



SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Exciting Modernization Projects at SMMUSD Schools Forthcoming: McKinley Elementary, Will Rogers Learning Community and John Adams Middle School

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Facility Improvement Project team detailed school modernization projects on the horizon for multiple Santa Monica schools as part of bond measure SMS passed enthusiastically by voters in 2018. As presented to the Board of Education during a regular board meeting, projects are slated to begin at McKinley Elementary School, Will Rogers Learning Community and John Adams Middle School in June 2023.

Projects at Grant Elementary School, Franklin Elementary School, Roosevelt Elementary School and Lincoln Middle School continue to progress through the process that includes design, submission to DSA, the California Environmental Quality Act process, conducting community meetings, and procuring contractors, consultants and other services.

The Facility Improvement Project department continues to modernize, renovate and build educational facilities that meet the standards of today and will serve students well into the future.

“We are focused on how our school facilities will support changes in learning over the next 25 years,” said Upton. “We appreciate the Santa Monica community’s ongoing support of our school facility improvement plans and student success. Together, our students will continue to be well-prepared for college and career and our ever-changing world.”

Project details for each school:

McKinley Elementary: New classroom / school support building and library modernization

The two-story building will provide eight new elementary classrooms, support spaces and a new administrative office. This building will provide two secured entries for students and staff, and a new elevator and stairs will improve access throughout the campus. A new pick-up / drop-off area has been designed, separate from a new parking lot, for additional student and staff safety. The building will remove 11 existing portable classrooms from this campus. The project was



submitted to DSA in December. It is currently under review and approval is expected this spring. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2023 and completion is expected in spring/summer 2025.

The existing McKinley library will be modernized to align with the educational specifications. A new work area for the librarian, improved circulation, separate reading areas and new technology to support the reading program are planned as part of this work. An improved entry will align with the new elementary classroom building across the corridor. Work has not yet been scheduled, but is expected to take one year to build once started. Entitlements, including authorization of the McKinley Campus Plan under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be undertaken in future months.

[Attend the McKinley CEQA community meeting on Jan. 31.](#)

[Will Rogers Learning Community: Early learning classroom building and field improvements](#)

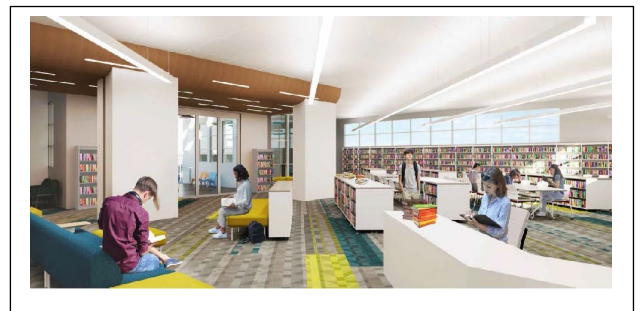
The Board of Education adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Rogers Campus Plan, on Jan. 19, as required under CEQA, which authorizes the District to proceed with implementation of the projects identified in this much needed Campus Plan over several phases. The first phase, which consists of a new one story building and field replacement, is nearing commencement.



The building will provide four new kindergarten classrooms and three new transitional kindergarten classrooms with adjoining workspaces and restrooms. A new centrally located track and playfields will be provided on the 16th Street side of the campus. The building will replace six existing portable classrooms when complete. The project was submitted to DSA in late December. It is currently under review and approval is expected this spring. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2023 and completion is expected in spring 2025.

[John Adams Middle: Library modernization](#)

The Board of Education adopted an MND for the JAMS Campus Plan, on Jan. 19, as required under CEQA, which authorizes the District to proceed with implementation of the projects identified in this much needed Campus Plan over several phases. The first phase, which consists of a library renovation, is nearing commencement.



Utilizing the existing library's footprint, the library renovation reimagines the library as a multi-functional space. The updated design includes flexible moveable furniture and the creation of a new raised exterior deck carved from an unused existing adjacent area to support outdoor learning. The library renovation also includes two new separate collaborative study rooms and a conference room. The project is currently in DSA backcheck and is expected to receive final approval by the end of February 2023. Construction is expected to begin in summer 2023 and to be completed within the school year. A temporary library is being constructed for student use during construction.

[Grant Elementary: Library renovation and expansion, historic courtyard renovation, and transitional kindergarten consolidation](#)

The modernization includes the existing library, computer labs, adjacent classrooms and exterior patios. In addition, the central courtyard will be reconfigured for better access and to support outdoor learning. The library and TK classrooms have been designed, however, DSA mandated an additional structural review of the existing walls, foundations and overhangs within the project scope. The testing will be done in April during spring break and the project is planned to be submitted to DSA in summer 2023.

Construction of this project is being deferred. It will not be constructed in the summer of 2023. Depending on funding, and resolution of outstanding issues, the construction will commence in the spring / summer 2024 or later. Additional sources of funding will be required. Entitlements, including authorization of the Grant Campus Plan under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be undertaken in future months.

[Attend the Grant CEQA community meeting on Feb. 7.](#)

[Franklin Elementary: New maker space building and playfield / yard improvements](#)

The new Franklin maker space will replace the existing six portable classrooms currently located in the center of the campus. The new building will serve the entire campus TK-5th grades. It is designed as a one-story structure with three large flexible spaces: two large studios and a resource center. Included within this new building are two single occupancy restrooms and support spaces. It will include areas for outdoor learning easily accessed by movable glass doors providing an indoor-outdoor flow. The outdoor areas include a performance platform, seat walls and planters landscaped with drought tolerant plants and several trees, which will provide shade to the play area.

In addition to the new maker space building, a redesigned artificial turf field suitable for U10 soccer play, and walking track, will be constructed. The current field topography will be graded to provide a more suitable playing field with the appropriate slope. The existing basketball courts will be relocated to the rear of the campus adjacent to a new play field and will be covered with a solar reflective coating to cool the pavement. Revised accessible parking configuration is being designed to meet current codes. The project is currently in DSA backcheck and is expected to receive approval this Spring.

Additional delays in the approval process may be forthcoming due to additional geotechnical testing required by California Geologic Survey. Also, there is new interest in reviewing the phasing and swing space during construction by current site administration. This project is deferred while the design team works with site leadership to revisit the campus plan and phasing. Construction is deferred until there is more clarity. Additional sources of funding will be required. Entitlements, including authorization of the Franklin Campus Plan under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be undertaken upon completion of the campus plan and phasing review and any resultant changes to the campus plan.

[Measure SMS project update presentation to the school board](#), including additional renderings of all projects.

For more information on facility projects visit: www.smmusd.org/FIP.

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