For Immediate Release
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Upgrades to SJSH Track & Field Facility

(North Bay, ON) – The Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board is pleased to announce that the Cundari Track & Field Facility at St. Joseph-Scollard Hall (SJSH) will be undergoing some major repairs and upgrades over the next several months.

The SJSH Track and Field facility, constructed in the late 1980s and refurbished in the early 2000s, consists of an asphalt track with a rubberized surface coating and an interior multi-purpose natural turf sports field. It has been the site of many system and community events for 25 years as well as an extension to the physical building for the Physical Education classes at SJSH. The facility is scheduled for major repairs this school year, and a study has been conducted on the feasibility of upgrading to a synthetic turf field.

Some of the benefits of converting to a synthetic turf include: a shock absorbent surface, reducing injuries from impact; an environmentally friendly option, eliminating watering and the use of fertilizers; lower maintenance costs; extending the sporting season from early in the spring to late in the fall; and enhancing the ability to host Board-level, local, and regional sports events. The budget allocated for the scheduled repair of the field this school year, together with a donation from the Scollard Hall Foundation which will cover approximately half the cost, makes this upgrade feasible at a cost of $1.5M.

The project, led by Mitchell Architects, includes the following features:

- new synthetic turf field
- new surface covered track
- new lighting for the entire field facility
- new running long/triple jump events
- new elevated bleachers and goal posts

Work is set to begin in early June and is scheduled to be completed by early October 2014.

“This is indeed exciting news for the Nipissing-Parry Sound Catholic District School Board!” says Barbara McCool, Board Chair. “Students are excited; they will remain on their own ‘turf’ as they say. School staff, parents, families, friends and the community will be able to come together in an inviting, comfortable environment.”

For more information, please contact Victoria Johnson at (705) 472-1201, ext. 2243 or at johnsonv@npsc.ca.

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