

Safety and Facilities Board Update for May 3rd Meeting

The facilities department continues to struggle with maintaining a full crew. We have been down 2 full time custodians all year and we are not receiving applications for these positions. We have been fortunate to have substitute custodians available on most days to fill these positions. The subs are mostly high school students who showed more interest when the pay rate went up. We are very thankful to have the ability to have the subs but are in need of full time staff.

The HVAC project with EEI and ENE is going very well. The middle school server upgrade is complete and is working as it should. The High School end of the project is well underway and just about everything that could be completed behind the scenes is completed. They are working on installing some controls right now as well as the front end. Once we turn off the boilers we will start with the valve changeovers in the rooms.

We have been looking into the possibility of solar power, both on a large district scale as well as a smaller high school only scale. It appears for either option the solar field would be at the high school in one of the fields on the left as you enter the driveway. We have met with one company to discuss these options. Our preliminary findings show that we could do a no cost to the district option that would still provide a good annual revenue back to the district. There are many factors to consider when looking into a project of this size such as, payback, warranty, maintenance, ownership options, end of life responsibilities, and future uses of field space we would need. We are looking into all of these factors and more. We have also contacted/visited another school that has uses a very similar system to get feedback.

We are also looking into the possibility of a performance contract project to complete other energy upgrades such as lighting, boilers, transformers etc. Along with this we have looked into bio-mass boilers for both the high school and middle schools. We are considering a wood chip grant as well as how the solar project would effect this type of project.

We continued our emergency response training during the winter months completing drills at each school. We are back to evacuation drills for the remainder of the year. We completed a scan drill, a secure campus drill, and lockdown drills to include barricade as well as onsite evacuation.

The school district/town emergency responder annual drill will take place in May. This year the drill will be at the high school. A lot of planning and preparation have been done for this drill to ensure solid communication with staff, students, families, and community as well a safe controlled drill that will be provide useful information for future training. This year we will have members of Homeland Security School Readiness Program onsite observing the drill.

We have created a quick access guide to all things safety called the Everyday Staff Safety Reference guide. This guide is posted on the website and will also be given to all new hires. This guide was not designed to create new or additional safety rules it is simply one place where staff can go to review or be reminded of safety rules that need to be followed everyday.

We are currently working of RFP's to go out for the CIP items for next year. The high school camera upgrade project is set and ready to go as soon as school it out. We are also continuing to work on many day projects in house.

We are working on round two of the states Get the Lead Out program. This program tests for lead in the drinking water. The Elementary and Middle are complete. There was a shipping issue with the samples at the high school so we needed to re-sample. We will conduct our third and last round in the fall.

We are looking forward to a very busy summer and I think we will have enough subs as many students have expressed interest.