

MS - Off to a Rock-Solid Start!

Welcome to the Second Edition of the Warwick Middle School Construction Update.

For almost three months, rock has been excavated and processed from the fields to the West of the existing Middle School. In fact, there has been so much rock that a large crushing machine has been mobilized on site to process larger rocks into crushed stone for re-use in the project. Onlookers could easily confuse the construction site for a rock quarry. While the rock removal process would have sped up dramatically by utilizing explosives, blasting has not been permitted to prevent any potential disruption to the aquifer and water supply located deep below the site; accordingly, sounds of the excavators with jackhammer attachments and crushing machine continue.

The preparation of the areas requiring rock excavation, most notably the small, lower-level of what will one day be the new Middle School loading dock area, is nearing completion.

THE PROJECT:

“Site Logistics & Security”: The Warwick School District (“WSD”) has taken every step to ensure that the project has been set up as safely, economically, and programmatically as possible. Construction traffic has been separated from the existing campus accesses and is being channeled into the construction site from the new Lime Rock Road access. All construction traffic and related activity is being performed within a chain link fence with gates that are closed and locked at the end of each work day. In addition to this effort to separate the construction and campus activity, all contractors are required to furnish background criminal and child abuse security clearances for their employees. These employees will not be permitted to work on-site until they have obtained an individualized security badge. As an added layer of security, five security cameras continually monitor and record all activity within the construction site.

Field/Project Conflict:

The Warwick Middle School Construction Project, while considerably larger in scope than the Lititz Elementary School Project, is a rather quiet project. Instead of demolishing and rebuilding a school with great sentimental value in the heart of downtown Lititz, the Middle School Project’s main disruption is the reconfiguring of several athletic fields that are currently off-limits while being either rebuilt or reorganized.

After discussing and deliberating the options at length and keeping safety in mind at all times, a group of WSD administrative and athletic stakeholders decide to prohibit the use Soccer Field #6 for the fall season. Notwithstanding this decision and the current limited access to the West side of the campus, efforts have been made to speed up the installation and accessibility of the new Limerock Road/West Maple Street access, as well as, new Parking Lot “E”. More details to follow.

The Schedule: The Project Milestones and their respective current status are as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
Project Award	June 1, 2008	Completed
Complete All Site Logistics	July 15, 2008	Completed

Permanent Bldg. Enclosure of New Bldg.	May 1, 2009	On Schedule
Renovate Gym/Lockers	6/15 – 8/7/2009	On Schedule
Substantial Completion of New Building	October 16, 2009	On Schedule
Final Completion of New Building	November 13, 2009	On Schedule
Occupy New Middle School	January, 2010	On schedule
Removal of Existing Building & Construct New Parking Lot	1/4 - 6/15/2010	On Schedule
Final Completion of Entire Project	June 15, 2010	On Schedule

“Champing at the Bit”: The mason cannot wait for excavation and foundation work to progress to the point that masonry crews can mobilize. It will not be long before we see the walls of the new Middle school start to rise from the earth.

September 25th Information Exchange: In conjunction with the Middle School’s Back to School Night, arrangements are being finalized to allow District officials and representatives to be on-site in the cafeteria to discuss any concerns or field questions related to the project.

This Update was written by Dan Cicala. Dan, a building professional and attorney, is the Principal of Fidevia, the Construction Administrator for the Warwick Middle School Project. Any inquiries or comments may be addressed directly to Dan or to Melanie Heckel @ 625-3433. In addition, residents are encouraged to learn more about the Project by visiting the WSD’s award-winning website @ www.warwicksd.org.