Facilities Development & Planning

Newsletter

September 2026



Message From Director of Facilities

Welcome to the first issue of our Facilities Development & Planning Newsletter. Our goal is to provide the Antioch community with timely and transparent updates on the important work underway to improve schools and learning environments across the District.

Through this newsletter, we will share progress on bond-funded projects, capital improvements, key milestones, and upcoming work. We also hope to provide greater insight into the planning, design, and construction process that takes place behind each project.

We appreciate the continued support and partnership of our students, staff, families, and community as we work toward building and improving facilities that serve students of today and for years to come



Project Spotlight: John Muir ES TK/Kinder Project

As we enter year two of the Bond Measure B Program, we are thrilled to announce that we have broken ground on the first large capital improvement project within our program at John Muir Elementary School.

This project is intended to enhance the student and family experience by upgrading core facilities, improving existing circulation, and expanding early-childhood learning spaces. The initial summer phase of this project has been completed which included the relocation of existing portable classrooms, refreshing half or the main campus restrooms, the expansion of the primary pick-up and drop-off loop, helping reduce congestion and improving safety during peak arrival and dismissal times.

Concurrently, the project is constructing a new TK/Kinder building that includes six new classrooms featuring a dedicated age-appropriate playground designed to support early learners with safe, accessible, and developmental aligned outdoor spaces. Together, these improvements create a more functional, safe, and student-centered campus environment.

This project carries a 16-month duration and is estimated to be completed by the start of the 2027-28 school year. Follow progress through our EarthCam construction camera and view a time-lapse of the work completed to date.

Click Here to View the EarthCam Construction Camera & Time Lapse

While you were away...

Summer break may mean quieter campuses, but it's one of the busiest times of the year for school improvements. While students and staff were away, our Facilities team and project partners were hard at work completing improvements, advancing construction, and preparing campuses for the upcoming 2026-27 school year. Take a look at a few examples of what we've been working on!



Jack London ES Chiller & Boiler Replacement



Belshaw ES Roof Replacement



John Muir ES Parking Lot Expansion (Phase 1)



John Muir ES TK/K Building (Phase 2)



Jack London Marquee Sign



Kimball ES Restrooms Refresh

Behind the Build

There is a lot of work that happens before construction begins. The **Behind the Build** is a recurring feature that takes a closer look at the planning, design, review, approval, procurement, and construction processes that move school facility projects from concept to completion. Each edition will highlight one part of that process to help provide greater transparency and context around the work happening behind the scenes.

This Issue: DSA Review & Approval

DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

The Division of State Architect (DSA) reviews many California public school construction projects for structural safety, fire and life safety, and accessibility before construction can begin.

During review, DSA may issue comments or request revisions. The design team responds and resubmits the plans through a process known as backcheck. This phase can require multiple review cycles and includes regulatory fees and professional services needed to revise and coordinate the project through approval.

Once DSA approval is received, a project can continue advancing toward procurement and construction.

Project in Action - Orchard Park School

The Orchard Park School Gym and Multi-Purpose Room Project is a good example of this process in action. The project was submitted to DSA in December 2025 and received final DSA approval August of 2026, following two rounds of backcheck.

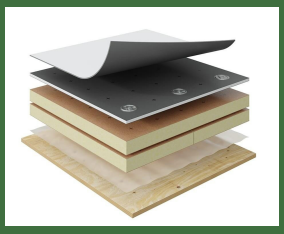
During that time, project team continued working behind the scenes to respond to review comments, coordinate revisions, and advance the project toward approval. Although there was no visible construction on campus during this phase, significant technical work, coordination, time and project resources were being invested to move the project forward. It is a good example of why project progress is not always measured by what can be seen from the outside.



Orchard Park School New Gym and MPR Project

Sustainability Corner

Sustainability is one of the core values identified in our Facilities Development & Planning Department Strategic Plan and an important consideration in how we plan, design, and improve our schools. In each newsletter, we'll highlight a feature or initiative that demonstrates how this value is being incorporated into our facilities and helps create more efficient, resilient, and environmentally responsible campuses.



Cooler Roofs, More Efficient Buildings

This summer, roofing improvements at Belshaw ES include a white thermoplastic membrane roofing system designed to meet current Title 24 requirements. This project also includes a new polyiso insulation and tapered insulation as part of the overall roof assembly.

The lighter-colored roof surface helps reflect more of the sun's energy than darker roofing materials, while the added insulation helps reduce heat transfer through the roof. Together, these improvements can help keep buildings cooler during warmer months, reduce cooling demand, and support more energy-efficient building operation.

It is one example of how a necessary facility improvement can also advance our broader commitment to sustainability, long-term performance, and responsible stewardship of District resources.



Student Spotlight

Building Opportunity Beyond our Campuses

Our facilities program is ultimately about students, and its impact can extend beyond the physical spaces we build.

This issue, we highlight Xander Duong, a recent graduate from Deer Valley High School, who received an Apple laptop through a local scholarship opportunity that originated from an idea shared by one of our facilities partners. Mr. Duong has since graduated and is now attending University of Pacific.

Stories like this reflect the broader impact of the relationships and partnerships developed through our facilities program and the many ways they can help support student success both in our schools and beyond.

Safety Highlight

Safer Arrival & Dismissal

A recently completed phase of our facility work at John Muir ES included improvements intended to support safer and more efficient student arrival and dismissal.

Building on those improvements, the Facilities Development and Planning Department is developing an Arrival and Dismissal Circulation Plan to clarify vehicle circulation, loading and parking areas, pedestrian routes, and safe driving expectations during peak times.

The goal is to reduce conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians and create a safer, more predictable experience for students, staff, families and the local neighborhood. Once finalized, the plan will be shared with the school community.



What's on the Horizon



Several important facility initiatives are moving forward as we look ahead to the coming months.

Orchard Park School New Gym, MPR and Modernization Project

Following recent DSA approval, the project is now being bid by the Lease-Leaseback general contractor. The District anticipates bringing a Guaranteed Maximum Price for delivery of this project to the Board in October, with construction expected to begin shortly thereafter.

Fremont ES New Admin, MPR, TK/K Building Project

The project remains under DSA review while the selected general contractor continues bidding the work. Once approval and pricing are finalized, the District expects to bring a GMP forward for Board consideration in the near future.

Next Wave of Playground and Electronic Marquee Projects

Planning is underway for the next group of projects. Upcoming playground work includes improvements at Marsh and Diablo Vista ES, while marquee work will focus on providing the data and electrical connections necessary to bring existing and new signs online.

Facilities Master Plan Update

The District is preparing to update its Facilities Master Plan, which will help guide long-range planning, identify current facility needs, and inform future capital investment priorities across our schools. The process will include outreach to students, staff, families, school leaders, and other stakeholders to help identify needs and inform priorities.

Bond Measure B Dashboard

Completed Projects:	36
Projects in Construction:	11
Projects in Design:	6
Campuses / Students Impacted:	17 of 24 (71%) | 10,812 Served
Total Investment (As of June 30, 2026):	$30.9 Million

Together, we build spaces that prepare every student for the future.