

## **Winston County High School “Field of Dreams” Baseball Field Close to a Reality**

After several years of hard work and much help from different people of the community, Winston County High School is ready to finish a long-needed baseball project.

“I had a vision of what Winston County High School needed to round out Winston County High athletic facilities. And after six or seven years of hard work from several different people, I realized that it wasn’t just my vision, there were lots of people that had the same vision. I just helped to plant the seed and God used many folks to water that seed to make it a reality,” states Winston County Board Member Greg Batchelor. “Mann Steel donated their time, equipment, and explosives to help us blast a huge sandrock cliff where our baseball field will soon be built. Jimmy Martin, a parent of students and employee of Mann Steel, donated several hours of his time running equipment. I want to take the time again to thank Mann Steel and Jimmy Martin for helping us get the project off the ground.”

Major progress first began in 2007 when the Winston County Commission agreed to help with some site prep work for the county schools. “I want to greatly thank County Commission Chairman Jerry Mobley, Commissioner Roger Hayes, Commissioner Tommy Farmer, and all of the men from the road department who participated. The County Commission has helped us greatly and has agreed to try to help us finish our site prep work,” Batchelor stated.

“The next major accomplishment was after we had searched many avenues to fund the purchase of a lighting system, fencing, grass planting, necessary finish dirt, bleachers, concession stand, a batting cage, etc. We contacted all our local senators and representatives. The Winston County Board of Education and I want to thank Representative Mike Millican for his dedication to see this project through. Rep. Millican supported us in the House of Representatives to help us receive a \$250,000 grant. I also want to thank J.D. Snoddy for helping with contacts, Danny Springer for help with communications of letter-writing and emails, and all the other people in the community and in the Winston County Board of Education that helped,” states Winston County Board Member Greg Batchelor. “This money will help to see our baseball facilities completed, but with the high cost of everything today, we’ll still have to watch our cost and will need parents and people from the community to help complete this project by donating time or work.” Anyone who would like to help in this project, please contact Greg Batchelor, Jeff Cole, or Coaches Brandon Millican or Phillip Keef.

Pictured below is the building site



Left to right: Admin. Ass't. Danny Springer, Circuit Clerk J.D. Snoddy, Board Member Greg Batchelor, Rep. Mike Millican, Superintendent Sue Reed, Coach Brandon Millican, Principal Jeff Cole, Coach Phillip Keef