



September 22, 2020

Dear Catholic Schools of Broome County Families and Staff:

The Catholic Schools of Broome County has some exciting news to share with you! We are very pleased to announce that during late September and into October, 2020, we will be installing lights on John G. Dowd Field! This project is made possible thanks to a generous anonymous gift of \$325,000.00 to fund the entire cost of construction to be received in installments over the next few years. Consequently, we have secured a loan to fund the immediate costs of construction and have received generous donations to cover the loan interest. Our donor says of his gift,

I know during these crazy and difficult times, families are having a difficult time affording a Catholic School education, and my wife and I still plan to fund tuition assistance programs for all four of the Broome County Catholic Schools, but we also strongly believe that improving the facilities and thus the “product” of Catholic Schools will give our wonderful families more bang for the their buck and perhaps incentivize more local families to choose our schools and specifically Seton, in this case, for the formative years and education of their children.

The donor’s gift comes at the perfect time for planning purposes, as this past week we received the latest announcement from the Southern Tier Athletic Conference and Section IV that interscholastic sports are postponed until January 4th, 2021. With the announcement of the STAC decision and receipt of this generous donor proposal, a short window of availability has opened in which to complete the project. Athletic training, conditioning and workouts for CSBC students using the field began on Monday, September 21st. As we move into shorter days, the addition of field lights will enable our students to practice on our field for extended hours. Additionally, once our interscholastic sports seasons begin in Spring 2021, our students will no longer need to travel to other sites for practices and/or home games.

We are working with Clark Company who managed the original turf field project and will oversee the lighting project through their partnership with Musco Lighting. During most of the project timeline, we will continue to have access to the field for our physical education classes and for use by our students for training, conditioning and workouts. There will be approximately 2 days in October when the field will be closed for the final installation of the poles and lights. We are grateful to our field light donors for this generous gift and their continued support for financial scholarships and other important needs of the CSBC System.

Please keep these generous donors and all supporters of our wonderful schools, as well as our students, their families and our faculty, in your prayers as we all forge ahead in the example of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth Carter'.

Elizabeth Carter, Ph.D.
President, Catholic Schools of Broome County

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