

February 2009

Citizens of SAD #46,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you of the latest information concerning the new pre-k – 8 school project in SAD #46. Since the breaking of ground in December of 2007 and the initiation of construction in March of 2008 the school has really taken shape. A highlight for us in this project happened in November when one of the steel beams to be erected in the gymnasium end of the school was painted and then signed by the K-6 students and staff in SAD #46 to create a life-long memory.

Construction of the new school has progressed generally on schedule and under budget. As of the first week of February the entire school was very close to being closed in as the structural steel and the first layer of siding were in place with temporary heating in both the north and south academic wings. Many people have asked me why we choose yellow siding for the new school and I have explained that it is the first of many layers of material and the finished school will have brick and gray metal siding. This has been a relief to many. The cafeteria and gymnasium wing is not being heated at this time as the majority of the inside work is focused on the classrooms.

The work on the interior of the school is progressing very well with interior walls and sheet rocking almost complete in the south wing and gaining every day in the north wing. At this point in the process you can really get a feel for the size of classrooms and how the area of the building is going to flow. Construction of stairs between the first and second floors has begun which should aid the workers as they make several trips per day from one floor to the other. Many other interior projects are progressing including: blocking, fire suppression, insulation, plumbing and much of the electrical work. The installation of windows has begun with 33 of the 196 windows in the school installed making these areas much brighter and warmer for the workers.

The exterior work on the building is also progressing very well with approximately 55% of the south wing brickwork done. For those of you who pass by on Rt. 94 you can see some of this red colored brickwork. This work will continue around the building followed closely by the installation of gray metal siding above the brickwork. The work on the roof has been ongoing this winter, with the exception of days shoveling the roof. At this point in time all roofing except what is over the gym has been completed. This has been a long cold job for the roofers with the frigid winter we have been experiencing.

Looking ahead work will continue with flooring and interior painting scheduled to begin in May. The site work contractor will begin work again in May with the reconstruction of Fern Road which includes road upgrades, the intersection of Rt. 94 and Fern Road, as well as installing sewer lines. Work will also continue on the athletic fields as we prepare for the opening of the new school in August of 2010.

The Superintendent's Office in SAD #46 is currently composing a group of citizens to serve as a naming committee for the new school and would certainly invite anyone who is interested or may have questions about the new school project to please call the office at 924-5262.