

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY....BUT YOUR HELP IS STILL NEEDED

Dear Friends of the Falcons,

It's been a little over one year since a collaborative effort between the Salisbury Township School District and the Salisbury community began to upgrade the Salisbury Stadium sports field. A lot has happened since that first group of residents spoke up to voice support for collaboration and the School Board voted to move forward. A beautiful state-of-the-art synthetic turf surface has been installed and opened to great fanfare. A very successful first season on the 'turf' has now been completed. Anyone who has been to any of the +60 events held at the stadium this fall (a more than 100% increase over last fall – with zero cancellations!) could see there was a tremendous improvement in the quality of games played. And those who played on the 'turf', (the same as used by 23 NFL teams), gave rave reviews. The football, soccer and field hockey teams all made great strides as they not only played, but practice on this beautiful surface. It's been great to see the number of gym classes, as well as community groups taking advantage of this facility. We've given our kids a great place to play! This hasn't gone unnoticed outside our community as we've hosted our first state playoff football game, with many other events certain to be scheduled in the future.

And we aren't done yet! The girl's soccer team and even the baseball and softball teams have held winter sessions on the 'turf', the new "Stadium Entry Donor Wall and Walk" is being planned. As the spring teams take to the field expect to see the Wall and Walk under construction, as well as the first of the signs from our Stadium Advertising Campaign in place.

The final cost of construction for the synthetic turf field and related improvements came in significantly under budget. The Salisbury Township School District designated \$420,000 towards the cost of construction -- the same cost if replacing the field with natural turf. In an effort to not raise taxes but still get the benefits of a new synthetic turf surface, the Community, through the auspices of the Salisbury Community Synthetic Turf Committee, (a part of the Salisbury Education Foundation, a not-for-profit 501c3 organization), has taken on the responsibility to fundraise the remainder of the project. Thanks to donations from YOU we were proud to announce that at the December 3, 2008 school board meeting, our first payment of \$60,000 to the Salisbury Township School District was made. We are still receiving donations from commitments already made -- but we still have a way to go before meeting our obligation. That's where you can help. We are still looking for parents, students, alumni, and businesses – friends of the Falcons -- to donate.

Please consider buying a brick for our walkway or a plaque for our wall -- for yourself, your business, or a family member. Imagine, as you enter the stadium seeing your family's name permanently etched in brick or stone. Consider, too, the advertising opportunities we have to offer your business or organization at our Stadium with +60 events this fall, the spring season still ahead, and much more to come in the future! We are continuing to work to make improvements at our stadium – to make it a premiere facility in our region – and a great place for our kids to play and grow! We couldn't have come this far without you. And with your continued support we will meet our goal! Thank you!

The Salisbury Synthetic Turf Committee

Email turf@std.org

Info www.std.org Turf Fundraiser

www.brickrus/orders/salisburyhighschool

Charge payments are now being accepted