



July 8, 2025

**Mayor Mary Jo Mullen & Village Trustees
Village of Lisle
925 Burlington Ave.
Lisle, IL 60532**

**Members of the Planning & Zoning Commission
Village of Lisle
925 Burlington Ave.
Lisle, IL 60532**

Re: Letter of Support for the Benet Academy Stadium Modernization

Dear Village of Lisle Staff, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Village Board,

On behalf of Benedictine University, a neighbor and proud partner for values-based, Catholic education in the Benedictine tradition alongside Benet Academy, I am writing to express my support for the modernization of the stadium and athletic fields at Benet Academy.

Benedictine University has enjoyed a strong partnership with Benet Academy, and we always welcome them within our facilities. I also appreciate the long-term vision by Benet leadership to build facilities that support growth and a championship experience that aligns with the high-quality academic preparation students receive. This thoughtfully planned proposal will revitalize the current conditions, which date back to the 1960s. The current and future students deserve facilities that will help them grow and reach their full potential. I appreciate that the proposal will provide safe and modern facilities for generations to come, and will open up opportunities for Benedictine and Benet to partner to serve emerging regional needs in sports like traditional and flag football, lacrosse, track, and soccer, where often outside groups are looking for an area with multiple facilities in close proximity, as well as band and other camps. In short, Benedictine University sees the stadium modernization at Benet as an enhancement to our deep partnership and an opportunity to serve students and the Lisle community more fully.

I believe that the proposed modernization reflects:

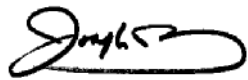
- **Significant aesthetic and landscape enhancements**, such as professional landscaping and strategic buffering for compatibility with nearby homes. In addition, please consider the

stadium's location just west of the main entrance drive. The current conditions do not create a visually appealing entryway for the institution.

- **Safety of the Students.** The current state of the athletic fields and stadium is not reflective of current standards. The current facilities present a higher risk of injury for all students: whether it be during physical education classes, marching band practice, or during a sporting event. The new all-weather track will be a significant upgrade for all students and will reduce the likelihood of injury.
- **Bringing student activities and sports back to campus.** It is atypical for students to have to travel off-site for home meets or sporting events. Not only is this an inconvenience, but the added travel can detract the students from achieving their academic goals. This point also dovetails with prioritizing safety for the students. Considering home football games for example: when the games are held here at Benedictine, students are required to cross Maple Avenue to attend or participate in the game, which presents unsafe conditions. Bringing games back to campus will alleviate safety concerns for students and parents of students.
- **Facilities consistent with all other high schools.** The existing athletic facilities were constructed in the 1960s – long before the surrounding properties were developed. The existing conditions reflect the original 1960s conditions and puts Benet students at a competitive disadvantage. The proposed improvements are long-overdue and it's time to bring Benet Academy into the 21st Century along with all other high schools in the Chicagoland area.

I respectfully add my support to the Benet Academy stadium modernization project, and request the Village of Lisle support this proposal. It represents a very thoughtfully planned investment and will provide an excellent canvas for students to achieve the success and excellence they deserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Foy", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph J. Foy, Ph.D.
President, Benedictine University
5700 College Rd.
Lisle, IL 60532