



Maine Regional School Unit 21
The Schools of Arundel, Kennebunk, and Kennebunkport

"Developing productive global citizens by building knowledge and character."

Kathryn M. Hawes, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools
Bruce A. Rudolph, Business Administrator

Phillip J. Potenziano, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Susan L. Martin, Director of Special Services

RSU 21
Building Project Newsletter
August 2016

Introduction

Welcome to the August edition of the RSU 21 Building Project Newsletter. It has been more than a full year since the voters in all three towns approved our \$56.5 million, three-school, project. I am happy to report that we remain on schedule, on budget, and exceptionally pleased with the quality of the work. These newsletters are chronicled on our website at rsu21.net.

Financing

As you may recall, last October we borrowed the first \$45 million of bonds for these projects. Given the credit ratings in all three of our towns and the financial health of the district, we were able to bond this money directly and secure an interest rate of 2.7%. The traditional Maine Municipal Bond Bank, which most towns and schools use, had an interest rate of 3.34% at that time. Needless to say, we saved the taxpayers \$2.7 million over the life of the loan.

This month, I am pleased to report that we have gone out to bond for the remaining \$10.5 million. This is \$1 million less than the voters authorized us to spend and will suffice to complete the projects. The interest rate that we locked in is 2.05%. While we cannot compare this with the Maine Municipal Bond Bank rate until October, we have clearly saved the taxpayers another significant amount of money by capitalizing on these historically low interest rates. Additionally, the bond will provide a premium of \$507,000 which will be used to help level out the impact of our debt payments over the next two years. This will mitigate some of the impact to the taxpayers as we get through the highest years of our payments.

Kennebunk High School



Demolition of the "C" Wing is nearly complete and the debris is being removed. Two additional portables have been moved from Kennebunkport Consolidated School and placed onsite for classrooms. Site work is underway and steel is being erected to the left of the gym. We have been working with our School Nutrition Director, Transportation Director, and Administration,

to plan for the return of students on September 6th. PC Construction will have their work areas separated by fencing and will provide clearly marked pathways for our teachers and students.



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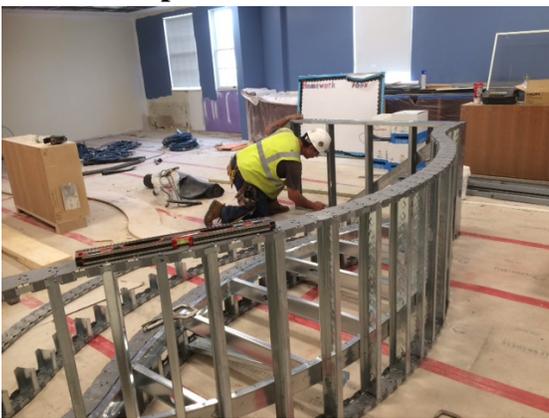
Mildred L. Day School



The construction phase of Mildred L. Day is proceeding at a good pace. The building shell is weather tight with windows and roofing intact. Mechanical and electrical trades are roughing in their systems and the masons have completed the block and brickwork. Additionally, the classroom

wing that we are keeping received new flooring, paint, life safety, and other work to match the new parts of the building. Teachers are busily preparing for the arrival of students on September 6th. We anticipate moving students out of the old wing and into the new building over Columbus Day weekend. Following that, we will take down the old wing and hold a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony late this fall.

Kennebunkport Consolidated School



Kennebunkport Consolidated School will open for students on September 6th as scheduled. All of the classrooms, library, art room, STEM lab, bathrooms, hallways, front office, pick up and drop off loop, parking lot, and leveled playground will be complete. The building looks beautiful! The gymnasium and music room will be unavailable for



the first month of school while we await the delivery of a new air handler. Additionally, the ceiling fan in the kitchen needed to be fully redesigned. The original was much like a typical home bathroom fan with no grease mitigating capacity, therefore, the kitchen will also remain unavailable for the first couple of weeks. We have worked closely with our Physical Education and Music Teachers as well as our School Nutrition Director to ensure that students will not be impacted. Physical Education will be outside or in the classrooms, music class in the classrooms, and lunches delivered to the classrooms from Sea Road School. Again, this will be the case for just the first few weeks of school as we get the fans and air handlers in place and get permission to occupy those portions of the building.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools!

Kathryn Hawes