

Facilities Expansion and Renovation Project Frequently Asked Questions

What is included in the facilities expansion project?

- ▶ 27 new classrooms with technology-integrated instructional supports
- ▶ 3 science labs with chemical and equipment storage
- ▶ New computer and language labs
- ▶ Small rooms and workstations located throughout the existing and newly constructed facility for teacher and student use
- ▶ Comprehensive, technology-centered library/media center
- ▶ Separate, designated music room, performance stage, and storage space
- ▶ Expansive and centralized playground, recess, and physical education area
- ▶ New, double gym with seating capacity of over 1,200
- ▶ Renovated cafeteria – separate preparation and serving area
- ▶ Centralized administration with re-designed main entrance

What is included in the facilities renovation project?

- ▶ Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) replacement
- ▶ Ductwork cleaning
- ▶ New art room and storage space
- ▶ Security system upgrades and enhancements
- ▶ Carpeting and tiling replacement
- ▶ Perimeter fence repairs
- ▶ Classroom furniture upgrades
- ▶ Classroom technology upgrades

What is the project timeline?

Site and prep work will begin this summer. We anticipate the official ground-breaking for major construction to occur this fall. Occupancy of the new facility is expected in the winter of 2011-2012. Please see below for a summary of the construction phases.

- ▶ Phase 1 – Summer '10
 - Existing Building – HVAC and Other Improvements
 - New Temporary Modular High School
 - Utility Work
 - Temporary Parking Lot with Reserved Sections
 - Major Project Construction Award
- ▶ Phase 2 – Fall '10 – Spring '11
 - Temporary Parking Plan In Effect
 - Major Construction Begins (Parking Lot, 400s, Gymnasium)
- ▶ Phase 3 – Summer '11
 - Begin Renovation on Cafeteria and Media Center
 - Site Work

- ▶ Phase 4 – Fall '11 – Winter '12
 - Media Center
 - Cafeteria and Performance Stage
- ▶ Phase 5 – Winter '11 - Spring '12
 - Occupancy
 - Removal of Modular Buildings
- ▶ Phase 5A – Spring '12 – Summer '12
 - Site Work
 - Landscaping
 - Exterior Finishes
 - Paving

What safety measures will be in place during construction to ensure the well being of students?

- ▶ Experienced and Professional Project Managers, Construction Personnel, On-Site Foreman (Clerk of the Works)
- ▶ Gated and Secure Work Areas
- ▶ CORI/Background Checks on All Personnel
- ▶ Restricted Access and Escort Requirements
- ▶ External and Internal Cameras
- ▶ Timed/Coordinated Work and Deliveries with School Operations
- ▶ Designated Staff throughout Parking Lot
- ▶ Coordinated Parking and Traffic Flow

When will the construction start?

Site work begins in July 2010. Major facility construction is anticipated to start in late fall 2010.

Will students be relocated during the construction?

High school students in grades 9-12 will be relocated to a newly constructed modular building located on our property. The new modular building will be constructed this summer at the entry to our main building on property owned by the school.

How will this project impact outdoor activities including recess?

Outdoor recess will be redesigned to accommodate all grade K-5 students. Students will participate in smaller groups at various times of the day.

How many new classrooms will be available for teaching and learning?

There will be 27 new full-size classrooms and four new mid-size classrooms as a result of the new expansion project. We currently educate our 6th – 12th grade students in 22 classrooms, so we will be gaining nine additional classrooms and replacing our temporary space with permanent buildings.

Is the goal to increase enrollment?

The K-12 enrollment cap, per our charter with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, is 1,200 students. We will be nearing, if not reaching, this cap in the coming year. The primary goals of our expansion project are to provide a more suitable learning environment for our current 1,200 student population; to more effectively provide the programming we currently have in place; and to increase our ability to expand our academic and extra-curricular offerings.

How will this project impact the parking lot?

Once construction starts, the main parking lot will be blocked off and unavailable for school use. New parking spots will be created around the school grounds and will be marked with highly visible, coded signs to clearly mark designated parking areas. The loop road around the perimeter of our site and current traffic flow into and out of the campus will remain.

What will the parking lot and facility look like on the first day of school this fall?

Phase I work will be completed and additional parking spots will have been created in anticipation of our ground-breaking. However, there will be no change to our current drop off, pick up, and visitor parking procedures when students, staff, and families return to school this fall. There may be rough road surface and gravel in certain parts of the main parking lot, yet we will have access per our normal procedures. We will phase in the use of the temporary parking lot configuration during the fall.

What is the dismissal schedule?

It will be imperative that cars do not enter the parking lot until their assigned time. There will only be sufficient parking to accommodate our needs if parents/families adhere to the pick up times and refrain from entering our lot earlier than their designated time. At this time, we do not plan on changing the dismissal schedule. However, as we implement the new parking in the late fall, it may be necessary to make slight adjustments.

How will I know where to park when I visit the school for pick up or meetings during the school day?

Each parking area will be assigned a designated code and will be identifiable by significant signage. A color coded map will be distributed to all families for their convenience. Staff will also be located throughout the parking lot to assist and to ensure safety.

How will the school update families on site work, timeframes, and updates to the project?

We will communicate more throughout the coming months by email, AlertNow, mail, and through additional presentations. We will also be posting relevant and up to date information on the website.

Summer Plan

Please note that during the summer, beginning June 24, 2010 and continuing until late August 2010, parking at the school will be limited. Traffic will enter the school through the main entrance and will follow our access road toward the back field. This road will now service two-way traffic. At the small modular building, which houses administrative offices and the staff lounge, drivers will be make a U-turn and exit the property on the same road they entered.

Summer programming will be held in the Kindergarten wing and the two white modular buildings along the back side of the campus. Parking, drop-off, and pick up will be clearly marked.

The main office can be accessed through Door A or Door B. Visitors will need to park in the area when you first enter the school property, and walk to the main office door. Door D will not be accessible as our HVAC system will be replaced this summer, requiring limited access to various portions of our existing building.

As always, thank you for your cooperation, patience, and adherence to our procedures during this exciting time in our development.