



Join us as we cut the ribbon to open Monroe High's newest ball field

- Monday, March 14
- 4 p.m.
- Monroe High School
(located at 17001 Tester Road in Monroe)

Finally, after more than 15 years, Monroe High School students will be able to play softball and baseball games on their campus ball fields planned for the Tester Road site when the school opened in 1999. We hope your schedule will allow you to join us to cut the ribbon to officially open the first of these fields in this long-awaited softball/baseball complex for Monroe's youth. The festivities will be brief to ensure a prompt start to the Bearcats home opener for the 2016 Fastpitch Softball season!

It has been quite a journey to this event. In 1999 when the school was built, community support did not allow for construction of competition-level fields. In 2005 the soccer/football stadium and fourth classroom wing opened after voters approved a bond but again, there were not ample resources to complete the ball fields. After another failed attempt to secure funding in 2010, school leaders began collecting support to build just this portion of the complex. By harvesting timber off school district-owned land, receiving generous grants from the county Tourism Promotion Area Advisory Board & the City of Monroe then adding in local school reserve dollars, that first field is now complete!

Less than a year ago, in April 2015, a super-majority - 62.74% - of residents approved a bond to build the remaining two ball fields as well as other school improvements. Monroe High's ball fields will be the first major project to be built with the 2015 bond dollars. Construction will start this spring. The project adds drainage and lighting and an all-weather surface for year-round use by students and our community. Students will benefit from the additional area for instruction as well as greater safety for student athletes that currently must travel off campus for practices and competitions.

