

September 20, 2024

By email: tdunford@saanichschools.ca

Board of Trustees School District 63 (Saanich) 2125 Keating Cross Road Saanichton, BC, Canada V8M 2A5

Re: Brentwood Elementary Fields

Dear Board of Trustees

On behalf of the Central Saanich Extreme Fastball Board of Directors ("the CSE Board"), I send this letter in regard to Central Saanich Extreme's use of Dave Hamer and Bert Belfie fields at Brentwood Elementary.

Through a meeting with SD63 Director of Facilities, the CSE Board has learned that SD63 is planning to construct two new portable classrooms along Wallace Drive in the west corner of the Brentwood Elementary playing field. The placement of the portable classrooms as planned will reduce the useable playing space at Bert Belfie field. The CSE Board has concerns that the decision to reduce playing space of the ball fields for future infrastructure may further impact Central Saanich Extreme's to use the fields.

The CSE Board understands that it does not have a formal agreement with SD63 to use the fields and would like an opportunity to establish one. The CSE Board is currently considering capital projects for those fields such as new backstops and player benches and is concerned that fundraising for such projects without a formal agreement to use the fields puts Central Saanich Extreme at risk.

Belfie and Hamer fields are crucial to the success of Central Saanich Extreme as they provide much of our playing space for our large community club. Belfie Field was named in memory of local softball volunteer Bert Belfie in 1993 and has been used by the community for softball for over 50 years.

CSE is an active community organization providing a safe space for girls and young women ages 5 and up to play recreational and competitive fastpitch. CSE promotes growth in sports creating positive team building opportunities, promoting healthy exercise and confidence, and providing skills development. CSE provides its players opportunities at both recreational and competitive levels.

CSE is the second largest girls fastpitch club on the island and we continue to see significant growth in our player numbers and the number of teams each year. Considering the growth of our community, the Board believes field space is more important for activities such as fastpitch and the community as a whole than ever.

At your earliest convenience the CSE Board would like an opportunity to meet and discuss the above.

Yours Truly,

Craig Russell Vice President

Central Saanich Extreme Fastball

cc: Central Saanich Extreme Board