SYCAMORE TOWNSHIP PLANNING & ZONING

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To: Sycamore Township Board of Zoning Appeals

CONDITIONAL USE REQUEST

When the Athletic Complex was built at Moeller in 2008, there were a couple of issues that were delayed or unresolved. This Conditional Use Permit addresses all these issues and improves our student safety.

1. <u>Sound System</u> – The existing sound system was allowed to continue in operation with a requirement that the sound level be at 55DB at the property line when operating. Any modification of that system would have to be approved by the Township and would have to maintain the 55DB sound requirement at the property line.

The current sound system needs to be replaced, and we have a design that will improve the fan friendliness and maintain a 55DB level at the property line. The design includes additional small directional speakers that will provide announcement where the fans are without putting additional noise into the neighborhood. Replacing the existing sound system will improve the sound control in the adjoining neighborhood.

2. <u>Rear Gate</u> – During the discussions before the zoning appeal, the neighbors requested a gate on the west side of the property. Moeller High School agreed to this request but a location could not be agreed to by the neighbors.

We are requesting a gate be put in on the west fence line. This is a safety issue for our students. Currently, if a soccer or lacrosse ball goes over the fence, the student athletes have to climb over with a ladder. We requested installation of a net to stop balls from going out of the property, but the neighbors requested that we put in the gate and not add netting. The proposed gate location is placed at the farthest location from houses on Shadetree. We have agreement from current owner of 2006 Shadetree to put a gate opposite their property.

3. <u>Portable Bleachers</u> – When the field started operation, the neighbors requested that we move the portable bleachers on the soccer side line after games. This has become a safety issue with our student athletes having to move these heavy bleachers constantly during the season. Once the bleachers are moved, they are still visible to the other neighbors. So the issue is not solved, just relocated.

We propose leaving the bleachers on the soccer bleacher pad but screening them from the neighbors on the south side of the Athletic Complex. We have reviewed the plantings with the affected neighbors and have made changes and added additional plants to our original plan so that the bleachers will not be visible from the affected neighbors' houses.