



August 2017

Dear Friends:

RE: CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

About 80% of Phase One 2014 Bond Work Done; More in Store

It has been almost three years since the passing of the 2014 bond. By the beginning of school, we will have completed about 80% of the first phase of the bond projects. After countless design discussions, planning sessions and construction meetings, it's my privilege to share the work that has been accomplished so far. Thank you again to the community for all the support in investing in the improvements.

Replacing and Renovating West Ottawa facilities in 2017

- The tennis courts at High School North have been replaced with 12 post-tension concrete courts that use a construction process that should allow them to last a long time.
- Significant asphalt replacement has been done in front of High School South and in the High School North bus loop, as well as asphalt patching and replacement on the drive just south of High School North.
- Building management system upgrades for High School South, High School North, Great Lakes, North Holland, and Harbor Lights.
- Playground improvements at North Holland, Sheldon Woods, Woodside, Pine Creek, Great Lakes, Lakeshore, and Lakewood.
- The boiler at North Holland was replaced this summer and mechanical system improvements are taking place at North Holland and Transportation.
- The mechanical system at Woodside was upgraded this summer in the classrooms that were not completed a few summers ago.
- Great Lakes carpet was replaced this summer.
- The mechanical system at Macatawa Bay was replaced with a geothermal heating and cooling system.
- Street signage matching the signage at Waukazoo and the middle schools is being installed at every building other than High School North.
- The new fueling station at Transportation is completed, replacing the 25-year-old underground tanks.
- A portion of the Transportation bus parking lot asphalt is being replaced with rolled concrete.
- Performing Arts Center sound and lighting upgrades are close to completion.

Safety and Security Improvements in 2017

- Security camera replacement of our oldest security cameras.
- Access control upgrades to match the rest of the district with improvements to the keyless entry systems at Harbor Lights, Administration, High School North and South.
- Construction of a secure entry at Macatawa Bay.
- Parent drop-off for Macatawa Bay.
- Generator installation and replacement for the District technology hub at Harbor Lights, the Macatawa Bay main District kitchen, and Administration allowing the District to remain secure and, at least partially, functional in the event of a power outage.
- Improved accessibility and safety of the bus pick-up and drop-off at Pine Creek.
- Thirteen new buses were purchased bringing the total number of new buses over the past three and a half years to 19.

While a lot of improvements were implemented in 2017, much of the technology improvements and a number of facility upgrades were completed prior to this year.

Completed Technology and Learning Environment Improvements (2015, 2016 and 2017)

- Wireless networks were added across the school district.
- The district's network was fully upgraded with new switches and servers.
- Purchase of teacher Chromebooks.
- Chromebooks were purchased for every student in 6th through 12th grades.
- Chromebooks and Chromebook carts for elementary classrooms, with more technology yet to be added in lower elementary classrooms.
- Broadcast studio equipment improvements at the secondary buildings.
- Collaboration rooms have been added in some buildings allowing different types of learning spaces where students can collaborate and work on their Chromebooks.
- Student desks and furniture have been replaced in a number of elementary classrooms.
- The copiers with the heaviest usage across the District have been replaced.
- A number of classroom projectors, computers, and computer monitors have been replaced.
- Improved the Waukazoo second computer lab.
- High School South has been re-cabled.
- Installed a new phone system across the district.
- Purchased band and orchestra instruments.

Facility Upgrades in 2015 and 2016

- Playground improvements were made at Waukazoo.
- Middle school tennis court replacement and athletic field improvements.
- Lakeshore Elementary roofing and carpeting was replaced.
- Demolition of the oldest sections of Transportation and Glerum.
- Replacement of some of the Harbor Lights roof.
- Mechanical system upgrades at Waukazoo.

2015 and 2016 Safety and Security Improvements

- Secure entries were added to all elementary schools with further upgrades planned in phase two for North Holland and Harbor Lights.
- Security cameras have been added in all West Ottawa schools and a new security camera system allowing for higher resolution video was purchased. The district now has more than 350 security cameras.
- Traffic flow improvements at Waukazoo, Pine Creek and the middle school campus.
- Asbestos abatement in the older buildings.
- Six new buses were purchased.

As you can see, much work has been completed with much more to come not only in phase one but also as we approach phase two. Please visit our bond page on our website (www.westottawa.net/bond-2014-update/) for more information. As always, thank you for your support in preparing all of our students to be...College, Career and Life Ready.

My Best,

Thomas K. Martin
Superintendent of Schools