very durable, low-impact to the runners and fast. In addition, if the company that provided the estimate is hired, the polyurethane surface is covered by a 10-year warranty.

Can you help with this much needed project? If so, please mail your tax deductible donation to: Kidder County School District, attn: Ken Miller, P.O. Box 380, Steele, ND 58482-0380. If you have questions, give Ken a call at 701-475-2243.

We have planned a fundraising kickoff meeting for Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> after the home volleyball game. All interested volunteers are welcome. Together we can provide the youth of Kidder County a sports complex that we can all be proud of!