

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE # 12

Since the last construction update, work on the Performing Arts Center (PAC) has been completed and the facility was officially dedicated on September 19, 2014 to a packed audience. Later in the fall the high school theater arts class presented their first ever musical (*Seussical the Musical*).



Other projects that were completed this past fall were the landscaping project adjacent to the Natatorium and tennis courts. This project included new underground drainage, multi-level stained concrete surfaces, seating walls, ADA ramps and accessibility, new lighting, trees and plants. This project provides seating and rest areas for students and parents to congregate for tennis and swimming meets and for other school activities.



Included with the landscaping project was the cleaning, re-grouting and application of a surface sealer to the existing masonry bricks around the high school, as well as two metal storage buildings for track and softball.

Another project that started this past fall was phase one of our security intrusion project. As part of this project, surveillance cameras were installed at the interior and exterior of the high school and primary school along with access control and card access on identified exterior doors. Additional phases of the security intrusion project are planned for other district campuses in the future.

Separate from the \$36 million dollar bond and funded through the school district fund balance and federal funds is a 20,000 square foot FEMA/TSSI dome at the high school. Groundbreaking for this dome was held on September 5, 2014 and it will be located next to the new baseball and softball fields. This building will serve as a multi-purpose room for the district and include dressing rooms for baseball and softball, a concession stand and public restrooms. The building will also serve as a FEMA/TSSI safe shelter for first responders and shelter for other emergencies. Barcom is the general contractor for this project. Currently all the underground utilities have been put in place and the footings and concrete based stem wall is under construction. Once the stem wall is completed masonry work is schedule for later in February followed by the inflation of the dome. According to the contractor, they have been working on this project for three months but due to weather conditions have only been able to work for a total of 4 weeks resulting in the substantial completion date for this project being pushed back to January 2016.



The next phase of the \$36 million bond project is the Intermediate School Classroom Addition. This project includes 16 new classrooms to relieve the population at the Primary School by moving the 3rd grade to the Intermediate School and satisfying the State requirements of 22:1 ratio in grades K-4. In addition,



increase from one to two science labs with a prep room to improve opportunities for science instruction. Another major component to this project is renovations and reconfiguration to the existing parking lot in front of the building to provide additional parking spaces and improve the traffic flow (parent drop off and parent pickup). KJM was selected to be the general contractor for this project and groundbreaking was held on December 1, 2014. Project plans are currently under city review for permits with the projected start of construction being February 2015 and substantial completion of May 2016.



A second 12,000 square feet FEMA/TSSI Dome is also planned at Intermediate School. Like the HS dome this dome is funded through the school district fund balance and federal funds. The Intermediate School dome will be attached to the classroom addition to provide an auxiliary gymnasium for everyday use by the school district and after school use by the TMPM Program; it will also serve as a shelter for first responders and also a community safe shelter in the case of certain declared emergencies and disasters. Construction for this dome is tied in with the beginning of construction of the classroom addition that is scheduled to start in February 2015 and be completed in May 2016.

KJM was also selected for the Middle School tennis courts reconstruction project. This project calls for the demolition of the existing ten courts and the reconstruction of these courts with a new structural design. The newly constructed ten courts (as is the current set up) will include a hitting wall down the middle of the court area, and concrete flat work on the south and east parameter to allow for spectator seating. Work is scheduled to start on this project in February 2015 and weather permitting will be completed by September 2015. Middle School students will be bused to the high school courts during demolition and construction of the middle school courts.

The last part of the 36 million dollar bond is a new High School Ag-Barn to replace the existing outdated facility. This past summer the school district purchased 15



acres across from the high school football stadium. Since that time we have been working with City in platting the property and addressing other variances issues. VLK was selected as the architect for this project and has worked with stakeholder in designing a 17,000 square feet building. This building is designed to house 100+ animals along with tack and feed storage, wash areas for animals, restrooms for students and a drive through loading and unloading area. Currently proposals for general contractors have been received and are under review and negotiations. Groundbreaking will be announced later in the spring.

As you can tell there are lots of great things happening at Tulo-so-Midway and we have been and are currently extremely busy with construction projects throughout the school district. According to Dr. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools, "The end is in sight. We still have lots to do over the next year and a half but all these facility improvements have helped us stay focus on providing the students we serve with the best educational opportunities possible. We have added to the reason our school district has become the school district of choice in the Coastal Bend; and now our facilities enhance our reputation of excellence!"

Feel free to contact my office with any questions and concerns you might have regarding any of these projects at (361) 903-6422.

Sincerely,



Assistant Superintendent for School Operation Services

ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION PICTURES

