



CUSD

Bond Update

Carmel Unified School District

Vol. 2, Number 1

Spring 2002

"I have two classes that are in the new wing. They have new cabinets, windows, and carpets and an entirely new feeling. No more water stained carpets. I enjoy going to the new classrooms now."

David Baird, junior at Carmel High School

"I like the new library at my school because it's really big and has a lot more room for books. We can now have the book fair and library period at the same time! It's very organized and has room for our new student store. It's also very clean and beautiful."

Brittany Lombardi, 4th grader at Carmel River School

"I really like our new classroom and new multipurpose room and office. I also like all the other new classrooms. I didn't know how it was going to turn out, and now it's pretty cool! I think the workers must feel proud of what they did."

Henry Perault, 3rd grader at Captain Cooper School

Dear Parents and Community Members,

The successful school bond of May 2000 is directly responsible for the appreciative and encouraging comments made by the students. The Carmel Unified School District is proud of the school transformations taking place, and how the modernization of the facilities honors our students, pre-school through high school. From time to time, we've sent out a special newsletter to our parent community that's devoted solely to our bond. As of this issue, we are expanding our readership to keep all residents informed of our progress as we implement plans to modernize our schools with the bond monies. The following questions and answers should be helpful in informing you of our progress and our plans for the future:

What steps did the school district take at the end of May when the bond was passed?

- We issued bonds for half of the \$20,000,000 approved by the voters.
- We also began initial capital improvements at each site. Although we were still in the planning process, we were eager to begin the much-needed work on our schools as rapidly as possible. Examples of projects that were completed in the summer of 2000 include the ceilings and lighting at Carmel High and the exterior paint at Carmel Middle School.
- We developed a bond implementation process.

What are the components of the bond implementation plan?

The components include input from the school staff and community members, the modernization schedule, project management, updates and reports, and fiscal oversight.

⇒ **School staff and community input includes:**

- Staff, parent, and Board representatives joined the architect and engineers to assess the needs at each school site.
 - Staff representatives assisted the architect in developing classroom models for the classroom modernization work.
 - Results, questions, and concerns were then discussed at each site.
 - School Board Meetings to review and modify modernization plans to meet budget limits.
 - Neighborhood meetings to share plans and discuss needs.
- ⇒ **The modernization schedule was established with the following goals in mind:**
- Modernize our schools as soon as possible, yet with minimal disruptions to our instructional program (e.g., schedule the most disruptive work during summer breaks).
 - Provide schools with temporary modular classrooms so that classes can rotate through them while the modernization work occurs.
 - Provide the necessary support and assistance to staff members at each school site to help transition them to and from the temporary classrooms during modernization.
 - Begin modernization at Carmel High, River School, and Captain Cooper School during the summer of 2001. Modernization is scheduled to begin in summer, 2002 at Carmel Middle School and Tularcitos, followed by Carmel Valley High and Carmel Child Development Center.

⇒ **Hire project management:**

- A search was conducted for a project manager to represent the District and to act as a liaison between the District, the architect, and the contractor. Mr. Mark Lawson, of J.M. Lawson, Inc., was hired to provide this service. Mr. Lawson, a Carmel resident, was previously responsible for the international construction program at Bechtel Industries. Most recently, he provided construction management services at the Hopkins Marine Lab.

⇒ **Provide frequent updates and reports:**

- Monthly narrative and financial updates will be provided to the Board, and periodic bond update newsletters, such as this one, will be provided to the community.

⇒ **Establish fiscal oversight:**

- Independent auditors will perform quarterly reviews to assure that bond monies are spent on the authorized projects and that the bond fund's financial position is accurately and fairly represented.

What are the major projects planned at each site?

Each site will have its basic modernization needs addressed, including: **modernizing classrooms, remodeling restrooms, improving lighting, upgrading utilities, walkways, and parking, replacing heating and ventilating systems as needed, painting exteriors, replacing windows, and asbestos abatement.** In addition, the following special projects will be undertaken:

- **Carmel High School** Remodel entry and locker rooms, upgrade the student cafeteria and gym.
- **Carmel Middle School** Remodel locker rooms and upgrade gym.
- **Carmel River School** Remodel library.
- **Tularcitos School** Remodel library.
- **Captain Cooper School** Remodel classroom to create a multipurpose room and add a classroom.

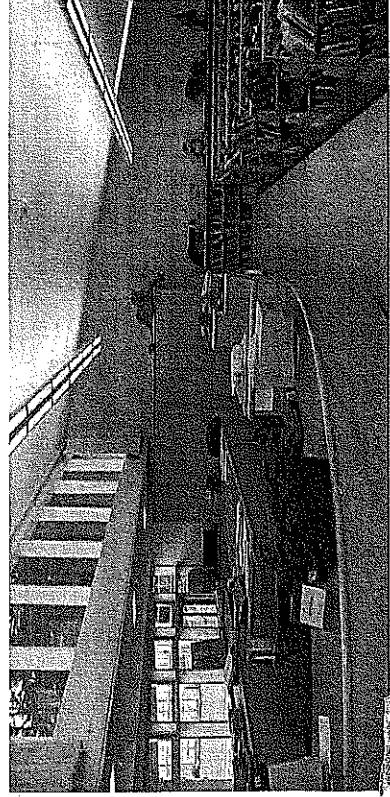
Who were the successful bidders on last summer's work?

Last June, the District awarded bids for modernization work as follows:

- Carmel River School Modernization to William A. Thayer Construction Company for \$1,867,368; and
- Carmel High School & Captain Cooper/Apple Pie School Modernization to DMC Construction Inc., for \$6,650,000.

What projects have been completed to date?

- At Carmel High School two wings of classrooms have been completed, the locker rooms are nearly finished, and a large number of the interior walkways have been completed.
- At Carmel River School the library has been entirely remodeled, two wings of classrooms have been completed, and student bathrooms have been remodeled.
- At Captain Cooper School, modernization is complete.



The newly remodeled library at Carmel River School has been described as "beautiful" by staff and parents alike.

How safe is it for students to attend school during construction?

- The District is committed to creating a very safe school environment during the modernization process. Work areas have been fenced off and safety directions have been posted to keep everyone aware of temporary changes in the walking and traffic patterns at the schools. *As a reminder, all students and drivers should be aware and respectful of the construction zones and follow posted safety guidelines and directions from school administration.*

Finally...

The District would like to give special thanks to the entire community for the successful passage of the school bond, and to our staff and students for their flexibility and support as we proceed with creating learning environments of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,

Judy Long, Director of Business Services

Comments/Suggestions about the newsletter?

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