

February 3, 2016

Dear Ms. Drake,

I grew up in Kentfield and have lived in Greenbrae for over 20 years. My home is at 125 Corte Balboa, on the hillside across the street from Marin Catholic.

I am opposed to Marin Catholic's proposal to put lights on its field for several reasons: the night time noise that will be caused by the use of the fields after dark, the glare of the lights, and the traffic associated with night time games. All of these will be disruptive to the quiet enjoyment of the homes in this area of Greenbrae and also the wildlife in the wetlands behind Marin Catholic.

Marin Catholic's current plan is incomplete because it does not sufficiently study or address these negative impacts on the surrounding area.

Also, I have seen nothing that shows that there is a need for lights on the fields. The main argument that Marin Catholic proponents use to justify the lights is that it will benefit the community to have youth sports played at night. As the parent of three teenage athletes, I completely disagree with that reasoning. I think youth sports are very enriching but I do not think it is in the best interests of kids to have soccer, lacrosse, and football practices at night. I think the natural cycle of long summer daylight and short winter days puts a healthy limitation on sports that tend to take over kids' lives. I think it is good for kids to go home when it is dark so they can do homework, spend time with their families, or just relax.

I also do not think night time football games are a good idea for Marin County. Underage drinking is a big problem at all high schools in Marin and I do not think it is a good judgment to schedule games at night when it is much more likely that post-game celebrations will involve alcohol. This would be especially dangerous for a private high school like Marin Catholic because most of the students are not from the immediate area and will need to drive home after the games.

For these reasons, and others, I think there needs to be a lot more study and analysis of Marin Catholic's proposal. Based on the currently available information, it appears that it will not only disturb the peace of the neighborhood residents but also is not in the best interests of the community or Marin County youth.

Very truly yours,

Suzanne Fogarty