

Dear Nicole Floyd,

I am writing in support of removal of restriction on non-district use of Ingersoll Stadium at Olympia High School.

EQUITY

I believe the removal of this restriction comes down to equity of use. Some may argue that the field is reserved most of the time, but capacity is not the same as equity. When the field is not being used by the High School, there should be the opportunity for all non-district entities to use and practice on the field not just a select few. Furthermore, from listening to the Neighborhood Meeting on October 14th, it seems that the restriction was originally enacted at a time when Ingersoll was the only turf field in the area. If you do not allow for other growing sports or entities to have an opportunity to play, it acts instead to restrict their growth.

Lacrosse has been played in my family for generations. My grandfather played for the University of Maryland and the US Naval Academy. Although the family moved to the west coast in the 60's, he would spend hours and hours telling stories about the game. I always wanted to learn, but it was not offered when I was young and all the fields were already reserved for other sports. However in recent years I am glad my kids have been able to participate in the sport.

IMPACT

The impact to the community surrounding the field would be very low. For example, 75% of the season is spent practicing on a field, which means on practice days the only cars in the parking lot would belong to coaches and the parents of the players. Last year my son practiced with about 12 other kids (approximately 15 cars if you count coaches). Even on a game day, if both teams had 20 players and 3 coaches that would work out to only 46 parking spaces. When we go to the games, the only fans present are the parents or grandparents of the players. According to google maps, there appears to be approximately 530 parking spaces at Olympia High School (North Street parking lot = 100, Carolyn Ave = 300, 130 by the Long Jump). 46 cars out of 530 spaces represents only 8.7% use.

TRAFFIC, SAFE DRIVING, SUPPORTING COMMUNITY INTERESTS

With the exception of the coaches, each car driving to the stadium is going to have kids in the car. It is unlikely that a parent would want to put their kid in danger and drive recklessly just to get their kid to a practice on time. Opening this field up supports neighborhood kids who are already playing these sports but currently have to travel all the way across town to whichever field is available that week.

According to Geodata.org there are approximately 1,400 houses within a half mile radius. Even on a game day, assuming all cars are driving home at the same time, this would represent a very small percentage of traffic ($46/1,400 = 3.3\%$). Most practices are after rush hour since parents need to finish work and go home to be able to drive their kids to the practice. Practice can't go too late either, because kids need to get there rest, especially on a school night so there would not be a desire to practice late into the night either.

Furthermore, it was mentioned at the Neighborhood Meeting meeting that the rules do not allow any entity, district or non-district, to use the new practice field and stadium simultaneously. This would also keep traffic down.

ZONING AND USAGE TRENDS

During the Neighborhood Meeting on October 14th a community member made a statement that Olympia High School is the only high school in the county zoned for residential and all others were zoned commercial. According to Geodata.org, Capital High School and AG West Black Hills High School are also zoned as residential (Avanti is another high school zoned residential but does not have a field). Tumwater High School was the only high school I could find that was actually zoned as commercial of the high schools in the Olympia, North Thurston, and Tumwater school districts.

Another comment made from a community member on October 14th, was that Ingersoll Stadium is surrounded by low density housing; far less houses than other stadiums. However according to Geodata.org, actual zoning surrounding the school is R4-8 and SFM (Medium Density Residential 6-9). Capital HS (R-4-8) and AG West Black Hills (SFM1) are also residential and border neighborhoods with R and SFM zoning.

Low density housing is zoned as LD, R4, SFL, etc. Two examples of fields bordering low density housing (LD 0-4) would be City of Lacey Regional Athletic Center and Timberline High School. I have noticed that the Regional Athletic Center is reserved quite regularly for events. If people are suggesting that less usage should occur in low density areas, based solely on the surrounding housing density then it should follow that the amount of events held at the Regional Athletic Center should be less than what is held at Ingersoll Stadium since Ingersoll stadium is zoned in a higher density area.

I am glad my boys have this opportunity now, but it is challenging for the league to find a field to practice or play on. I am asking that you please open up this field, not just for the select few, not even just to lacrosse, but to all other entities who would like to use the field for athletic purposes. I respectfully request that you give Olympia's youth the ability and access to participate in new and growing sports.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean O'Neill", written in a cursive style.

Sean O'Neill

From: Brian Brown <firefli2903@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 1:10 PM
To: Nicole Floyd
Subject: Official request

External Email Alert!

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Hello,

As a parent of an Olympia LaCrosse player and an athletic coach/trainer. I am requesting that Ingersoll stadium has its field restrictions lifted to enable LaCrosse to be played/practi ed. There are safe protocols that can be put in place to minimize risk during an effective practice. This is currently being modeled by LaCrosse clubs in King County. I am.happy to provide more information on request.

Thank you,
Brian Brown

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: rhyan smith <rhyansmith@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 2:03 PM
To: Nicole Floyd
Cc: Home Instead
Subject: Ingersoll Use

External Email Alert!

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Dear Nicole,

Please feel free to forward this email on to the hearing examiner on our behalf.

Dear Hearing Examiner,

We are in full support of Ingersoll's use to be expanded to other outside users. It is such a great asset to our community and saddens us when we see it not being utilized to a fuller capacity, especially for more youth in our community.

We live just steps away from the stadium. We hear all the noise, traffic, loud speakers, band, cheering, and more and love it. In fact we moved to our home 10 years ago to be closer to the schools and stadium. The noise does not bother us, at all. We have 4 children ranging in grade from elementary to high school, and they thoroughly enjoyed the use of the stadium. We hope other students and community members can too!

We especially believe in this utilization knowing that the Olympia school district would still control which users have access based on an application process that will mitigate appropriate use.

Don't hesitate to contact us with more questions. We certainly hope you will allow for a greater range of users than currently are allowed. Thank you for your consideration!

-Rhyan and Kari Smith

3527 Holiday Dr SE

Sent from my phone

From: Rob Denning <denningra@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Nicole Floyd
Subject: Ingersoll use

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Ms. Floyd

Please note my support for equitable access for OSD facilities, namely Ingersoll Stadium. Access needs to be open for all groups, such as Olympia Lacrosse Club, not restricted to a certain number of specific clubs or leagues.

Thank you!

Rob Denning