



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Larkin High School Athletic Complex Proposal Presented to U-46 Board of Education

*Royals have played 'home' games at away sites for
62 years*

ELGIN - After decades of the Larkin High School Royals playing their home football and soccer games at other sites, a proposal reviewed by the U-46 Board of Education Monday night calls for an outdoor sports stadium to be built at Larkin.

The Larkin High School Athletic Complex would include a modern stadium that would accommodate football, soccer, and other sports; a track designed for training and competitive events; updated locker rooms to support athletes and coaching staff; and enhanced concessions, restrooms, and seating for spectators.

"This will be a long overdue transformation that underscores the District's commitment to equity and excellence," said Dr. Ann Williams, U-46's Deputy Superintendent of Operations.

Larkin High School was built in 1962 but has never had its own athletic complex. For many decades, the Royals have played their home football and soccer games at Elgin High School's Memorial Field, located about 4 miles away.

Larkin staff were surprised and enthusiastic about the proposal, recognizing the long-standing need for a dedicated facility for the Royals. The estimated cost for the complex is \$12 million.

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"This initiative represents a significant step toward ensuring equity across the District's athletics programs, providing our student-athletes with the resources and opportunities they deserve," said Larkin Principal Krystal Bush in remarks delivered at the BOE meeting. "Having a dedicated stadium will not only enhance the athletic experience for our students but also foster a sense of pride and community for Larkin High School."

The proposed schedule for the project calls for design work to start in January 2025 and a groundbreaking in November 2025, with the athletic complex substantially completed for the 2026-27 athletic season. Included in the schedule is time for the project to move through the City of Elgin's zoning and approval process. Officials from the City of Elgin are aware of the proposal and looking forward to working with district officials on this important project.

The athletic complex was part of a package of capital projects presented to the U-46 Board of Education for review on Dec. 16. Those projects included \$9.5 million in renovations to Bartlett High School to modernize and enhance the school's Educational Pathways. Pathways are part of the District's initiative to provide high school students with a focused, career-aligned educational experience that prepares them for postsecondary success. Each pathway represents a sequence of courses and learning experiences connected to a specific career field or area of interest, such as health sciences, engineering, business, or the arts.

Other projects scheduled throughout the District include the installation of new heat pumps, generators, fire suppression systems, roofing, domestic water lines, and paving. Pool renovations are also planned for South Elgin High School. All projects are anticipated to begin this coming summer.

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School District U-46 serves families in 11 communities: Bartlett, Elgin, Hanover Park, South Elgin, Streamwood and Wayne, as well as portions of Carol Stream, Hoffman Estates, St. Charles, Schaumburg, and West Chicago. In total, the District encompasses 90 square miles within the Fox River Valley, approximately 45 minutes west of downtown Chicago, and includes communities within Cook, DuPage and Kane counties. More than

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34,000 preschoolers through 12th graders attend the 55 District schools and programs. To learn more, visit the U-46 [website](#), or like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).