

June 16, 2006

Update on Facilities Improvement Plan Projects



Park Terrace Elementary: Above: Four new classrooms will be constructed this summer on the school's west end. Below: Three kindergarten classrooms will be added on the east end.

New Classrooms at Park Terrace, New Classrooms and Media Center at Westwood Elementary

■ Phase 1 construction projects at Park Terrace Elementary and Westwood Elementary began on Monday, June 12.

Seven classrooms will be built at Park Terrace; four regular classrooms on the west end and three kindergarten classrooms on the east end of the school.

At Westwood Elementary, a new media center is being built in what is presently the main entrance/front hallway of

the school. The area of the old media center is being renovated into **four new classrooms**.

All of the Park Terrace and Westwood Elementary projects will be completed by September/October 2006.



At Westwood Elementary, demolition work has begun on the front entrance/front hallway area of the school where a new media center will be built this summer. The school will get additional classrooms as well.

Panther Stadium Track and Field Improvements will Benefit all Students

■ A very visible and vital project is underway this summer at Spring Lake Park High School. It's the long-awaited Panther Stadium renovation project to correct a severe drainage problem, to replace an unsafe track, and add

a synthetic turf playing field to benefit all students by providing 20 times the field's current usage.



Work is moving quickly this summer on the Spring Lake Park High School's track and field renovation project. Drainage, safety, and increased usage are among the many outcomes of this long-awaited improvement.

While not a part of the voter-approved bond referendum, the

Panther Stadium track and field renovation project is a part of the long-range facilities plan recommended by the citizen-staff facilities task force.

With no additional room at the high school complex to add fields, better and more practical use of the space is needed. With synthetic grass, the field will have 70 hours per week of potential use, 36 weeks per year, or a total of 2,700 hours. It will potentially have twenty times its current usage, becoming a far more effective school and community asset.

Completion of the project is expected in August 2006

The district's new elementary school

■ The district completed the purchase on the property for the new K-3 elementary school. The property is located near Highway 242 and Cloud Drive in Blaine.

■ The district's community-school New Elementary School Design Team continues to meet throughout the summer, exploring and researching programmatic and structural designs. Architects will begin the design development phase following the completion of this committee's work.

Bidding process

■ Bids on many Phase 2 construction projects will be received between December 2006 and March 2007.

Staging space for displaced classrooms and departments

■ The district now has a signed lease/purchase agreement for the former HealthPartners building located at 1415 81st Avenue NE in Spring Lake Park. This facility will be used during the next 3-5 years as much needed "staging area" space. The complex phasing of school construction projects over the next few years will require the need for additional space to house displaced school classrooms and departments.

A portion of the HealthPartners building may also be rented to 916 Intermediate School District which provides educational programs for District 16 and other districts. The end of all construction phases in 2010, the building could then be sold or put to use if additional space is a need at that time.

Community Oversight

■ Several meetings of the Community Construction Oversight Group have been held to date. Interested members of the community meet every 4-6 weeks to review progress of design and construction phases of facilities projects, hear from the architect and construction manager, and provide feedback. Any district resident may participate. Call Kathy at 763-785-5513, or the District Office, 763-786-5570, if you are interested.

Design plans to be ready this summer

■ Architects will present preliminary design plans for all construction projects that will begin in the summer of 2007 at the August 8 School Board meeting. These include plans for the new K-3 elementary school, the Spring Lake Park High School music/athletic/fine arts addition, and the early childhood addition to Woodcrest Elementary. Numerous health and safety projects, as well as other large deferred maintenance projects, will begin next summer as well.

Preliminary drawings for the next phase of renovations at Park Terrace, as well as renovations and additions to the High School and Westwood Complex, will be presented in the fall.

Additional

■ There will be meetings in June with the Blaine City Council regarding a second entry road at the Westwood Complex as well as the new elementary school site.