



SCARSDALE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Superintendent Message: Bond Projects Update, Sept. 8, 2017

Dear Scarsdale Community:

As we welcome our students back into our buildings for the 2017-18 new school year, it is a good time to update our larger community on the status of the different facility projects that are currently underway, as well as those that are in the planning stages.

First, the projects funded by the 2014 Bond and the Scarsdale Schools Education Foundation are at different stages of completion, based on the complexity of the work and their respective timelines. Here is the status of this work by building:

- Edgewood

- Main Office - Completed with only final touches to be added, including permanent carpet installation. The new main entrance stairs and ramp are also complete. The new canopy is expected to be finished shortly.
- Library Addition - Demolition was completed before students arrived; exterior work will continue, as scheduled, through the fall and winter with anticipated completion in late spring 2018.



- Heathcote

○ Multi-Purpose Room Addition - Demolition was completed before students arrived; exterior work will continue, as scheduled, through the fall and winter with anticipated completion in late spring 2018.

- Middle School

- Instrumental Music Room Addition - Completed on time before student arrival.
- Band Room Renovations - Completed on time before student arrival.

- High School

- Fitness Center - Open for student use on September 11th. All major equipment has been installed and the Center has been cleaned and approved for occupancy.
- Learning Commons - Work continues in this area. Scheduled to be completed in late November.
- Athletic & PE Offices - Completed and open.
- I-Lab - Near completion, but unable to be occupied until completion of the Learning Commons (enables access).
- HS Courtyard Drainage - Work continues in this area. Due to its location in an enclosed area, surrounded by classrooms, work will occur only during non-student hours. We are awaiting an updated schedule based on these shortened work hours; we don't anticipate this complex project to be finished before the new year.
- Design Lab - Work continues in this area; however it has been delayed due to the adjacent work in the courtyard which is accessed through the Design Lab space. We are awaiting an updated work schedule but do not anticipate this work to be completed until after the new year.



Additional construction photos may be seen on our website [here](#)

In addition to the ongoing work at these buildings, the District has been engaged in planning for additional facilities work to be funded by a bond issuance. The current timeline for this proposed bond project calls for a December 14th vote.

The current scope of this facilities work is centered around District-wide health and safety improvements, including construction of security vestibules at all elementary buildings and the Middle School; the District-wide replacement of aging building systems including roofs, boilers, and electrical panels; installation of new or replacement air ventilation systems; and a significant expansion and renovation of Greenacres. Archived documents leading up to the current proposed list of projects can be found on our website [here](#).

At the August 24, 2017, Board meeting, the District's facilities-related consultants (architects, construction managers, SEQRA, and financial) presented comprehensive updates on their ongoing work to the Board and the community. Directly related to the current proposed bond scope and its implementation were the presentations by BBS Architects & Engineers and Park East Construction (construction managers). Their presentations may be seen on our website [here](#).

BBS Architects presented an update on building plans at Greenacres, including a review of the renovations to the existing structure and a video rendering of the exterior of the building's proposed additions. At Greenacres, planned improvements include updates of all building systems, interior renovations of most instructional spaces, and the addition of eight classrooms, a learning commons, and a new multi-purpose room replacing a similar room which will be converted into a kitchen. The Learning Commons is proposed to address the need for lunch space and to provide a common space for cooperative group work, cross-curricular experiences, student-driven events, clubs, and celebrations, as well as professional learning and teacher research (a Learning Commons is also near completion at the High School, serving similar functions at a secondary level).

Park East Construction, the construction management firm, shared with the Board and community their extensive experience in the field, managing billions of dollars worth of projects; their extensive responsibilities during any given construction project; and an initial draft project schedule and construction implementation plan for the Greenacres aspect of the proposed facilities work. Park East emphasized that their top priority on any school-related capital project is safety. They assure this by following the highest industry standards for barrier and containment devices, debris removal, protective equipment, and air and noise monitoring, to name just a few, and by working closely with building administration. They will also have dedicated on-site staff at each location, including two individuals stationed at Greenacres.

Park East's construction schedule of the proposed work at Greenacres, based on a December bond vote date is, as follows:

- Summer 2019 - Construction begins on additions and interior renovations.
- Fall 2019 -Spring 2020 - Construction continues on additions only.
- Summer 2020 - Construction continues on additions and interior renovations.
- September 2020 - Work is completed for opening of school.

A contingent schedule, in the event of a delayed vote or stalling of the State Education Department approval process, could push this schedule back one year. Regardless, renovation work in the current building would occur only during the summer months.

Finally, Park East discussed and illustrated initial construction implementation plans for Greenacres. These initial draft plans showed the phasing of the work and areas of safe egress from the current building, and where solid wall barriers would be constructed inside the building (similar to the current ongoing Edgewood and Heathcote projects). Park East also showed the fencing around the construction area, and the location of the staging area across the road on the hard-surface playing areas.

During this past week, the Greenacres Building Committee, consisting of teachers, parents, community members, Board members, administration, and consultants, held its first meeting to begin its discussions regarding the further refinement of Greenacres plans, including safety and logistics during and post construction.

At the upcoming Board meeting on September 11th, both BBS Architects and Park East Construction will present further updates on their work.

We will continue to communicate on a weekly basis throughout the early fall in an effort to assure that you are receiving the most accurate information possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas Hagerman  
Superintendent of Schools  
&  
Stuart Matthey  
Assistant Superintendent for Business and Facilities



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