

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Dimond High School Alumni Association****Federal Tax ID: 943096950****Project Title:****Project Type: Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades**

# Dimond High School Alumni Projects, Inc. - Track Replacement

**State Funding Requested: \$1,950,000****House District: Statewide (1-40)**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Installation of outdoor track system to include a new 400 m track.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$1,950,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2012 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$1,950,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Request for \$1,950,000 - This project will involve removing the current inadequate track and constructing a new 400 meter track with 8 lanes (meeting High School Federation Requirements).

Project:

Currently, there are no outdoor track systems that meet the National High School Federation requirements to hold Alaska High School Track Championships. Because of the lack of track facilities in the Anchorage area, the Anchorage School District will spend in excess of \$100,000 in the 2011 high school track season alone to send qualifying athletes to either Fairbanks or Juneau for the State Track Championships.

The completion of this project will expand opportunities for these types of competitive events in the Anchorage community and save the Anchorage School District hundreds of thousands of dollars in travel costs over the next few years. The chronic shortage of facilities to accommodate sports programs in Anchorage prevents many sports programs from reaching full potential and maximum participation.

The Alumni Association is anticipating approximately 500,000 in in-kind donations to help complete this project.

**Project Timeline:**

Construction would begin July 1, 2011 (upon approval of grant by the Governor) with project completion estimated on August 19, 2011.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Dimond H.S. Alumni Assoc.

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name: Dimond High School Alumni Assoc.  
Title: Don Winchester - President  
Address: 205 E. Dimond Blvd., #593  
Anchorage, Alaska 99515  
Phone Number: (907)529-8550  
Email: donwinchester@yahoo.com

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority?  Yes  No



## A.J. DIMOND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI FOUNDATION



January 21, 2011

To: Senator Lesil McGuire

Dimond Alumni Federal Tax Id#: 94-3096950

**Re: Request for One million nine hundred fifty thousand (\$1,950,000) to install an outdoor track system and other sports complex improvement at Dimond High School.**

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request for \$1,950,000 grant for constructing a High School Federation approved outdoor track system at Dimond High School in Anchorage.

Currently in the Anchorage area there are no outdoor track systems that meet the National High School Federation requirements to hold Alaska High School Track Championships. Because of the lack of track facilities in the Anchorage area, the Anchorage School District will spend in excess of \$100,000 in the 2011 high school track season alone to send our qualifying athletes to either Fairbanks or Thunder Mountain High School (Juneau) for the State Track Championships.

This project will involve removing the current inadequate track and constructing a new 400 meter track with 8 lanes (meeting High School Federation requirements). Construction would begin July 1, 2011 (upon Governor Parnell approving the Grant) with project completion on August 19, 2011.

The addition of a High School Federation approved outdoor track system in Anchorage will allow the Anchorage School District and citywide youth sports programs to continue to grow to meet participant interest. The completion of this project will expand opportunities for these types of competitive events in the Anchorage community and save the Anchorage School District hundreds of thousands of dollars in travel cost in the next few years.

Countless studies and reports have pointed to increased physical activity as one of the primary ways to prevent childhood obesity. The chronic shortage of facilities to accommodate sports programs in Anchorage prevents many sports programs from reaching full potential and maximum participation.

OFFICERS: DON WINCHESTER • KEVIN TAYLOR • LANCE LOCKARD • TEAGUE CRAWFORD

TRUSTEES: KAREN GOERTZ • MIKE DENNIS • PAUL HOUSTON • DOUG PHILLIPS • BILL BREWINGTON • STEVE SANDY • DAVE KUPER • BRAD HOLIFIELD  
• JOHN PAXTON

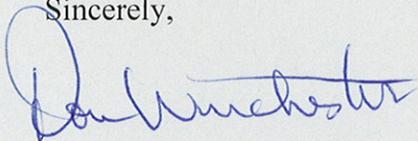
205 E. DIMOND BLVD., #593 • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99515 • ALUMNI HOTLINE (907) 566-0955 • FAX (907) 566-0955  
[www.corecom.net/~dhsaf/](http://www.corecom.net/~dhsaf/)

We anticipate approximately \$500,000 in in-kind donations to help complete this project.

Dimond High Alumni Association has a compelling and consistent record for completing these types of projects on time and on budget.

Please call if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Don Winchester – President

Dimond Alumni Foundation

522-1937 wk; 345-7049 hm; 529-8550 cell; donwinchester@yahoo.com



*Cheryl M. Guyett, Principal*  
*A. J. Dimond High School*  
*2909 W. 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue Anchorage, Alaska 99502*  
*(907) 742-7000 (907) 742-7007 fax*  
*guyett\_cheryl@asd.k12.org*

February 14, 2011

TO: Senator Lesil McGuire

RE: Support for Dimond High School Track and Sports Complex Funding Request

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Dimond Alumni Association's request for \$1,950,000 to install an outdoor track system and other sports complex improvements on the Dimond High School campus. The completed complex would provide critical track and field facilities for Dimond, Anchorage School District, Alaska School Activities Association, and the municipality of Anchorage.

As proposed, these improvements to the existing track and field facilities at Dimond High School will create the first outdoor track system in Southcentral Alaska to meet High School Federation standards. Students and community members throughout the region will benefit incredibly from the expansion.

As Dimond High Principal the past 8 years I have had ample opportunity to observe the amount of use our existing track gets from community members and students. On any given day, student athletes, UAA athletes, Anchorage Firefighters, youth clubs, and/or moms and dads are running laps or practicing field events on our limited 4-lane track. It's easy to project how much the community will appreciate and use an expanded facility.

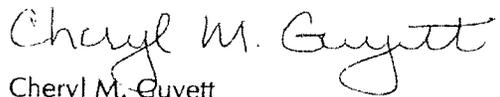
The sport of track and field is not a good fit with our winter climate, yet track and field draws impressively large numbers of high school athletes. Dimond High School runs one of the largest track and field programs in our state. Dimond's existing 4-lane track severely limits the number of athletes that can work out at any one time, resulting in delays that can lead to injuries from inadequately warming up muscles.

Dimond campus is graced with a spectacular turf field with stadium seating. Adding an 8-lane outdoor track system to our existing facilities would achieve a comprehensive sports complex to host a wide spectrum of athletic events.

The Dimond Alumni Association has a focused vision, shared by Dimond High School, to provide quality athletic facilities for Anchorage youth at an economical cost. I was extremely impressed by the Alumni Association's stewardship, collegiality, industry connections, and attention to value and quality as we worked together to complete the Dimond High Alumni Stadium.

I wholeheartedly support this track request and truly hope that funding will be allocated.  
Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl M. Guyett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cheryl M. Guyett  
Principal



Kathleen A. Navarre  
Dimond High Teacher/Coach  
2909 West 88<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502  
(907) 742-6955

To Senator Lesil McGuire,

Thank you for your time and consideration to the \$1,950,000 grant money for a track system at Dimond High School.

As a track coach in Anchorage and one of the representatives for the coaches of track and field, I would like to comment on the necessity of this facility to the track community of Anchorage.

Anchorage is without an adequate track facility to host a Nationally and ASAA state standard track meet. We do not have the facilities necessary to hold all the events that are competed in as well as house the spectators that come to watch the state and invitational meets. The Dimond facility has the stadium seats and the turf that would be used to meet some of these needs. The 8 lanes, as well as improvements to the jumping pits and the addition of a high jump pad will bring this facility up to the quality necessary to host the State meet.

Anchorage track programs are the largest in the state. We continue to get high numbers of athletes involved in our programs and strive to achieve personal goals and successes with each and every athlete.

When Anchorage athletes compete in the high jump, we have to either jump indoors or use multiple surfaces to make due for an outdoor jump competition. We are not able to adequately prepare our jumpers for what they face at the State meet, which is competing outdoors and jumping from a high jump pad.

Anchorage qualifies the largest number of athletes to the state meet and has won numerous state titles. We could be housing our athletes at their own homes and saving numbers of dollars on travel, housing, transportation and food by being able to hold the state meet in town. This would also bring in money to our local economy by holding the event in town. We would also like to be able for our athletes to compete at state in front of their families and friends.

Thank you again for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Navarre  
Head Girls Track Coach  
Dimond High School

## Support for Dimond High School Outdoor Track System

**From:** Suzanne Hueners [<mailto:sj.hueners@gci.net>]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 18, 2011 10:55 AM  
**To:** Rep. Mia Costello  
**Subject:** Support for Dimond High School Outdoor Track System

February 17, 2011

TO: Representative Mia Costello

RE: Support for Dimond High School Track and Sports Complex Funding

As PTSA President of Dimond High School I would like to take this opportunity to send my full support for the \$1,950,000 request to install an outdoor track system that meets the requirements of the National High School Federation. This track system is unbelievably absent in the entire Southcentral region of Alaska. It is a long-overdue need of the entire community.

I have been involved at Dimond High School for over 10 years and have witnessed the incredible amount of activity associated with the current state-of-the-art stadium. The potential uses of this stadium would grow exponentially with the addition of an 8-lane track system and would allow for convenient and accessible athletic events.

The Dimond Alumni Association has a proven reputation to improve its corner of the world for the benefit of the entire community. They selflessly work to ensure that the quality of the end product is sound and reliable. The cooperative relationship between Dimond Alumni Association and Dimond High School ensures the timely and fiscally responsible completion of this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important investment of our community.

Respectfully,

Suzanne Hueners

PTSA President

A.J. Dimond High School