

Initial Proposal:
Voorhees Baseball
Press Box and Storage Shed Structure

Summary:

The Voorhees Baseball Booster Club and Coaching Staff request an additional structure to be constructed behind the home dugout. The newly constructed building would include a press box on the second floor and a first floor storage shed of approximately 350 to 400 square feet. The home dugout would maintain its current functionality and be left undisturbed.

Need/Rationale:

- Provide an additional storage space for the Athletic Department. The department has expressed a need for additional storage for many of the larger items within our baseball and softball programs. This equipment can be stored in the press box.
 - Currently, our athletics and outside maintenance store our equipment in various areas and space is decreasing given the elimination of the new cafeteria as a storage area and the continued purchasing of goods, which is placing stress on the storage facilities at Voorhees High School.
 - In our immediate area and competing districts, many of the other schools have storage sheds, buildings, or structures that can facilitate the many needs of softball and baseball programs immediately on premise.
- The Booster Club and Coaching Staff, with the aid of Administration, our community, and many staff members at Voorhees High School, have improved the experience for our student athletes through trips to Cooperstown, community service projects, purchasing of new uniforms, up to date and safe equipment, new infield sod, and many other smaller endeavors. We, as an organization, and coaching staff wish to continue to improve the experience. We feel as if this would be a wonderful addition in appearance and functionality.
- Increase the pride in our Program and school as the facilities are continued to be improved at Voorhees High School across the board.

Title IX

In compliance with Title IX, Voorhees Baseball will aid in the adaptation of a current structure available to both the Field Hockey and Softball programs. We will help financially with the purchasing of speakers and a stereo system to provide a similar product for our counterparts. Furthermore, we will offer storage space in our facility for the use of those aforementioned programs. We feel as if this shows a continued effort by the district to provide "fair and equitable" facilities for all sports.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Given the design and intent, the structure does not need to be ADA compliant. On the blueprints, see notes 34 and 35. I have quoted them below as well for ease.

Note 34. Mezzanine meets code (1/3 of floor below) by definition. Mezzanine is not required to be accessible per 206.2.4 of the American with Disabilities Act.

Note 35. Building shall be posted ***Not For Public Use, Maximum Occupant Load 10***. Building is to be used by coaches, players, scorers, announcers, and school field maintenance personnel only.

Our architect did speak with a representative from Washington, DC. to ensure compliance.

State Release of Review

I spoke with a representative of the Hunterdon County Department of Education, Darlene Wene, and she said the DOE does not need to oversee the project. The project must follow all local code and permit acquisition. The project is being privately funded, which foregoes the normal process when receiving public funds of a public vote, Department of Education review, and the project being put out to bid to state approved contractors.

Process:

- Gain initial approval from the District to pursue this project further.
 - Mr. Baumann approved initial step to visit Lebanon Township Zoning Department (8/7/17)
 - The Lebanon Township Zoning Department expressed that the project seemed valid and needed if it would improve the functionality of the facility. (8/7/17)
- Garnered a licensed architect to design the Press Box/Storage Shed Combination in collaboration with Coach Cory Kent, Athletic Director Brian Baumann, and other necessary members of Administration at Voorhees High School and District Office.
 - All designs will meet with the code of New Jersey, Lebanon Township zoning, and Tewksbury construction codes. Lebanon Township contracts out to Tewksbury Code Office for construction codes.
 - Scott Eichlin, a licensed New Jersey Architect, volunteered to draw blueprints at no cost. (8/2/17). Scott Eichlin works for Frank Joseph Bell Architects, which is located at 39 Quakertown Road, Pittstown, NJ 08867.
- Submit a proposal to the Zoning Board of Lebanon Township and await approval.
 - Currently, incomplete. Proposal is submitted and awaiting approval. Once a timeline of completion is solidified with our general contractor, permit acquisition and approvals have been garnered, and other requested items of the proposal are provided to the Zoning Board of Lebanon Township.
- Gather bids from licensed New Jersey Contractors that will list costs for labor, materials, and any other unforeseen costs.
 - Mr. George Eberle a licensed general contractor in the State of New Jersey will be tasked with coordinating the acquisition of permits from Tewksbury Construction Board, providing proper notice to Mr. Brian Baumann as to when the work will be completed on Voorhees High School grounds. This needs to be coordinated with Voorhees Outside Grounds as to not interfere with other projects being completed on the grounds.
 - Coach Kent will designate a project manager (General Contractor) and he will inform the liaison for the school, Brian Baumann, of all work schedules for the project.
 - Any other inquiries should be directed to Cory Kent who will have contact between the general contractor and the liaison, Brian Baumann.
- Receive the approval from the Board of Education and Administration to begin construction.
- Receive and deliver the construction plan and time frame to Administration as to when the project will be completed.

- Construction will begin as soon as possible and be completed as quickly as possible. The goal would be a quick completion in order to help with the storage needs of Voorhees Baseball as well as Voorhees Outside Grounds prior to the Winter Months

Other Information:

- The Voorhees Baseball Booster Club is acknowledging any unforeseen costs are the full liability and responsibility of the Voorhees Baseball Booster Club and North Hunterdon Voorhees Regional School District is not liable for any construction costs regardless of the course of events.
- Upon completion, the North Hunterdon Voorhees Regional School district will assume full responsibility of the structure. All liability, obligations, property rights, and any other information is outlined below.