

In recent years, there has been a growing trend towards the deprivation of opportunities single-gendered schools particularly in all girls schools. The TCDSB is no exception, with several all-girls schools under its purview. While these schools offer many benefits, one area in which they can improve in is the provision of sports fields for their students.

Sports are an important part of adolescent development. Participating in sports not only promotes physical health but also fosters mental and emotional well-being. Individuals who engage in sports are more likely to have higher self-esteem, better body image, and a stronger sense of collaboration and leadership skills. So why should we deprive those who attend all-girls schools in the critical development of these skills, all because of the lack of a proper foundation to fully indulge and practice upon these skills.

The psychological effects of implementing sports fields in these schools have a variety of benefits that also pertain to the sense of unity that is present within the school. All of this creates a sense of community and school spirit and encourages students to come together to support their school, leading to that necessary sense of pride and belonging. All in which simultaneously occurs when fostering healthy competition among schools and create a positive atmosphere for learning and growth, this in turn diminishes the tension, gender disparity and envy that is present between all girls schools, co-ed schools and all boys schools (2/3 in which have fields).

In regards to the safety and provision of opportunities for students, fields can provide a safe and controlled environment for physical activity. Without access to sports fields, Individuals have to rely on public parks and other outdoor spaces, which may not be as safe or suitable for organized sports or provide a flexible sense of availability for students. From personal experience I have witnessed several peers leave class an hour prior to dismissal just to make it to the public field in time for practice. In fear of jeopardizing their education and ability to learn I have witness many peers no longer partaking in sports they thoroughly enjoyed and were exceptional in. Why should we rob these individuals of the sense of safety, enjoyment and several opportunities alongside the development of several beneficial skills.

Similar to now, my school had to fight for the provision of computer labs and general access to computer science classes, when provided with these necessities alumni from Loretto Abbey were graciously given the opportunity to dominate the STEM fields, now let's provide the opportunity to dominate the sports field.