

FY 2008 QUESTION NUMBER: 26

QUESTION:

Provide information on the construction of the Northwest High School football field. Was the field constructed based on standards? If not, is there a warranty on the work that can be pursued? If it was constructed based on standards, what will be done to meet the needs of the school?

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: NA

ANSWER:

The Northwest High School football field was constructed in 1998 based on typical high school football field standards. There was a problem with the construction of a retaining wall adjacent to the stadium that facilities staff is pursuing with the original builder; however, it has no relationship to the turf field construction.

It is not unusual for a high school turf field to experience minor spot settlement over the years. The Northwest High School field was installed in accordance with standards existing at the time it was constructed. The football field was crowned and the drainage system designed to collect the water that drained to the perimeter of the field. Normal wear on this type of stadium field produces bare spots that settle when water collects in these areas and does not run off properly to the perimeter drainage system. If these areas are not re-seeded or the sod replaced as soon as possible, the soil deteriorates and settles further. Football stadium maintenance is typically performed by the school supported by the Athletic Boosters Club. However, it is difficult to keep up with routine maintenance on competition fields because of their frequent use and most stadium fields need to have soil maintenance work and the sod completely replaced periodically.

The Division of Maintenance staff will evaluate the Northwest High School field and schedule it for sod restoration work as part of the Planned Life-cycle Asset Replacement Program in the capital budget.