

Good Afternoon Everyone.

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of May 17, 2021.

COVID –City Hall doors are closed this week to the public and some employees are working remote. Citizens wishing to contact City Hall may call 269-857-1438. You may schedule an appointment if you need to speak to City staff in person. Monday, May 24th, City Hall doors will be open, but visitors are limited to the lobby unless directed by a staff person and restricted to one person at a time. Masks will be required to enter.

COVID Data – A review of state and county COVID data shows that Michigan is still at its highest risk level – Level E. Over the past two weeks the positivity rate for the state is 7.2 percent. Allegan County's two-week positivity rate is 10.0 percent. Overall, the trend is on the decline and has reduced significantly from a month ago. We have yet to see a leveling out of the cases.

EPA Grant – The City received the unfortunate news that we did not receive the \$500,000 grant request to clean up contamination at 200 Blue Star Highway. I will be in contact with PM Environmental next week to discuss options and next steps. I have solicited a quote in the past to demolish the building above grade and leave the floor and foundation in place. That may be an option worth considering to clean up the site.

Managers' Lunch – Wednesday I had lunch with the local managers and the City Manager and Assistant City Manager from South Haven. This lunch was an opportunity to network and discuss the unique environment of managing lakeshore communities. We intend to meet periodically and share information.

Blue Star Highway Work – The next phase of construction started on the Blue Star Highway bike path this week. Crews were onsite milling the bike path in preparation for the resurfacing work likely to take place next week. That work will take approximately one week to complete. The vehicle travel lane curb and pavement work is finished, but the pavement markings are yet to be completed. The pavement markings will restripe the travel lanes. Once that is complete, DPW will reinstall the reflectors for the season.

Social Districts – Work wrapped up this week on the final artwork for the social districts. Staff have ordered the appropriate sidewalk decals that will mark the district. The police chief will share the information about the district and the district logo artwork with his police staff so they are fully prepared for the kickoff. The individual establishments will have to each get approval from the Liquor Control Commission before they can begin to participate. We anticipate an early June kick-off to the district.

Seasonal Employees – Seasonal staff are hired and will begin working this weekend to get the downtown and Blue Star Trail looking good for the summer season.

Beach Access Stairs – Work is progressing on the Douglas Beach access stairs. I've been on site nearly every day this week to review progress. I understand they had a staffing shortage and the crew is working diligently to try to get the stairs substantially complete by the Memorial Day weekend ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday (May 28th) at 5:30. I also understand neighbors are offering food incentives to the employees of Riverside Construction to get the project complete.

Elementary School Groundbreaking – Thursday Mayor Lion and I attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new addition to the elementary school in Douglas. This is a great addition to the community and reinforces the district's commitment to quality education, safety and the learning environment. The superintendent provided an informational brochure about the project that is attached.

Noxious Weeds – Noxious weed notices have been published in the local newspaper and the Planning and Zoning Department may now issue violations or abatement notices to parcels in violation of the ordinances.

Fees, Schedules, and Permits – Staff is continuing the process of reviewing City ordinances and developing a spreadsheet of fees, schedules, and permits listed within the ordinances. As the City moves to software-based solutions for additional service areas such as planning and zoning and code enforcement, we will eventually have the ability to issue permits on-line. But the first step is to get organized by understanding the various permits required in municipal ordinances and the associated fees.

Sheriff Marine Patrol – The Allegan County Sheriff's Department informed me they were awarded a grant to provide an additional 500 hours of marine patrol this summer's boating season.

That is all I have for now. Have a good weekend.

Rich LaBombard
City Manager



SPS Renovation Project Progress

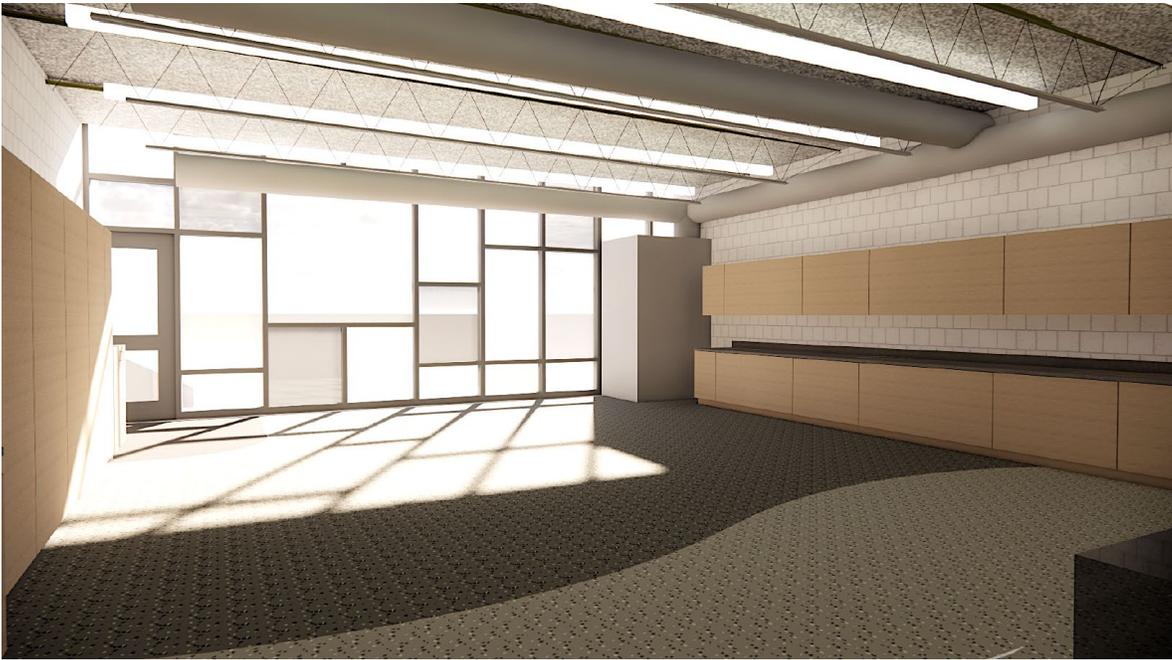
February 11, 2021

It's hard to believe that it was almost one year ago that voters generously approved \$35.6 million for significant renovations to Douglas Elementary and Saugatuck Middle School & High School. The design process at DES has been completed through the efforts of a committee of nearly 40 architects, engineers, teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and school board members. A similar committee kicked off the middle/high school design on February 10th.

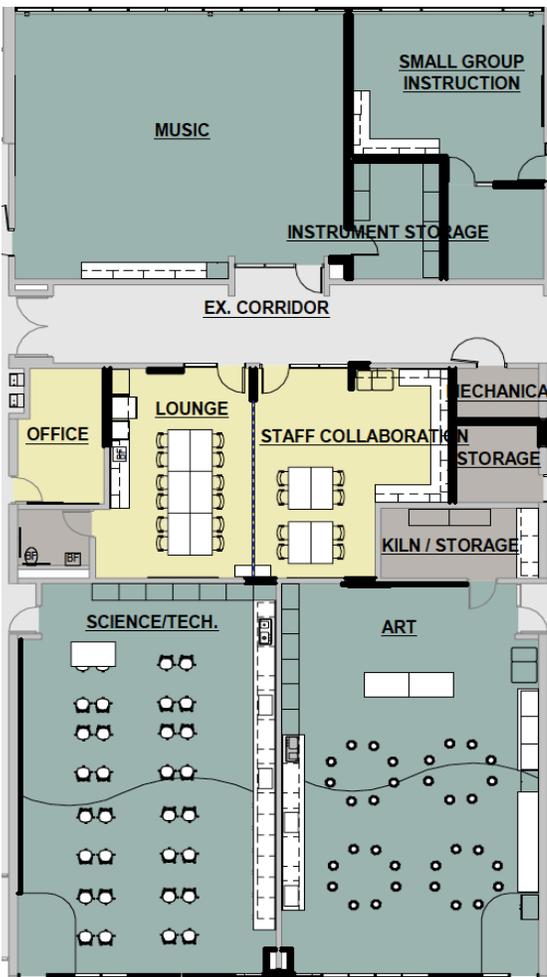
DES Construction Scheduled to Begin April 2nd



Construction is set to begin at DES during Spring Break. Several classrooms will be rearranged to accommodate the first phase of construction which will focus on the new music, science/tech and art rooms. Phase one will continue for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. Temporary corridors will connect the south hallway at the back of the building to the gym and cafeteria.



New DES Art Room—Tentative completion December 31, 2021



New DES Music Room—Tentative Completion December 31, 2021

Currently, the DES project is slightly under budget. The first series of bonds to finance the renovations has been sold at a very competitive interest rate, saving taxpayers approximately \$3.7 million in interest costs compared to pre-bond estimates. Construction bids have been approved by the board of education and contractors are preparing to begin work on April, 2nd.

Stay tuned for future SPS Renovation Project Progress updates.

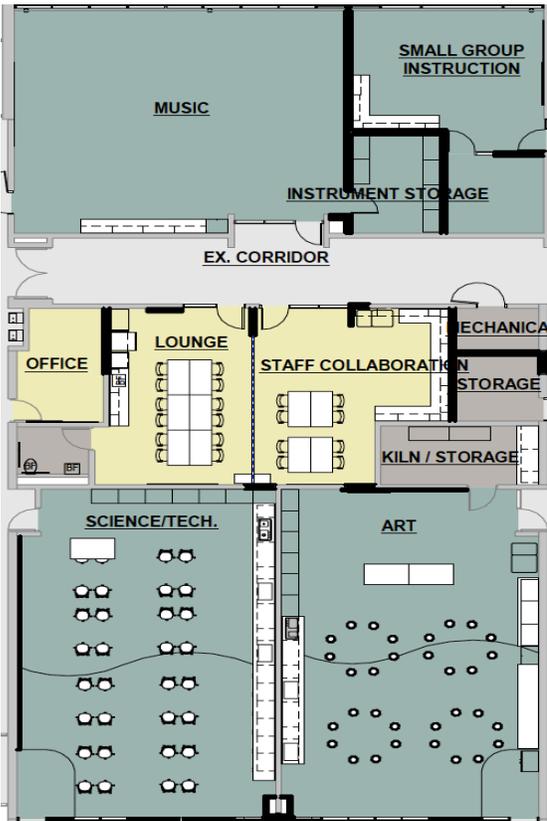
Phase 1: Art, Science/Tech, Music



SPS Renovation Project Progress

May 14, 2021

Demolition Changing the Shape of Phase I Spaces



Spaces in Phase I are changing shape. In the first month of demolition, mechanical and electrical systems have been disconnected and rerouted, the roof has been removed and some interior walls have been taken down. Can you identify these spaces?

**Phase I- Science/Technology
Music & Art**

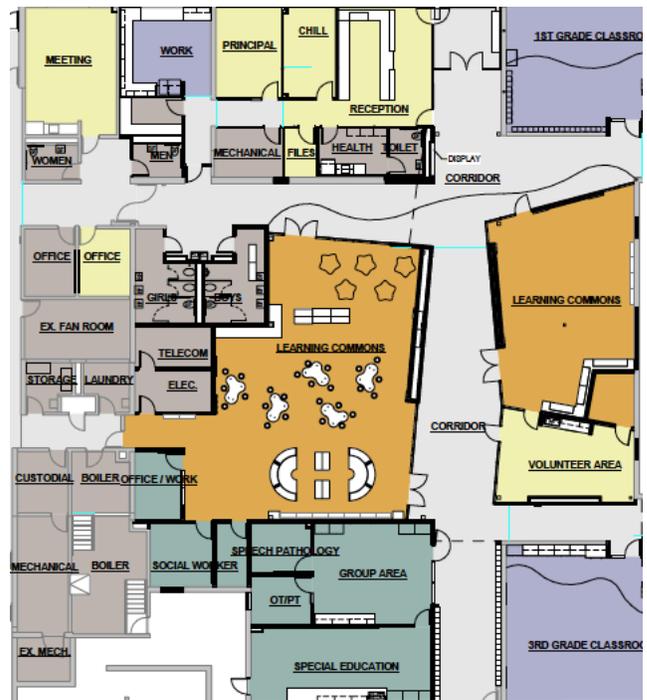
Ground Breaking Ceremony May 20th



A groundbreaking ceremony will be held at DES on May 20th to announce the beginning of construction and thank the community for making the significant renovations at DES possible.

DES Phase II Plans

Phase II of the DES project will kick off as soon as the school year is completed on June 11th. Phase II will include the new secure entrance and office, the learning commons spaces and volunteer area, the special education suite, and the four lower elementary classrooms on the north side of the building. The cafeteria will get a refresh this summer as well. The renovated art room, music room, science/technology room, small group instruction space, teacher collaboration and work space, and four lower elementary classrooms are scheduled for completion by the end of December 2021.



Middle School & High School Enters Schematic Design Phase

After three months of discovery workshops and programming meetings with a broad group of stakeholders including students, parents, faculty, staff, administration and a board member, the Middle/High School Project is entering the schematic design phase. The schematic design phase aligns a high-level budget to the proposed scope of the project prior to solidifying design decisions in the design development phase which is scheduled to be completed by August.