



Amity Regional High School (ARHS) Summer Project Wrap-up

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It was a busy summer at ARHS with numerous projects being accomplished at the same time summer school and Community Ed were going on. Listed below are some of the improvements that staff and students will realize for the 2018/19 school year:

- All of the corridors were repainted
- Additional speakers and lights were installed on the stadium football field to enhance sound quality and safety
- Seasonal PM's were completed on all HVAC equipment
- New air handlers were installed in the TEMC Industrial Arts room.
- Four complete ductwork systems were professionally cleaned
- Two large areas of failing asphalt were cut out and replaced
- The Trane control panel for the chillers and the corresponding Siemens panel were upgraded
- Concrete repairs due to salt damage were completed on the front bus loop sidewalks by in-house personnel



New Main Breaker Settings

- The stairwell at the athletic entrance was completely repaired by our in-house personnel
- The rear parking lot lines, space numbers, and fire lanes were repainted

Special points of interest:

- Over 40,000 water bottles have been filled using the water bottle fillers recently installed on drinking fountains in all three schools
- 535 gallons of floor finish were laid to refinish the VCT floors district wide
- 160 gallons of gym finish were laid to refinish the five wood gym floors

Other Improvements at ARHS

The main breaker at Amity Regional High School had started failing during re-energization after a power outage. It was learned the original settings had not been set. An engineering study was conducted to update current field loads and the breakers were properly

set up. Phase 3 of the vinyl tile corridor flooring replacement took place. This included the art room wing, locker room wing, and corresponding side corridors. A small energy efficiency project took place where the fixtures in the center and wrestling gym were re-

placed with updated LED technology. The gym floors in the center gym and the wrestling gym were sanded down, repainted and refinished. A new heating variable air volume box was installed in the renovated culinary room to provide efficient heat in winter.

Bethany Accomplishments



New Restroom Hand Dryers

Our staff did an outstanding job readying the building for school. All rooms were thoroughly cleaned and the corridors were repainted. The gym ductwork was professionally cleaned. The floors in the technical education classroom and lab were repainted. The same electrical study that was completed at Amity Regional High School was completed at Bethany and all breakers were set to their proper settings. Five catch basins in various

areas of the parking lots had deteriorated. All five were replaced and the asphalt was patched. The acid neutralization tank in the science area had the old limestone media vacuumed out. It was then pressure washed and new media was installed. During the May tornados, several areas of damage were recognized. Many trees were cut, dug out, and removed. The baseball backstops were damaged and repaired. The roof suffered

several punctures and was repaired. An exhaust fan was destroyed and has been replaced. An insurance claim was filed to minimize out-of-pocket cost to the District. Modifications to the ductwork in the technical education area were completed to better control temperature and humidity. High efficiency electric hand dryers were installed in all large student restrooms. An area of damaged curbing was removed and replaced with asphalt.

Orange Recap

The custodial staff did an outstanding job preparing the school. Every room was cleaned, the corridors were all painted, and all preventive maintenance was done on the air handling equipment. A lightning strike to a tree caused damage to the generator, chiller, and lighting both inside and outside the building. All repairs were made by either in-

house personnel or our contractors. An insurance claim was filed to minimize out-of-pocket cost to the District. The acid neutralization tank was serviced in the science area. The old greenhouse had become unsafe and was disassembled and removed. A new one was built by the carpentry class at Amity Regional High School, transported to the site,

and erected by students and their instructors. Modifications to the ductwork in the technical education area were completed to better control temperature and humidity. The mini-split air conditioner that serves this area also failed and was replaced by in-house personnel. A second unit was added to a nearby classroom to better control room climate.

“The buildings are kept in excellent condition and provide a welcoming environment to students, staff and the community. I appreciate the efforts and expertise of staff to clean, maintain, and make repairs in the building at a high standard while being cost-efficient in the process. I am proud of the District’s efforts to be more green with the hand dryers and look forward to seeing the greenhouse in full operation.”

Terry Lumas
Director of Finance and Administration

New Greenhouse and Shop Floor Paint



Repaired Back Stop



In-House Maintenance Personnel Save Money and Time

Due to the knowledge and skill of our three in-house building maintainers, the District is able to provide better and quicker service, at a fraction of the cost of outside contractors. There are very few instances, outside of a catastrophic equipment failure requiring specialized equipment or training, where an outside contractor is needed. If we incur problems with the packaged air conditioning units, we are able to just purchase the replacement equip-

ment and install it ourselves. We no longer contract out parking lot line striping. An entire exterior staircase as well as spalling concrete repairs were completed in-house. New circuits, data wire runs for controls or cameras, and transformer maintenance are completed by our technicians. Most door and lock/hardware repairs are now completed without bringing in a vendor. Building envelope repairs are also mostly done in-house.



Security and Safety Enhancements

Security officers attended several training exercises during the course of the year. They attended a session on Working With Students and Families Dealing With Trauma and Anxiety and another session on Physical/Psychological Management Training. They were also trained in crisis management, customer service, how to handle everyday student infrac-

tions, and stop the bleeding techniques. Stop the bleeding kits were purchased for all three schools to help enable preservation of life in catastrophic situations or everyday accidents. Additional security cameras were purchased and installed at all three schools as well as the stadium field area. Fifteen radios were ordered and programmed to replace old

non-functioning radios at the high school. A visit was conducted at all three schools by a member of Homeland Security and the CT State Police along with members of Amity Staff. The report will identify options for consideration to improve security infrastructure and procedures at the schools. This will help in planning a budget for security improvements.

“I am so proud of the crews we have in each building and of our maintenance team. Everyone works together to support education of the kids and to provide a clean safe environment. The pride everyone in Facilities takes is evident by the appearance of our buildings and the annual reports from the health departments. Amity is truly blessed with an outstanding facilities team”.

Jim Saisa
Director of Facilities

Moisture Mitigation and New Corridor Flooring



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Meet Earl Potter

Earl Potter is the Head Custodian at Amity Regional High School. Earl started his career with Amity in 1988 as a night custodian at the high school. In 1993 he was promoted to night lead custodian and was promoted to head custodian in 2000. Prior to coming to Amity, Earl is proud of his service in the US Air Force. Earl does an outstanding job leading his team. The organization during the summer cleaning is impeccable. The school is always busy, but Earl is able to accommodate activities and get the building in pristine condition by the start of school. More impressively, he is able to ensure the pristine condition exists all year long. In his spare time, Earl enjoys bowling, horse and auto racing, and watching his Buffalo Bills. Earl says “he has had a wonderful 30 years”.

Electrical System Studies

Thanks to the support of the Amity Board of Education, we were able to accomplish electrical system studies at all three buildings. After the main breaker started tripping after power was restored post-power outage at Amity Regional High School, it was determined that the main breaker settings were never properly set upon original installation. We checked the middle schools and found the same condition. vanZelm Engineering conducted Short Circuit Coordination Studies and Arc Flash Hazard Analysis at all three schools and the appropriate settings are now programmed on the breakers.

Newly Sanded and Refinished Gym Floors

