

The Region 15 Board of Education has approved a project in which the district will begin the process of constructing seating for 1500 at the Ed Arum Athletic Field at Pomperaug High School. Design plans for the project are in the beginning stages and the entire project will be funded through donations.

Currently the grandstands which were built in 1979 when Pomperaug was completed are out of code. In addition, the stands lack sufficient spectator capacity.

Other pieces of the project will include permanent bathroom facilities and a storage facility for sports teams. Included in the grandstand project will be a press box with telephone and internet access.

The project is estimated to cost \$300,000. The funding of the project will be through private donations from local residents, alumni, school groups, sports groups, state and federal grants; as well as donations from national, state, and local businesses.

This project is a continuation of the improvements to the site. Previously funds were raised for installation of field lights with a major work donation from O & G Industries, a flagpole donated by the Williams family, a scoreboard donated from Timex Corporation, a sound system donated by the Pomperaug Football Team, and a walkway along with "in kind" work to the turf field donated by H.I. Stone and Son Inc.

In 2004 the school district completed construction of a synthetic turf field, refurbished the track, repaired the fencing and added parking as part of the school construction project.

Since completion of the project Ed Arum Athletic Field has been in constant use by local residents and youth groups such as Pop Warner Football, Pomperaug Youth Lacrosse, Southbury and Middlebury Soccer, and the town recreation departments. PHS Field Hockey, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Football, Boys' Lacrosse, Girls' Lacrosse, Boys' Track and Girls' Track practice and play at the facility. Many South-West Conference and Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference Tournament games also have been held there.

The fundraising is being directed by a parent group approved by the Region 15 Board of Education called "Project Panther". There are a variety of ways to make donations to the project. A mock picture and a donation form are available at [www.pomperaug.com](http://www.pomperaug.com).

Donations can be made to "Region 15" and sent to: Glenn Suter  
99 Little Fox Lane  
Southbury, CT 06488

Questions and interested donors can contact:  
Mr. Joe Velardi, Director of Athletics, PHS, 203-262-3244  
Mr. Dave Rusate, 203-267-1114 or 203-373-2223  
Dr. Frank Sippy, Superintendent of Schools, 203-758-8259  
Mr. James Agostine, Principal, Pomperaug High School, 203-262-3200

