



July 11, 2025

Dear Mayor, Trustees, Commissioners, Staff,

I enthusiastically support Benet Academy's stadium project.

A bit of history: This acclaimed college preparatory school was started in 1887. It moved to Lisle in 1901, and to its current location in 1956. It serves locally and regionally.

I was on the faculty from 1967 - the year St. Procopius Academy for boys and Sacred Heart Academy for girls merged - until 2005. I applied my degree in Home Economics earned at St. Benedict's College and my Master's Degree in Religious Education earned at Loyola University. It has been my privilege to serve on the Board of Directors since 1979. Part of that role is as liaison between Benet and Sacred Heart Monastery.

I've witnessed and admired the wisdom, professionalism, and vision of the school's board, faculty, administration, and staff over the decades. The Academy owes its stellar reputation to their dedication to excellence, and to the devotion of all our Redwing families.

And - critically important - the school cannot thrive without the ongoing support of the Village of Lisle. It allows Benet to be a school that Lisle can proudly boast having, a school that attracts families to Lisle.

Our Leadership understands the importance of investing in facilities. In more recent history a second larger gym, a science building, a fine arts building, a modern library, a welcome center, and a hall of fame corridor are some of the capital improvements that attract and benefit students. What a different place from when I started!

What is needed - and long overdue - is a modern stadium. Most of the other schools in our conference have this. Athletics are a crucial part of a high-quality education. It is in the Village's best interest for Benet to remain competitive. Many people have worked very hard to advance a project that will best benefit our students, their families, and the Lisle community.

You should know that growing and operating in a manner that is respectful of our neighbors is not only a high priority, it is one of our Benedictine charisms. The bordering Oak Hill subdivisions were developed in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The residents deserve the enjoyment of their homes in the context of living by a vibrant school. We hope they will take advantage of the new facilities and come out to enjoy the games!

The proposal retells the stadium major objectives

To provide students with a modern campus, improve the experience of athletes and spectators attending games, and enhance the safety of hosting events, the leadership of Benet Academy proposes to invest in the campus and modernize its outdated and obsolete stadium and athletic complex. The transformation project benefits students, families, fans, and the greater Lisle community.

Benefits of Renewing the Stadium:

Investing in the campus will benefit students and the community for years to come. As a result of current conditions, for more than 20 years, Benet has undertaken a series of workarounds, including hosting some home competitions off-campus at rented facilities across DuPage County. Renewing the stadium will bring the tradition of hosting events back to Benet at a facility that creates a sense of community and pride by fostering shared experiences among students, friends, fans, family, and community members.

By modernizing the outdated stadium and athletic fields we can

- Provide a Safe Experience for Students and Athletes
- Equality of Competition Opportunity for All
- Improve the Campus for Generations to Come

I thank you and almighty God for the work that you do for us in Lisle. I want you to know that every Good Work not only begins with a prayer but ends with one as well. I promise you my continued prayer requesting that you, like I already have, give full approval of the petition before you.

God bless and keep you always as you discern the wisdom and quality of the petition and thus vote YES.

Devoted Benet and Lisle fan,

*Sister Mary Bratsosky, OSB*

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