

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE # 7

The summer has come and gone and we have been extremely busy with construction projects throughout the school district.

Work is progressing on schedule with the Performing Arts Center (PAC) and you can see visible headway with the construction of this structure. Piers have been drilled and the concrete slab poured on the main section of the PAC and masonry work has begun on some of the CMU walls. The structural steel for this project has been delivered and the sub-contractor is currently mobilizing their equipment to start erecting steel sometime next week. Over the next months, we should see this building starting to come together.



Another major component of this project is upgrades and upsizing to the piping to the chill water cooling system that will feed the PAC and the main high school building. Currently, the sub-contractor is laying out and welding pipes on the roof of the high school in addition to adding a new cell to the cooling water tower located behind the high school. The completion of the PAC is still on schedule for March 1, 2014.

During the summer months two remodeling projects at the high school were completed. The Administrative/Counselors Offices were completely renovated providing different office configurations to allow for efficiency and a more modern appearance. This included new carpet, built-in cabinetry, conference and meeting rooms, as well as a restroom and showering facilities in the nurses' office. In addition to the office complex project the band hall and choir rooms also received a significant make-over that included removal of the old ceiling tiles, painting the walls and installation of new acoustical panel and sound diffusers.



Another major summer project is the renovation to the Natatorium. Over the past several months the pool has been drained and a variety of improvements have been taking place to the swimming pool. The old ceiling grid and tiles have been removed and the rafters painted and new lights and radiant heaters installed. The old louvers have been removed and new electrical louvers system installed to address the ventilation of the facility. In addition, new deck drainages and a non-slip cool deck surface applied around the pool to address safety concerns. Along with new diving boards, work is progressing on restroom additions on the front of the Natatorium and a covered patio between the pool and the tennis courts. Probably one noticeable difference will be acoustical baffles that are being hung from the rafters to address the sound level in the Natatorium. The improvement to the pool are scheduled to be complete by September 1, 2013 and the restroom and patio additions a few months later.





Another major project at the high school is the Sports Complex Project that includes drainage improvements, a new practice football field, irrigation to the soccer practice field and the construction of new baseball softball fields. The Phase I drainage improvements and the new practice football field has been completed and on August 12, 2013 a groundbreaking ceremony was held to kick-off work on the second phase of the project the construction of the baseball and softball fields. The baseball and softball fields are projected to be ready for the 2014 baseball and softball season (February 2014).





Work is also progressing on the renovations to the Jim Cooper Auditorium at the Middle School. The old seating and stage curtains have been removed and the walls and dressing rooms are being painted. A new sound system is being installed along with new stage riggings. In addition, a new outside facade of the building is being constructed to blend in with the existing Middle School building. Currently, we are waiting on a delivery date for the new seating for this facility which has delayed the completion of this renovation until the end of September.



Also a new switchgear has been installed and a roofing project is underway at the Middle School.



The Primary School landscaping project was also completed over the summer. This project included installation of an irrigation system and trees, shrubbery and other landscaping around the front

entrance of the Primary School. In addition (not part of the bond project), was new playground equipment and enclosing three open spaces in the various grade-level hallways to create three additional classrooms.

New above-the-ground fuel tanks have been installed at the Transportation Bus Barn to comply with new governmental regulations. These new tanks should be



operational in the next several weeks and then work will begin on removing the old underground tanks and testing for any ground contamination.



As you can tell it has been very busy around the various campuses and district buildings this past summer. Some of the short-term projects have been completed

while others are months away from being finished. There is still other 2011 bond projects in the planning phases and will join these other projects currently underway during the 2013-2014 school year. “We are very excited that these projects which first started as a dream are now coming to fruition,” said T-M Superintendent of Schools Dr. Suzanne Nelson. “More is yet to come and I believe that the parents, students and taxpayer of the District will be impressed with the new and renovated facilities that will make TMISD one of the premier school districts not only in South Texas but the entire State of Texas,” she added.

Please contact me with any questions and concerns you might have regarding any of these projects at (361) 903-6422.

Sincerely,

Rodney Sumner

Assistant Superintendent for School Operation Services