

Our Lady of the Bay Catholic High School

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Kerri Parent, Principal Marianna Knights, Chaplaincy Denis Nugent, Vice-Principal Anna Coccimiglio, Student Services

October 25, 2022

Dear Council Members of the Town of the Blue Mountains,

I am writing to you today on behalf of my school community, Our Lady of the Bay Catholic High School, to ask for your consideration to reduce or eliminate the cost of renting the Boyer Tennis Courts for school use. We are located in Collingwood, and many students who live in the Blue Mountains attend our school.

As you may be aware, school sports and extracurriculars are running again. We are so pleased to offer more than just a classroom experience to our students. Jason Boose, a colleague of mine, coaches our Tennis team. He not only coaches the teams, but also coordinates the Catholic School Athletics of Simcoe County Championships and the Georgian Bay Secondary School Association Championships. Athletes compete at these tournaments in hopes that they will advance to the OFSAA (Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations) Provincial championship.

As you can imagine, when coordinating a large tournament, several tennis courts are needed. Jason utilizes all available courts in the Town of Collingwood, and then looks to neighbouring communities. This year he needed to use Boyer Park in the Town of the Blue Mountains in order to accommodate all of the matches. Along with booking the courts, there are the equipment costs and transportation costs. As we all know, the costs of everything have greatly increased. It is our goal to ensure that high school sports are accessible to all students, no matter their financial situation.

This fall, Jason used both courts at Boyer on September 29 from 9am to 3pm. He also used the courts again on October 6th from 9am to 4pm. The tournaments used a total of 26 hours, at \$10/hour per court. The total cost to our school for using these courts was \$293.80 with taxes.

I appreciate your consideration for waiving or reducing the fee for using the Boyer courts this year.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Clarke