



807 NE Broadway  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413-2398  
Phone: 612.668.0200  
Fax: 612.668.0195

Bernadeia H. Johnson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

October 11, 2011

Minnesota Amateur Sport Commission  
Hennepin Youth Sport Program  
1700 105<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Blaine, MN 55449

Dear members of the MASC and Hennepin County Commissioners,

Minneapolis Public Schools is happy to provide this letter of support for the Hamilton Play Field project proposed by the City of Minneapolis. The project, located on property owned by Minneapolis Public Schools, consists of numerous improvements to the existing field area to upgrade it to a more serviceable athletic field that can be used for baseball, softball, football, and soccer for the Police Athletic League programs and programming of other neighborhood activities and groups. The City's proposal includes a complete resurfacing of the field and irrigation to provide a better playing surface. It also includes new fencing, lights, and a water fountain located closer to the field than the one currently located on the adjacent building. Details regarding the execution of the City's proposed project will need to be worked out with our Facilities Department.

The Minneapolis Public Schools and the City of Minneapolis have long enjoyed a positive working relationship and have partnered successfully on numerous real estate development projects as well as programming to support the health, wellness and safety of students:

- The Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA) acted as MPS' agent for site acquisition on four school development projects located on the City's north side;
- The Minneapolis Department of Public Works has provided bicycle racks for many of our schools and worked with MPS staff to identify and mark safe routes to schools;
- The City and MPS participate in a cooperative funding arrangement for the installation of rain gardens on the grounds of many MPS school sites; and
- MPS contracts the Minneapolis Police Department to provide School Resource Officers at our high schools.

I consider the City of Minneapolis a critical, trusted partner of the school district as we work to ensure that every student is college ready and pledge to work cooperatively with the City should they be awarded Hennepin Youth Sports Program funding for the Hamilton Play Field project.

Sincerely,

Bernadeia H. Johnson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Mark Bollinger  
Executive Director, Facilities