



Dorothy Hamm Middle School Community Newsletter (October 2019)

Introduction

We are sixteen (16) 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, bio retention tanks, pouring of the structural concrete slabs on all levels, and exterior framing and sheathing.

Addition

With respect to the addition; the completion of the steel erection came the concrete deck pours on all floors. 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. The rain we received in October allowed the grass and field to thrive. The athletic field has been mowed to the design height and striped according to county standards. APS students are currently using the field for soccer practice.

The exterior framing, sheathing, and wood blocking around storefront openings is progressing smoothly. The metal deck roof installation and parapet are complete, and a water tight roof is expected by next month. The first-floor locker room walls are taking shape with the installation of glazed CMU. The second-floor walls are also taking shape with metal stud framing progressing throughout the floor. Our mechanical, electrical, and plumbing contractors are busy on all floors installing overhead ductwork, piping, and conduit.

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 April/May 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 late-November.

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

Completed and ongoing tasks:

Addition

- 1st floor slab on grade complete;
- Exterior framing and sheathing of the exterior is nearly complete;
- Installation of new site walls within the historic entrance area of the addition complete;
- Installation of roof metal decking complete;
- Forming and pouring of second and third floor structural concrete slabs complete;
- Installation of the building exterior air barrier and water-proofing ongoing;
- Monumental stair installation, ongoing;
- 1st floor glazed CMU locker room walls is ongoing;
- Metal stud walls on 2nd and 3rd floors is ongoing;
- Overhead mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work is ongoing;

Renovation

- Most classrooms through all floors were substantially completed;
- Installation of new classroom furniture, technology, and equipment is complete;
- 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 is complete;
- Interior punchlist work is ongoing.

Site Improvements

- Final turn over of the athletic field sod is complete;
- Construction of the drop-off road curb and gutter, sidewalk, and accessible pathway structures was completed to a point to allow usage by patrons;
- 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 of the athletic field is complete;
- Installation of trees, plants, and shrubs is ongoing.

Construction activities planned next month:

- Completion of the roof;
- Installation of the rooftop equipment;
- Installation of air and vapor barrier around exterior of addition;
- Erection of exterior metal cladding and pre-cast concrete panels;
- Installation of remaining concrete on 1st floor vestibule area;
- Completion of the Dominion Energy designs for the Intersection and Vacation Lane improvements;
- Build out of spaces in the stair 7 area;
- Walls framed up on all floors;
- Installation of overhead and in-wall mechanical, electrical, and plumbing;

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:



Site plantings, grass growing, and soccer field



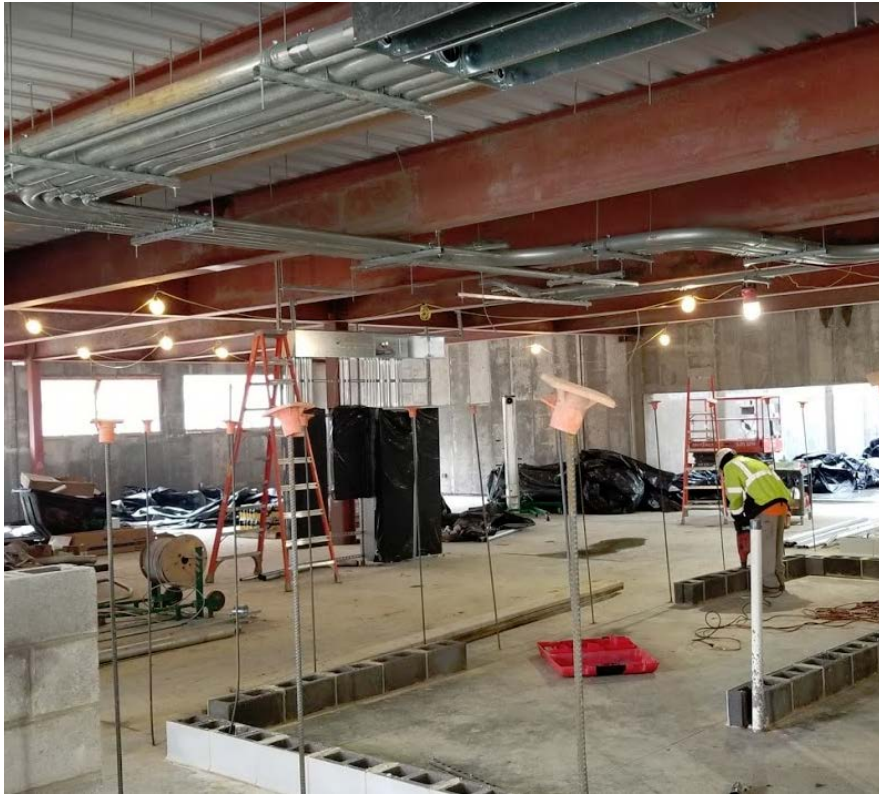
Concrete Footings for Site Walls



First floor concrete slab on grade pour



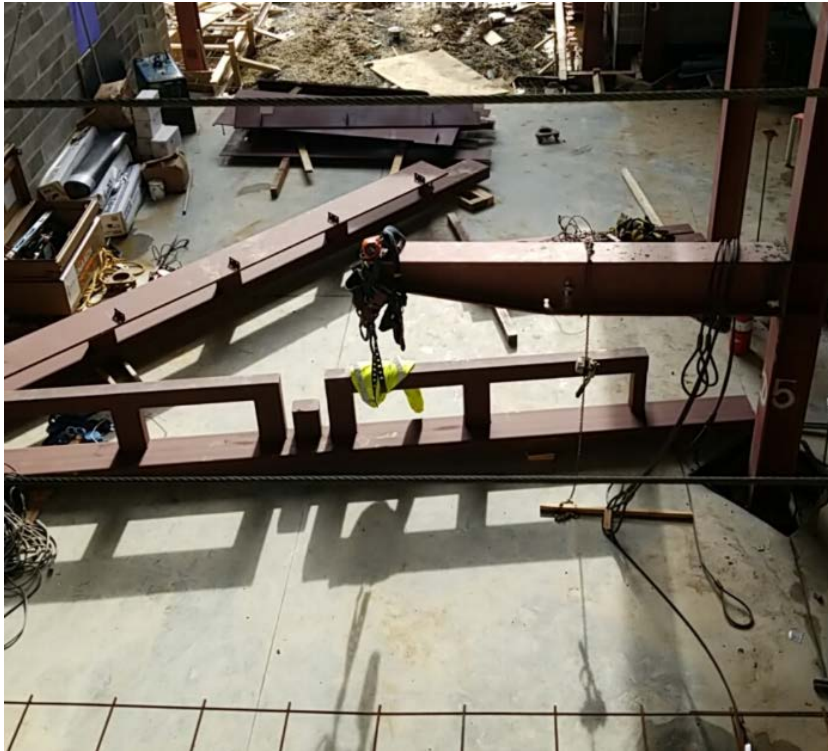
New trees and shrubs were planted throughout site



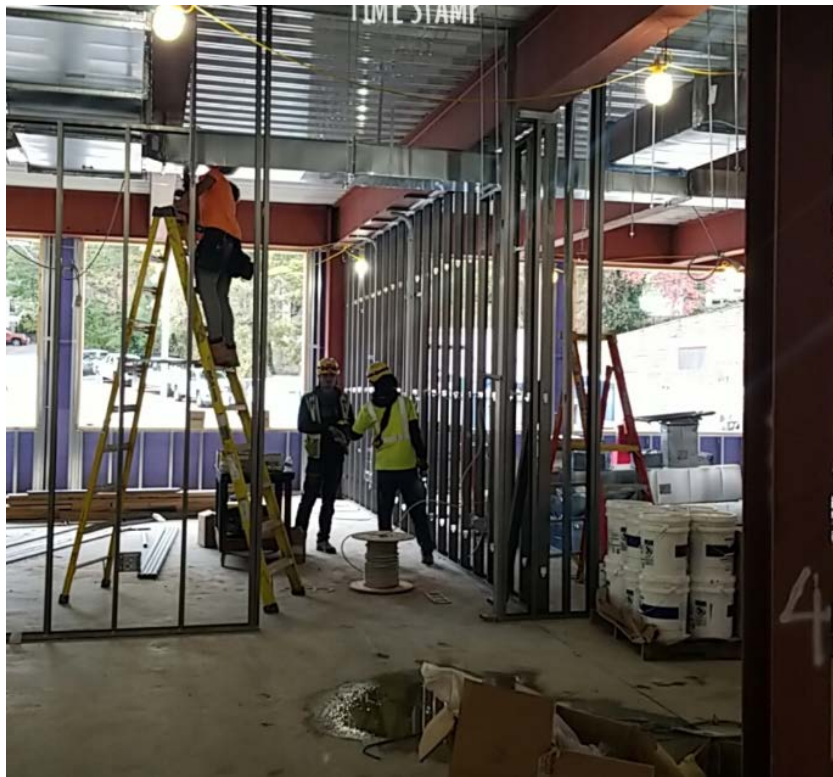
First floor locker room block walls began



North and South side exterior framing and sheathing installation



Monumental stair steel work began



Level 2 Interior Metal Stud Walls



Metal deck roofing and parapet