Fairfax County PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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THRU: Ms. Rebecca Baenig, Assistant Superintendent, Region 5

Mr. Kyle McDaniel, School Board Member At-Large

TO: School Board Members

FROM: Meredith Norris, Principal, Westfield High School

RE: Renaming the Westfield High School Baseball Field

Date: June 25, 2026

The staff of Westfield High School, along with current and former community members, respectfully request that the Westfield High School Baseball Field be named the Rob Hahne Baseball Field in honor of Coach Rob Hahne and his lasting contributions to Westfield High School, Fairfax County Public Schools, and the broader Northern Virginia baseball community.

Attached are letters of support from current and retired staff members, athletic leaders, coaches, and community stakeholders, as well as a proposed resolution for School Board consideration. These letters reflect Coach Hahne's profound impact as an educator, mentor, coach, and community leader whose influence extended far beyond the baseball field.

It is our hope that the School Board will support this request and place the proposed naming resolution on an upcoming School Board agenda for consideration and vote.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Naming the field in Coach Hahne's honor would serve as a lasting tribute to his legacy and would be deeply meaningful to his family, former students, colleagues, and the entire Westfield community.

Please feel free to contact me at 703-488-6306 if you have any questions or require additional information.

Thank you for your time and attention.

NAMING of the baseball field at WESTFIELD HIGH SCHOOL as "THE ROB HAHNE MEMORIAL BASEBALL FIELD"

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert L. Hahne, Jr. of Clifton, Virginia was a tireless advocate for youth baseball in the Northern Virginia region and is estimated to have coached over 100 baseball teams over the years, including ten years as head coach at Westfield High School, profoundly affecting the lives of students, families and community members; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hahne's passion for baseball included service as the Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Travel Baseball League (NVTBL), one of the largest independent baseball leagues in the country with over 400 teams; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hahne also helped create the Potomac League based at Capitol One Park to fill the need for college-level summer league play; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hahne's dedication to coaching and mentoring young people is also exemplified by his service as a longtime member of both the American Baseball Coaches Association and the Virginia Baseball Coaches Association, serving on the Boards of both organizations and as the American Baseball Coaches Association's fourth Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hahne also served as the chairman of the Fairfax County Baseball Council as well as a member of the Fairfax County Athletic Council, the Fairfax County Sports Tourism Taskforce, and on the Board of Visit Fairfax; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to honor his memory and extraordinary contributions to the baseball community by dedicating the baseball field at Westfield High School in his name so that future generations of students and community members will recognize and remember his lasting influence as a coach and mentor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfax County School Board honors Robert L. Hahne, Jr. with the naming of the Westfield High School Baseball Field as the "Rob Hahne Memorial Baseball Field" in recognition of his many years of dedicated service to both the sport and to the students, families, and community of Fairfax County and Westfield High School.

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Westfield High School
4700 Stonecroft Boulevard
Chantilly, Virginia 20151

June 22, 2026

Honorable Members of the Fairfax County School Board:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic endorsement and wholehearted support for the proposal to name the Westfield High School baseball field after our beloved former varsity baseball coach, Rob Hahne. Rob was much more than a coach; he was a pillar of the Westfield community and an extraordinary leader whose impact reverberated across Centreville, Chantilly, and the entire Northern Region baseball community.

Over his decade of leadership, Rob touched countless lives, embodying Westfield's core values of community, integrity, and excellence. While his time, dedication, and relentless passion translated into a tremendous winning record on the diamond, his true legacy lies in the profound sense of belonging he fostered. Rob aimed to create a memorable experience for everyone, ensuring that every single person who stepped onto the field felt valued, welcomed, and respected.

As you review the accompanying letters from our administration and community leaders, you will see a consistent reflection of Rob's incredible character:

- A Builder of Character and Future Leaders: As highlighted by our Director of Student Activities, Isaac Bumgardner, Rob used baseball as a vehicle to teach hard work, fairness, and respect, molding his players into exceptional athletes and even better people. Former DSA Terri Towle similarly notes how Rob prioritized educational-based athletics, preparing his players to become confident leaders, devoted fathers, and outstanding citizens.

- A Champion of Community Appreciation: Rob routinely used his platform to host memorable community appreciation nights. He brought people together to honor teachers, military veterans, first responders, and healthcare workers, seamlessly weaving the fabric of the broader community into the Westfield baseball program.

- A Visionary for Regional Youth Sports: Beyond Westfield, Rob's tireless advocacy revolutionized local youth sports. His leadership in the Northern Virginia Travel Baseball League (NVTBL), the Southwestern Youth Association (SYA), and various athletic councils helped transform regional facilities—such as Patriot Park—and expanded access to baseball for thousands of children across Fairfax County.

The Westfield baseball field was truly a second home to Rob, a place where he spent countless unseen hours mowing the grass and preparing the dirt to ensure his players had the best possible experience.

While his professional contributions to our region are undeniable, I also speak to you today as a parent who has witnessed Rob's transformative impact on a deeply personal level. Rob became an invaluable mentor to my daughter, who is currently pursuing a Sports Management Degree at James Madison University with the goal of working in Major League Baseball. They first connected when she served as a baseball manager at Centreville High School. Recognizing her drive and passion, Rob hired her to be a part of the inaugural Potomac League so she could gain firsthand experience in baseball operations. He went above and beyond to support her growth, even affording her the incredible opportunity to travel to London as the USA team played. Over the last three summers, she has worked side-by-side with Rob. Through his guidance, she learned far more than just the mechanics of running a baseball organization; she absorbed the values of hard work, unwavering dedication, and a commitment to servant leadership.

Rob's investment in her journey has left an immeasurable mark on her life. Therefore, I write this letter not just as the Principal of Westfield High School, but as a deeply grateful parent who has seen firsthand how Rob naturally extended his leadership to uplift, develop, and champion the next generation.

Naming the field in his honor is the perfect tribute to a man who gave everything to our community. It will serve as a permanent reminder to future generations of the community, integrity and excellence that Coach Hahne stood for every single day. Thank you for your time and consideration of this meaningful proposal to honor Rob's enduring memory.

Sincerely,

Meredith Norris
Principal
Westfield High School

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Westfield High School
4700 Stonecroft Boulevard
Chantilly, Virginia 20151

June 21, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am honored and proud to support the proposal to name the Westfield High School baseball field after Coach Rob Hahne. Coach Hahne's impact on Westfield High School, SYA Youth Baseball, and the Northern Virginia baseball community is immeasurable. He dedicated his life to developing young athletes, building character, and strengthening the game of baseball for generations of players and families. His influence extended far beyond the baseball diamond and touched countless lives throughout our community.

I personally witnessed Rob's commitment firsthand. Many mornings and weekends, coach could be found mowing and preparing fields for hours, whether at Cub Run for youth baseball or at Westfield High School. He worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that players had the best possible experience. His efforts were never about recognition. They were about serving others and making the baseball community better.

Rob was also instrumental in helping transform Patriot Park into one of the premier youth and high school baseball facilities in Northern Virginia. Through his relentless effort, constant attention to detail, and ability to work collaboratively with community leaders and stakeholders, he helped turn a vision into reality. Today, countless young athletes benefit from that work. The transformation of Patriot Park stands as one of the most impressive facility improvements our region has seen and serves as a lasting example of Rob's commitment to providing the very best opportunities for future generations of players.

Another quality that always stood out about Rob was his commitment to recognizing others. At Westfield baseball games, he regularly honored teachers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, military members, and many other groups who serve our community. He understood the importance of making people feel appreciated and valued. While Rob was often the driving force behind these recognitions, he never sought the spotlight for himself. Instead, he used his platform to celebrate others and ensure they felt welcomed, respected, and connected to the Westfield community.

Rob also had a tremendous impact on my family. While my children never had the opportunity to play for him, I had the privilege of coaching alongside Rob for many years at Westfield as a fellow head coach. Throughout those years, I often looked to Rob for ideas and inspiration. Whether it was finding ways to increase participation, creating Green Day activities, promoting programs, or developing fundraising initiatives, Rob was always willing to share his knowledge and experience. His leadership and guidance helped make my program better.
I also had the pleasure of coaching youth baseball and frequently used some of Coach Hahne's drills, teaching methods, and practice concepts to help my teams improve. His influence

extended far beyond the players he directly coached, impacting fellow coaches and programs throughout our community.

Beyond athletics, Rob always made a point to include my family in social gatherings, community events, and program celebrations. His kindness, friendship, and willingness to make everyone feel welcome never went unnoticed. He had a unique way of making people feel valued, and my family will always be grateful for that.

Beyond the field, Coach Hahne's leadership transformed countless lives. As a coach, mentor, league administrator, and community leader, he devoted himself to creating opportunities for young athletes. His work with the Northern Virginia Travel Baseball League, the Potomac League, and Kyle's Kamp demonstrated his extraordinary ability to turn vision into action and make a lasting difference.

Most importantly, Rob believed in the power of one coach to positively influence a young person's life. Through his dedication, patience, compassion, and unwavering commitment to others, he set an example that will continue to inspire players, coaches, families, and community members for years to come. Naming the baseball field after Coach Rob Hahne would be a fitting and lasting tribute to a man who gave so much to Westfield High School and the entire baseball community. His legacy is woven into the fabric of the program, the facilities he helped build, the fields he cared for, and the countless lives he touched. I wholeheartedly support this proposal and can think of no one more deserving of this honor.

Sincerely,

Keith Sholders
Assistant Director of Activities

To the Members of the School Board,

I am writing to ask you to name the Westfield High School baseball field after Coach Rob Hahne. Rob passed away suddenly in May 2026. Naming the field after him would honor his memory. It would also celebrate his deep love for our school and community.

Rob was the head baseball coach at Westfield High School for nine seasons. During his time at Westfield, his teams were successful on the field. However, he taught his players much more than the game of baseball. He was a great example to every baseball player he worked with. Rob taught his players how to be good athletes and good people. He showed them how to work hard, play fair, and respect others.

Rob was also a true leader in every group he joined. He worked hard to help young people love baseball all over our region. He held major leadership roles in the Northern Virginia Travel Baseball League (NVBTL) and the Southwestern Youth Association (SYA). He was also a strong voice in local high school coaches associations. Rob spent his life building up sports programs that helped thousands of kids grow into confident leaders.

I have been at Westfield High School since 2004. We have had the pleasure to have many outstanding teachers, coaches, and leaders work with our outstanding community. Few have had as much of a positive impact on the community as Rob Hahne has. The Westfield baseball field was like a second home to Rob. Naming this field after him is the perfect way to keep his spirit alive. It will remind future players of the values he stood for every single day.

Thank you for your time and for considering this request to honor a great man.

Sincerely,

Isaac Bumgardner
Director of Student Activities
Westfield High School

Westfield High School

FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

4700 Stonecroft Boulevard
Chantilly, Virginia 20151

June 19, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Terri Towle and I am the retired Director of Student Activities of Westfield High School. I have been a member of the Westfield community for 26 years in many capacities: teacher, coach, ADSA and DSA. The purpose of this letter is to share with you my support and reasoning for the naming of the Westfield High School Baseball Field to The Rob Hahne Baseball Field.

Rob is a product of Fairfax County Public Schools, having graduated from Langley High School in 1987. His 3 children have attended FCPS schools (all Westfield Alumni) and his youngest is currently coaching at Centreville High School and studying to become a teacher. Rob's wife, Kieran, is also a product of Fairfax County Public Schools and has spent her career teaching in FCPS. Rob lived what he believed, he believed in the power of public education and the strength of community.

With the very recent passing of Rob Hahne in May 2026, one starts to reflect on the impact that people have on their community. Rob was the Varsity Baseball Coach at Westfield High School for 9 seasons. He had a varsity record of 123-83, won a District Title (2019) and 2 Regional Titles (2019, 2023) and was a 2 time VHSL Class 6 State Finalist (2019, 2023). He was also recognized by the Washington Post and the Northern Region as the Coach of the Year in 2019. While his coaching record and accomplishments are outstanding, the impact that Rob has had on our student athletes and community is ever lasting.

Rob believed in educational based athletics. His focus was on each individual on his team. His goal was to make them a better person, as young men they were building strong habits, good decision making skills, showing confidence and leadership. He was preparing them every day and every practice to make sure they were ready to be strong husbands, fathers, co-workers and citizens. On Rob's team it wasn't about running bases or the pitch count, it was learning through adversity and the challenges of sports, it was learning to show respect and appreciation. Rob was developing fine young men on and off the field.

Rob implemented appreciation nights to bring out the best in our community. His appreciation nights included honoring: Fairfax County Police, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue, Military Veterans and of course our teachers. Through these nights he showed the players, parents, staff and community members what it means to show appreciation and to gather and support your community. These nights were the most attended and memorable events of the season. Many of us talk of community and coming together, Rob created that space and lived his belief in everything he did.

Rob's impact goes far beyond Westfield High School. He worked with every level of baseball from Little League to the Major Leagues, many of those leagues use FCPS school facilities and Fairfax County Park Authority fields. He worked tirelessly through NVBTL, FCPA,

FCPS, and the Athletic Council for more facilities, better facilities and to make baseball available to all. It is only right that future athletes and community members know what he stood for and how well he represented everything good in FCPS, athletics and community.

I absolutely support the naming of the baseball field at Westfield High School to be called the Rob Hahne Baseball Field. His impact will be felt for many generations to come. If there is an opportunity to do something larger, we should. Rob's impact county wide, is unequivocal.

Respectfully,

Terri K Towle
Retired Director of Student Activities
Westfield High School

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of formally recognizing Rob Hahne for the lasting impact he has had on thousands of youths in our area and as a champion for the advancement of baseball. The influence Rob has had on our community extends far beyond the athletic fields. At his core, the relationships he built and the lives he positively impacted were his genuine focus. I am honored to support the recognition of his accomplishments as a coach, mentor, and developer of athletics at Westfield High School, Fairfax County, and beyond.

When Rob was first hired as a coach at Westfield, he brought excitement and energy to the baseball program, but this was not his beginning. For years prior to this, Rob had already been a huge part of SYA Little League and the community. Rob's ability to motivate kids of all ages into believing in themselves and performing at a higher level was pivotal to establishing and maintaining a successful baseball program in one of the toughest districts in Virginia. And while he did lead Westfield to a State Runner-Up finish, I think Rob would be much prouder of his accomplishments off the field with kids, teaching leadership, hard work, and respect for others. Rob led by example of what it was like to do things the right way and positively impact your community through baseball.

As the Assistant Director of Student Activities and former head baseball coach at Chantilly High School, I was lucky to know Rob as a friend, mentor, collaborator, and rival. I know he made me better through each of the different relationships we had. He made me a better coach, a better person, and got me more involved in baseball and providing unique opportunities for our kids.

I would be remiss if I did not clearly state that Rob's impact is so much more than Westfield High School. Rob has been an influential voice for baseball, not just in Fairfax County, but also at the state and national level, and was recently named Vice President of the American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA). He has served on multiple committees and boards and hosted countless meetings to try and improve all aspects of the game. I feel confident that no one person even knows the magnitude of impact he has had on providing for the youths of Fairfax County and other counties in the area.

Having a field named after him is something that Rob would never have wanted which speaks even more to his character. Despite the countless hours he worked, he never wanted the spotlight, but he is the kind of person who is most deserving of that recognition. Thank you for considering to honor Rob in this way as I feel it is a small token of the recognition he deserves.

Sincerely,

Kevin Ford