

**Sent:** Mon, May 6, 2019 at 1:50 PM

**Subject:** Proposed Deerfield High School Scoreboard

Dear Mayor Rosenthal and Village Trustees:

First, my previous email was inadvertently sent before I finished composing it. Please disregard it and forgive me. I will start again.

Second, please read the following. It address distracted driving and what could be a tragic consequence of placing the scoreboard where the boosters and athletic department desire.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/02/business/distracted-driving-technology.html?searchResultPosition=1>

[Distracted by Tech While Driving?  
The Answer May Be More Tech](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/02/business/distracted-driving-technology.html?searchResultPosition=1)

The most effective safety features may be the systems that are laying the foundation for the autonomous cars of the future.

[www.nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)

I reside a 925 Summit Drive in the North Trail subdivision adjacent to the High School and am writing you about the proposed scoreboard. I attended the recent Village meeting where the scoreboard report was discussed and voted upon. Like each North Trail neighbor who spoke at the meeting, I am not opposed to the scoreboard. But I do have concerns. One of those concerns was the candor of the proponents of the scoreboard. Specifically, the member of the booster club who referred to unidentified studies in arguing that an electronic monolith adjacent to Waukegan road will not be a distraction to drivers while it is in use. This is contrary to both common sense and science. Attached is a link to a May 2, 2019 New York Times article on distracted driving. In it, among other information, it tells the following story:

"Three years ago, four teenagers were driving home from spring break in Texas when their Hyundai Elantra suddenly veered into the lane of oncoming

traffic, where an 18-wheeler slammed into it, killing three of them. What happened in the seconds preceding the crash? The driver glanced at a navigation

app on her cell phone."

As was mentioned at the meeting, Waukegan Road by the High School has a high concentration of teenage drivers: those who have the least experience and who are the most easily distracted. Does anyone really believe that a player racing downfield towards the goal line or high in the air to catch a long pass is not going to attract the attention of viewers? Let's not be silly or dishonest about this. The purpose of "The last piece of the puzzle" as proponents call the scoreboard, is intended to add excitement, to rivet the fans attention to the athletic event on the field. Such a scoreboard is certainly not necessary for fans to be able to see what is happening on the field. I have lived in Deerfield since 1992. My two sons went to Deerfield High School and both played high school sports. One played football all four years and I was at almost every game. It makes no sense to have the scoreboard facing south when it could be placed in the southwest corner facing northeast. This is the only place where it could be used safely and in a manner that respects and protects the neighbors and their property.

The security issue is mentioned by the school is a red herring. If sight of the west door by the gym is blocked from the stands, put security on the ground. I urge you, the Mayor and the Trustees of all of Deerfield, to consider carefully what you will allow at the athletic field and at what cost to the North Trail homeowners and the drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists on and along Waukegan Road. If there is over \$300,000.00 to spend on a scoreboard, there is no justification for placing it in a spot that would be dangerous and intrusive to the neighborhood because there is no money for an extra security guard during athletic events.

Thank you for your consideration of these views and the information in the attached article.

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