

Press Release

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### Dexter Fields Taking Shape

A view of Dexter Street, just south of the New Prescott High School, reveals a “diamond” in the rough. In fact, several baseball diamonds are beginning to appear where the Prescott Community Recreation youth sports fields are being developed.

“This area was designated by the School District for green space during the building planning,” said Dr. Rick Spicuzza, Superintendent. “With an initial grant of \$35,000 from The Prescott Foundation, plus a commitment for additional funding from proceeds that exceed the fundraising goal of the annual golf tournament held August 9, the planning was able to proceed.” Once complete, ongoing field maintenance will be covered through PCR participation fees.

The project has been a collaboration of effort. The land was part of the school district’s initial purchase for the High School that opened in fall 2016. The ravine area is part of a longer-term vision for public paths, High School Cross Country and external learning spaces. The athletic fields are part of the Prescott Community Recreation (PCR) expansion efforts. The district has an ongoing green space committee, which has been a great assistance in shaping the vision of the Dexter fields.

The plan under way includes finalizing three multi-purpose fields by end of fall. These fields will provide expanded hours and play time for many community athletic events, tournaments, and balanced use of fields. The City of Prescott has been a good partner in assisting with access to water to establish the seed playing areas. The district is looking to future partnerships with the City of Prescott, along with other townships for which the School District provides all programming and resources.

A recent decision by the School District’s Greenspace committee has moved the project toward completing phase one of establishing three multi-purpose playing fields. Mr. Jim Johnson, a local resident working in baseball field renovation, is assisting the district as a point person in coordinating a volunteer effort to install playing surfaces for the three fields. The goal is to have all three fields completed with crushed aggregate lime by October. The generous donation from Prescott Foundation will assist with backstops, dugouts and fences down the base paths.

Long term plans include two additional practice fields, batting cages, and a gathering space to enjoy the lush green space provided to the community. In addition, expanded soccer fields and flag football will begin development in 2018. Additional trees and landscaping will follow and a High School Cross Country Course will also traverse through the ravine and wooded areas.

Dr. Spicuzza emphasized, “The intent is to provide a space for our youth to alleviate overuse of existing fields and improve maintenance for safer play. Potentially, PCR would have the

opportunity to provide more offerings in the future, as well.” The fields in development this summer will be ready for play in 2018.

Prescott Foundation has been an important catalyst for community and education projects. “The high school performing arts center and now these youth fields reflect the spirit of the Prescott community in supporting the many talents and needs of local students,” said Dr. Spicuzza, “And that community spirit drives a strong future.”

For more information on how you can direct your contributions to support the field development or the performing arts through donations to the Prescott Foundation, please visit [www.prescottfoundation.com](http://www.prescottfoundation.com). To learn more about Prescott School District, go to [www.prescott.k12.wi.us](http://www.prescott.k12.wi.us).

