



## Dorothy Hamm Middle School Community Newsletter (September 2019)

### Introduction

We are fifteen (15) months into the project and now have student, faculty and staff occupying the renovated school areas. The renovated school has seen progress towards final completion in all spaces especially the new vocational spaces throughout the school as well as the newly renovated classrooms. At the addition, we have had fortuitous weather, again, that has allowed work to continue steadily with notable progress made on structural steel erection, the casting of site walls and bio retention tanks, and the partial pouring of the structural concrete slabs on levels 2 and 3.

### Addition

With respect to the addition; the structural steel erection was completed on all levels. With the completion of the steel erection came the partial structural composite concrete deck pours on floors two and three. The team also made great strides on retaining walls and bio retention structures. The team also worked on preparing the overall school site for the start of school. This work included the installation of a new traffic signal for pick-up and drop-off of students, a new parking lot for faculty and staff, ADA access and traffic speed deterrent structures, as well as new access sidewalks in the rear of the building. With the completion of the new access sidewalks came the seeding and paving of the site. Though the limited rain helped to get the site work completed, the limited rain has caused the new seed to take longer than expected to germinate. The athletic field has also been nearly completed and is almost ready for its first proper mowing. In addition to working on these above areas, the Construction Team worked to ensure the safety of the returning students, faculty, and staff, by putting temporary protection around/over a number of structures that will not be completed until later in the project.

Though the addition work has had limited weather interruptions, the adverse weather encountered earlier in the project has resulted in the addition completion trailing into early 2020. The Construction Team is continuing to evaluate several options to accelerate construction with the assistance of the designers; for example,

additional crews, alternative design methods to allow multiple trades working in the same space, pre-fabricating sections of ductwork and overhead piping to name a few.

### Renovation

The work with the renovation has been exciting to see completed. Many new classrooms have taken shape throughout the school including the new life preparation space (Home Economics), technology classrooms on the first floor, new bleachers in the gym, a more inviting cafeteria entrance space, new robotics, art, and music spaces in the basement, and new teacher collaboration spaces throughout the school. The renovation has not been fully completed with spaces near the new addition and the new elevator lagging the rest of the renovation activities. Though the spaces are occupied, the Construction Team has crews working at night to complete the remaining items through the renovated spaces. The Construction Team is currently working through some project changes and hopes to have the main renovation project complete by mid-November.

*Jeffrey D. Chambers, NCARB, AIA, Director of Design & Construction*

## **Completed and ongoing tasks:**

### **Addition**

- 1st floor waterproofing and structural slab work ongoing;
- Exterior framing of second and third floors is ongoing;
- Installation of new site walls within the historic entrance area of the addition;
- Installation of roof metal decking ongoing;
- Forming and pouring of second and third floor structural concrete slabs;
- Installation of the building exterior water-proofing ongoing
- Installation of the below slab and foundation water-proofing ongoing;
- Roof framing completed;
- Structural Steel Installation completed; and
- Installation of bio retention structures completed.

### **Renovation**

- Most classrooms through all floors were substantially completed;
- Installation of new classroom furniture, technology, and equipment is ongoing;
- Work on the classrooms in infilled stairwell near the addition are ongoing;
- Installation of the new elevator ongoing;
- Installation of brick façade on west, rear side of building;
- Work on the new counseling suite of rooms is ongoing; and
- Basement bathroom build out are ongoing.

### **Site Improvements**

- Final turn over of the athletic field sod is ongoing;
- Construction of the drop-off road curb and gutter, sidewalk, and accessible pathway structures was completed to a point to allow usage by patrons;
- Paving the new employee parking lot was completed;
- Coordination for the Vacation Lane and Old Dominion off-site street work is ongoing with Dominion Energy and Arlington County;
- Construction of exterior building bio retention structures ongoing;
- Installation and commissioning of new drop-off traffic signal was completed; and
- Installation of the athletic field bio retention structures and associated sidewalks was completed.

## **Construction activities planned next month:**

- Completion of concrete installation for structural concrete slabs on levels 1, 2, and 3;
- Installation of exterior framing for level 2 and 3;
- Installation of site walls along historical path to addition;
- Installation of below slab and building exterior waterproofing
- Completion of all exterior CMU work
- Completion of the Dominion Energy designs for the Intersection and Vacation Lane improvements;
- Completion of interior renovation work so inspections and corrective measures can be made;
- Installation of roofing systems including decking, parapets, and joints;
- Installation of operable partitions throughout renovated spaces;
- Build out of spaces in the stair 7 area; and
- Installation of new elevator in existing school.

**Schedule Milestone Dated (weather pending):**

- Erection of exterior metal cladding and pre-cast concrete panels (November 2019);
- Completion of envelop/building enclosure (November/December 2019);
- Permanent Power – addition (November 2019);
- Renovation Main Scope Final Completion – renovation (November 2019);
- Above ceiling close-in inspection – addition (January 2020);
- Installation of permanent cores - addition (April 2020)
- Installation of permanent cores – renovation (October 2019);
- Furniture delivery - addition (February 2020);
- Wall close in inspection – addition (February 2020);
- Staff & Student occupancy - addition (April/May 2020);

**Process related activities:**

- Construction activities will continue between 7am to 5pm on weekdays for the addition and 3pm to 1am for the renovation areas. Saturday work is being performed as needed for both the renovation and addition scopes of work.

**Progress Photos:**



**North Side of Addition Showing the Newly Installed Exterior Framing**



**First Floor Subgrade Compaction Activity**



**View of North Side of Addition Including Roof Metal Decking**



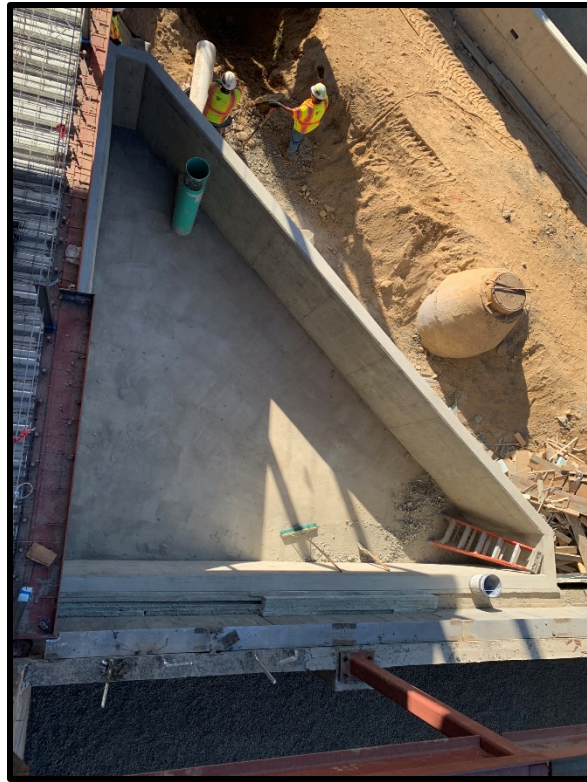
**Final Steel Outriggers Being Welded In Place**



**View of Structural Concrete Slab Installation on Level 2**



**View of Structural Concrete Slab Finishing on Level 2**



**View of Bio Retention Structure Three (3)**



**View of Site Walls on West Side of Project Site**





**View of Completed Road Framing**



**View of New Curb Bump Out and ADA Access**



**View of New Drop-Off and Pick-Up Traffic Signal**



**View of New Drop-Off and Pick-Up Traffic Lane**



**View of Rear of School With New Walkways, Turf, and Ramps**



**View of New Athletic Field Turf and Faculty Parking Lot**



**New Feature Wall in Front of Gym**



**New Entry into Cafeteria**



**View of New Second Floor Corridor**



**View of New Life Prep (Home Economics) Teaching Space**



**View of New Life Prep (Home Economics) Teaching Space**



**View of New Life Prep (Home Economics) Teaching Space**



**View of New Art Teaching Space in the Basement**



**View of New Technology/Robotics Teaching Space in the Basement**



**View of New Music/Orchestra Teaching Space in Basement**