

NEW CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

It has been a while since I last gave you an update on the progress of the construction of our new elementary schools. Much has taken place since that article was written. Concrete continues to be poured at each site as the weather permits. Concrete block is being laid up at each site, while the steelwork for the sub roof is also being installed. Final brick, stone, and mortar selections have been made, along with the shingle color that will be used on any areas with substantially sloped roofs (i.e. gymnasiums and other locations). The entire interior color palates have been approved by the board with the help of each elementary principal and staff. Furniture selections have also been made, with ordering to be finalized soon. The air handling units for each building will be shipped and set in place one building at a time. This should begin the week of March 6th, and will take a month to finish if all goes well. The air handling units are being shipped from a plant in the Province of Ontario, Canada, and will have to be set in place with cranes. Windows should start going into the buildings sometime this spring.

Mr. Meredith and I toured each site most recently on February 13th. Pictures from each site have been added to the appropriate link (Building Project Updates) on our district website (www.ovsd.us). At this point, the buildings are either on schedule or a little ahead of schedule. This is good news, especially when one considers the cold and wet winter we have experienced. Everything is in order with regards to any permits, annexations, road widening, etc. at the three sites. The one exception to this would be the West Union location. I have not been involved with the process of meetings to resolve this particular issue, so I do not feel that it is appropriate for me to go any further with

this bit of news except to say that the issue in question could potentially delay the opening of the new West Union Elementary School. Hopefully, this will not be the case as the West Union area elementary students desperately need and deserve to move into their new school.

I will pass along another update to you in 2-3 months. Hopefully, we will still be on schedule with everything going well. There may even be an update on the West Union issue at that time. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy the photo updates on our district website.

THANK YOU!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who participated in our most recent survey. The survey itself dealt with the concept of dual bus routing for the Adams County/Ohio Valley School District. As previously reported, our district has been considering this option for some time. At this time, no decision has been made regarding if or when dual routing will be implemented.

GRADUATION DATES CHANGED

The Board of Education has voted to move the 2009 Graduation dates from May 29th (WUHS), May 30th (NAHS), and May 31st (PHS) to the dates of June 5th (WUHS at 7:00 p.m.), June 6th (NAHS at 1:30 p.m.), and June 7th (PHS at 2:00 p.m.). The change in dates was brought about by several factors, including excess calamity days, along with a 2008-2009 school calendar that had already been compressed by the renovation projects

in the high school buildings and the Career and Technical Center. Typically, seniors wind up the year with 1-3 extra days when they are permitted to be released early. Because of our compressed calendar this year, we had to use all three of those early release days in order to meet the 178-day requirement. Thus, the one good option that we had was to reschedule this year's graduation dates.

The district does apologize for this change. However, it was necessary in order to meet the requirements of the Ohio Department of Education. Any corrections that must be made to graduation announcements ordered through Graduate Services, Inc. will not cause any increase in cost to the students and parents. While we realize that this change will cause some inconveniences, we do hope that the change will not be too problematic for our families and organizations. As of this time, barring no more calamity days this school year, the last day of school for seniors will be June 2, 2009. The last day of school for students (grades K-11) will be June 5, 2009.

We do appreciate your understanding of this problem and the changes that it has caused. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Again, if you have any questions concerning the contents of this article, please contact me at 544-5586. Thank you.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent