

January 17, 2018

Ms. Yolanda Torres, Executive Superintendent  
Division of Family and Community Engagement  
49 Chambers Street, Room 503  
New York, NY 10007

Re: Naming of McKee/Staten Island Tech Baseball Field in Honor of Bob Steele

Dear Superintendent Torres:

In my capacity not only as an elected official who directed taxpayer funds to the building of the new McKee/Staten Island Tech athletic facility, but as a lifelong Staten Islander and an avid baseball fan, I humbly request that the baseball field at their state-of-the-art complex be named in honor of Bob Steele.

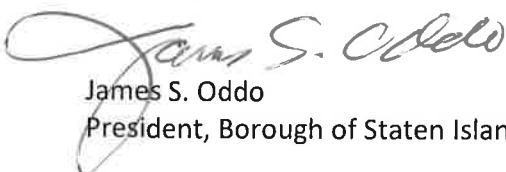
When, back in April of 2016, I participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremonies for this complex, I knew that this magnificent facility would serve students well for many decades to come. As a public servant it is my obligation to steer public funds to where they will do the most good, and as you can imagine, some expenditures outshine others.

It has become clear to me that particular expenditure qualifies as a superstar. It is also clear to me that it should be named after one. More specifically, it should be named after Bob Steele.

Bob Steele began his teaching and coaching career at McKee High School back in September of 1960. Not only did he coach basketball for thirteen years, he coached baseball for FORTY years – and all but eighteen of them without a home field. He was the school's Athletic Director since 1970, starting his tenure with six sports and retiring with thirty-four boys and girls teams. It was through Bob Steele's vision that the successful joint PSAL athletics program today known as McKee/Staten Island Tech (MSIT) became a reality.

Therefore, I believe it is more than fitting and proper that this baseball field be named in honor of this dedicated man, and I hope you agree that we should expedite this matter without delay. Thank you for your kind attention, and I look forward to us together celebrating the day when the McKee/Staten Island Tech baseball field is named after Bob Steele.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island

