

Public Announcement

Request for Proposal:
RFP – Athletic Field Maintenance
For Lake Wales High School
For Lake Wales Charter Schools Inc.

Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc. (LWCS), Lake Wales, Florida, is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified and experienced contractors to provide comprehensive athletic field maintenance services for our football field (Legion Field). The purpose of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to secure a contractor capable of furnishing all labor, supervision, equipment, materials, and related services necessary to maintain the athletic field in a safe, healthy, aesthetically pleasing, and competition-ready condition throughout the contract term.

The selected contractor shall demonstrate the experience, expertise, personnel, and resources necessary to perform professional athletic field maintenance in accordance with the specifications and performance standards contained within this RFP. Lake Wales High School intends to assess if this is an affordable option for us and contract to the proposer whose submission is determined to be in the best interest of the School, considering qualifications, experience, proposed services, and overall value.

Project Location

Lake Wales High School
1 Highlander Way
Lake Wales, FL 33853

Project Name	Athletic Field Maintenance
Point of Contact	Jason Shick
Phone	863-678-4222
Email/Bid Submission	Jason.Shick@lwcharterschools.com
School Mailing Address	1 Highlander Way, Lake Wales FL 33853
Project Location Specifics	Legion Field (Home Side)
Current Date	September 1, 2026
Walkthrough Date	September 10 th , 2026
Walkthrough Time	9:00 AM (Meet at Legion Field)
Bids Due Deadline	September 25 th , 2026 (11:00am)

Service	Scope of Work (Summary)
Properties/Grounds	Athletic Football Field (Legion Field)
Exclusions	N/A

Scope of Work – Legion Field Maintenance

1. General

The Contractor shall provide all labor, supervision, equipment, tools, vehicles, materials, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, growth regulators, soil amendments, fuel, irrigation repair materials, and all other incidentals necessary to provide comprehensive maintenance services for **Legion Field**, the varsity football stadium at Lake Wales High School.

All services shall be performed in accordance with current industry best management practices for natural athletic turf and in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

The Contractor shall maintain Legion Field in a safe, healthy, aesthetically pleasing, and game-ready condition throughout the term of the contract. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for determining the frequency and methods necessary to achieve and maintain the performance standards outlined herein.

2. Facility Included

This contract includes maintenance of **Legion Field** with emphasis on the natural turf playing surface and associated turf areas immediately surrounding the field of play. This RFP is specifically for the field and surrounding area inside the field fence line.

3. Turf Maintenance

The Contractor shall maintain the natural turf playing surface to the highest standards expected for high school football competition.

Services shall include, but are not be limited to:

- Consistent routine mowing using equipment designed for athletic turf.
- Maintaining proper mowing heights based on turf species, seasonal conditions, and field usage.
- Fertilization as necessary to promote healthy, vigorous turf.
- Soil testing as needed to develop and maintain an effective fertility program.
- Weed prevention and control.
- Insect and pest monitoring and treatment.
- Disease monitoring and treatment.
- Application of plant growth regulators when appropriate.
- Core aeration as necessary to relieve soil compaction and improve turf health.
- Verticutting, dethatching, and other cultural practices as required.
- Overseeding, sprigging, or plugging as necessary to maintain acceptable turf density.
- Topdressing as needed.

- Repair and restoration of worn or damaged turf areas.
- Divot repair, surface grooming, and leveling.
- Edging around sidewalks, fencing, bleachers, curbing, and other adjacent structures.
- Management of high-wear areas, including sidelines, goal lines, team boxes, and the center of the field.

4. Field Quality Standards

The Contractor shall maintain Legion Field to ensure it:

- Provides a safe playing surface free from hazardous conditions.
- Maintains uniform turf density, color, and appearance.
- Minimizes weeds, insects, and turf diseases.
- Maintains proper grade and surface drainage.
- Minimizes bare areas, ruts, depressions, and trip hazards.
- Provides a smooth, consistent playing surface suitable for football practices, competitions, graduation ceremonies, and other approved events.
- Presents a professional appearance appropriate for varsity interscholastic athletics.

Any condition affecting player or participant safety shall be corrected immediately upon discovery or notification.

5. Irrigation

The Contractor shall routinely inspect the irrigation system serving Legion Field and correct as well as promptly notify Lake Wales High School of any major deficiencies.

Routine irrigation maintenance, including replacement of sprinkler heads, nozzles, swing joints, fittings, valves, wiring connections, and similar minor repairs, shall be included in this contract.

Major repairs involving piping, pumps, controllers, or other significant system components shall require prior written authorization from Lake Wales Charter Schools and shall be reported immediately upon discovery.

The Contractor shall adjust irrigation schedules as necessary based on weather conditions, rainfall, field usage, and turf health.

6. Fertility and Chemical Applications

The Contractor shall furnish all fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, plant growth regulators, wetting agents, surfactants, and other turf management products necessary to maintain Legion Field.

All products shall:

- Be applied in accordance with manufacturer recommendations.
- Be applied only by properly licensed personnel.
- Comply with all EPA, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), OSHA, and other applicable regulations.
- Be stored, transported, and disposed of in accordance with all applicable laws.

The Contractor shall maintain complete application records and provide copies upon request.

7. Equipment

The Contractor shall furnish and maintain all equipment necessary to perform the required services, including, but not limited to:

- Reel and rotary mowers
- Utility vehicles
- Sprayers
- Spreaders
- Aerifiers
- Topdressers
- Rollers
- Trimmers
- Edgers
- Blowers
- Utility trailers
- Specialized athletic turf maintenance equipment

Lake Wales Charter Schools shall not be required to provide equipment unless specifically authorized in writing.

8. Scheduling

Maintenance activities shall be scheduled to minimize disruption of school operations, football practices, games, graduation ceremonies, special events, and other approved activities held at Legion Field.

The Contractor shall maintain a flexible work schedule and adjust maintenance activities as necessary due to weather conditions or changes in the event calendar.

Emergency response shall be available when necessary to address unsafe field conditions.

9. Communication

The Contractor shall designate a project manager who shall serve as the primary point of contact.

The Contractor shall maintain regular communication with the Lake Wales High School Athletic Director regarding maintenance schedules, field conditions, irrigation concerns, weather impacts, and recommended improvements.

Any unsafe conditions or maintenance issues requiring immediate attention shall be reported promptly.

10. Performance Expectations

The Contractor shall be responsible for achieving and maintaining a high-quality athletic playing surface rather than simply completing routine maintenance tasks.

If the condition of Legion Field falls below accepted athletic turf management standards, the Contractor shall increase maintenance activities as necessary, at no additional cost to Lake Wales Charter Schools, to restore the field to an acceptable condition.

Failure to maintain Legion Field in accordance with recognized athletic turf management standards may constitute grounds for corrective action or termination of the contract.

11. Athletic Field Marking and Painting

The Contractor shall provide all labor, equipment, paint, and materials necessary to maintain all football field markings on Legion Field.

Field markings shall comply with current FHSAA rules and standards and shall be accurately measured, professionally applied, and clearly visible for all practices, games, graduations, ceremonies, and other school-sponsored events. The Contractor shall repaint all field markings as often as necessary due to weather, mowing, or field use to maintain a professional appearance and safe playing conditions.

The Contractor shall coordinate with the Lake Wales High School Athletic Director regarding any special field markings, logos, event-specific layouts, or modifications required for football games, graduation ceremonies, or other school events.

The Contractor shall coordinate with the athletic director and appropriate Lake Wales High School staff to ensure all game fields are properly painted and ready for scheduled athletic contests and special events.

To be eligible for consideration, interested organizations must be qualified pursuant to the laws of the State of Florida and School Board Policies and Procedures. Those organizations desiring to provide professional services as listed must complete and submit an initial RFP. All questions related to this announcement should be addressed to Jason Shick by **September 25th, 2026 (11:00am)**. (Jason.Shick@lwcharterschools.com)

Please provide one hard copy and one digital (PDF) on CD or Flash Drive of the requested information to:

Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc.

Attn:

130 East Central Avenue

Lake Wales, FL 33853

All packets must be received by the Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc. by **11 AM on 9/25/2026.**