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New Sports Field at Camino Pablo Elementary

By Sophie Braccini



Students help to cut the ribbon Photo Cathy Dausman

The bell rang at 10:55 a.m. on Thursday, December 8. Like a flock of birds taking over a newly-seeded field, the children of Camino Pablo Elementary (CP) in Moraga ran running and screaming, on that crisp and bright morning, across the new sports field. The grass took it well.

Officials from the Town of Moraga, the School District and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) looked on in delight - they had just finished an inauguration ceremony for the new field.

"What is nice about this field is that it can be used in different configurations for different sports," said Harry Crouch, Park and Recreation Commissioner and LMYA parent. The field at CP had ceased to be a viable alternative for sports team in the area, which are always hungry for good practice surfaces, due to drainage and grass quality issues.

The complete renovation of the field cost the Town of Moraga over half a million dollars. It was made possible by a Measure WW grant; the bond measure was approved in 2008 by residents of Contra Costa and is administered and redistributed by the EBRPD.

"We are thrilled that the renovation went so well," said Moraga School District Superintendent Bruce Burns, "this cooperative project with the Town went very well and we'd like to see more." The Town Council decides on the use of Measure WW money, which must go toward parks and recreation. The choice of renovating the School District's property was made because it seemed the best way to serve the recreation needs of the community.

About \$100,000 remains of the bond allocation to fund other recreation projects in Moraga.

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