MARPLE NEWTOWN
CULBERTSON
CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

By: James Wigo, Culbertson Elementary School Principal

On June 17th, as the students exited Culbertson Elementary School to begin their summer, the contractors entered the school to begin Phase I of a 3 phase construction project. Culbertson Elementary school was about to be transformed into a state-of-the-art elementary school. Phase 1 of the construction project included the remodeling of hallway bathrooms, 11 classrooms, 2 new Kindergarten classrooms, a faculty room, hallways, new exterior façade, and a new parking lot and bus loop in the front of the school.

The new Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade classrooms contain brand new floors, new storage cabinets, bathrooms and cubbies for the students to store their belongs throughout the day. In addition, the classrooms also have brand new projectors, interactive whiteboards, lighting, windows, HVAC and electrical systems.

Our new hallways contain all new tile flooring, new ceiling tiles, new LED lighting, and new corkboards to display the student’s work. One of the major changes to the hallway are the recessed doors to our classrooms. In addition to the changes mentioned, our hallways were also covered with a brand new coat of paint.

When the students arrived back to school in September, they were amazed at the transformation. The students entered their new classrooms and were shocked at all the changes that took place since June.

The students and staff of Culbertson would like to thank the school district; specifically, the School Board of Directors, Director of Operations, Jake Gallagher, and the contractors who were able to complete the work in only ten weeks. Furthermore, we would like to thank the teachers who put in many long hours right before the school year began to make sure the students had a warm and welcoming classroom to begin the school year.

Culbertson Elementary School now looks forward to the completion of Phase 2 in the construction process, which includes the new addition located on the back of the school. The contractors have been working diligently since June to complete this next phase in a timely manner. The addition, the school will have 9 new classrooms and a large group instruction area for our students.

The students, staff, and community look forward to the completion of Phase 2 and 3, and are very excited to see the finished product in September of 2020. Be sure to follow Culbertson Elementary on twitter for periodic updates on all phases of the construction project. Follow us at Culbertson_MNSD.
LOOMIS is LOOKING QUITE LOVELY

In August, when newly appointed Principal, Jaime Smyth first saw the school, she was escorted by Marple Newtown School District’s Director of Operations, Jake Gallagher and Superintendent, Dr. Tina Kane. It was a construction site bustling with workmen focused on opening the school on time. There were hardly any walls, no windows, no gym or library, and no functioning plumbing. It was difficult to decipher where they were standing amidst the toolboxes, ladders, and exposed wires. The cafeteria was full of items from teachers’ classrooms and gym equipment. It was a stressful time, but Ms. Smyth reassured the staff, this year was going to be “An Adventure” and that together, they would make the school feel like home again.

To walk into the school now, just brings happiness to everyone that enters! Phase 1 of construction has been completed. SmartBoards have been installed. Water stations are in full use. The gym is fully functional. Classrooms have been beautifully decorated by the Loomis teachers. In order to accomplish this, Loomis teachers worked a tremendous amount of additional hours of their own time making sure things were perfect for their incoming students. They invited their own families to help pitch in. Principal Smyth’s son, mother, and father were even hard at work making sure the cafeteria was just right and that new Math in Focus books were delivered to each classroom! Marple Newtown High School students (many previous Loomis students) volunteered their time to help deliver items to classrooms, move desks, and put books back on library shelves. It was really quite beautiful to watch the school transform in just days.

The school is currently in Phase 2. Former kindergarten and first grade classrooms are being renovated and several additional classrooms are being constructed. Phase 3 consists of the main office and cafeteria remodel and will take place in Summer 2020.

Loomis students, staff, and community are excited to see the finished product in early Fall 2020!