

Sag Harbor Union Free School District

200 Jermain Avenue, Sag Harbor, New York 11963-3549

Jeff Nichols
Superintendent of Schools
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October 19, 2022

Re: November 3, 2022 District Vote - Marsden Street Properties

Dear Sag Harbor Schools Community:

I am writing to update you on recent developments regarding the renovation plan for Mashashimuet Park and the proposed acquisition of five vacant lots adjacent to the school district.

Pierson Middle/High School currently has only one field (located behind the school) that is used for athletics, physical education classes, lunch recess and other school activities. This field does not adequately address Pierson's athletics facility needs. For example, last year Pierson fielded 44 teams, with 69% of students in grades 7-12 participating in at least one sport. As a result, the school district has historically entered into an annual contract with Mashashimuet Park for the use of their fields. In addition to utilizing the Park, Pierson athletes also combine with other districts in sports where the school district lacks facilities and/or participants, such as track and field, lacrosse and football.

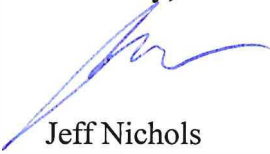
Last year, the school district and the Town of Southampton Community Preservation Fund (CPF) were made aware that multiple properties adjacent to the school on Marsden Street (the "Marsden Lots") were available for purchase. Over the months that followed, the CPF negotiated an agreement with the seller that was amenable to the school district. The Town Board of the Town of Southampton authorized the CPF to make an offer to the seller that included a \$6,000,000 contribution towards the purchase of four lots on the south side of Marsden Street. The total purchase price of \$9,275,000 for the five lots was based on the appraised value of the properties. As presented at multiple Board of Education meetings in September and October, the proposed plan uses existing reserve funds of \$700,000 for one lot and \$2,575,000 for the other four lots. The acquisition of the five lots will not impact residents' taxes as the funds are currently held in school district reserve funds. Per the public notices issued by the school district this Fall, **a community vote authorizing access to utilize these funds is scheduled for November 3, 2022.**

Although there are no formal development plans yet, the school district did have its architectural firm create the rendering below so that the community has a sense of what is possible. If the community approves the purchase of the Marsden Lots, the school district will seek additional community input regarding our athletic facility needs. As the school district considers design concepts for the Marsden Lots, we are mindful that they are located in a residential community and are subject to deed restrictions set forth by the CPF. As additional information becomes available, we will post it on the school district website. Once plans to improve the Marsden Lots are finalized, another community vote will be necessary to approve a bond referendum addressing the necessary capital improvements.

The purchase of the Marsden Lots will not eliminate the school district's reliance on or commitment to utilizing Mashashimuet Park. Over the last year, the school district and the park board developed a plan to renovate the park so that our students can utilize facilities that meet the standards required for interscholastic athletics. Due to the proposed acquisition of the Marsden Lots, the district is currently meeting with the park board to see if alterations to the original plan are necessary. We believe that between the Pierson field, the Marsden Lots and Mashashimuet Park, the school district will have access to a large enough footprint to better meet our students' needs.

The vote will take place on November 3rd in the Pierson High School Gymnasium between 7:00 am until 9:00 pm.

Sincerely,



Jeff Nichols
Superintendent of Schools

ATHLETIC FIELD SIZES:
 FIELD HOCKEY (WHITE LINES) 60YD x 100 YD
 SOCCER (YELLOW LINES) 65YD x 110 YD



H	2	architects + engineers
	M	

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**Marsden Street Proposed
 Multi-purpose Field**

PROJECT No:	DATE:	SCALE:
SGSD2202	10-19-22	NTS