

The

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HASKELL COUNTY NEWS

Monitor  Chief

Incorporating The Sublette Monitor (1921-1956) and The Satanta Chief (1919-1956)

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USD 374 Infrastructure Bond Focus: Preserving District Assets Through Track Resurfacing Part 3 of an Ongoing Informational Series on the Proposed Bond Election



Why Resurfacing Is Required

The top rubber surface serves two primary roles: providing crucial impact absorption for running athletes and acting as a waterproof seal over the underlying asphalt base. As an all-weather track ages under environmental exposure, the rubber surface naturally becomes brittle, loses cushioning, and can begin separating from the sub-base layer to create tripping hazards.

Once thinning or cracking occurs, surface water penetrates into the underlying asphalt. During Kansas freeze-and-thaw cycles, trapped moisture expands, causing severe structural degradation to the foundation. Delaying routine resurfacing jeopardizes the sub-base, turning a standard maintenance project into a full track reconstruction—a scenario the district is actively working to avoid.

While resurfacing represents a significant outlay, addressing it

Unified School District 374 has released the second installment in its public information series regarding the \$6 million bond proposal for district infrastructure updates. This release provides an in-depth look at one of the four core maintenance needs identified by administration and the board of education: resurfacing the Sublette High School athletic track.

The project involves removing and replacing the track's worn top running layer, an all-weather synthetic surface composed of polyurethane or latex binder bound with resilient EPDM (ethylene propylene diene monomer) rubber granules.

"Our track represents an investment made years ago that would now be well over \$1 million in today's dollars were we to completely replace the track down to the dirt base," said USD 374 Superintendent Rex Richardson. "The bond addresses only the top layer, which needs to be replaced every 15 years or so to protect the base layers underneath. Unfortunately, the cost of that required maintenance exceeds what we can do with capital outlay. However, it needs to be done now before we put the more expensive track base at risk or allow the running surface to become unsafe for our athletes."

Satanta High School 2026 Homecoming King and Queen



Congratulations Jasmine Wood and Edgar Najera on being crowned Queen and King during the 2026 Fall Homecoming Ceremony! The football game ended in a win, and high school students enjoyed a dance hosted by KAY and FBLA. It was a great homecoming 2026!

proactively costs far less than a full base-to-dirt replacement. To prevent any interference with spring track meets or fall football schedules, the resurfacing work will take place during the summer months.

Public Informational Meetings

To learn more about the proposal and ask questions, patrons can review project updates on the official USD 374

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**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



Rosary Rally

There will be a public Rosary Rally on October 10th at noon in Satanta. It will be held at the St Alphonsus Parish Catholic Church located at Hwy 56 and Tecumseh.

Sublette Christian Church Food Pantry

106 W. Carson Ave Thursday 11:00 AM to Noon. Other times by appointment. The pantry includes a box of food and a \$35 voucher for Venture Foods for fresh produce and frozen items.

Editor's Note

Please call or e-mail with any news. Telephone number and e-mail address are listed above. Any non-urgent news can also be dropped off at Sublette City Hall.

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