

April 2024

Dear Amherst Families,

As you may recall, in December 2022, the Amherst Central School District Capital Improvement Project was approved by voters. Overall, the capital improvement project work will occur during three phases between May 2024 and summer of 2027 and will include work at all of our buildings. Throughout each phase, I will be sending families periodic updates on the scheduled scope of work at the buildings.

Both Smallwood Drive and Windermere Boulevard elementary schools are part of Phase 1. Today's message will focus on the phase 1 work at Smallwood Drive Elementary that is scheduled to begin on May 6. At the end of May, I will send another update outlining work that will occur inside both buildings starting on June 27, after school has ended.

Phase 1 site work at Smallwood Drive begins May 6 and will include the relocation and redesign of the tennis courts into a multi-purpose play area, removal of existing basketball courts and construction of a new bus loop exiting on North Burbank Drive. The anticipated work completion date for these outdoor projects is the end of August.

The first week in May there will be activity on the north side of Smallwood's property, as the construction management company will install signage, construction fencing and gates and erosion fabric across the grassy area, back of the parking lot and along the perimeter of the residential properties that abut the work area. Please note that the parking lot will be accessible through June 26. The door used by families picking up children from Just For Kids after school care will remain in use through the end of the school year. Once school ends, fencing and gates will be installed at the parking lot entrances.

From now until the end of the school year, any physical education and recess held outdoors will take place on the south side of Smallwood Drive near the playground and no students will be allowed near the construction areas.

This summer and throughout the project, for safety reasons we ask you to abide by the signs and not enter any construction areas.

Since the site work at Smallwood Drive Elementary is a one portion of a larger three-phase project, we will post schedules, timelines, and site plans for each phase of work on the 2022 Capital Project [webpage](#).

Please reach out to your principal if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Anthony J. Panella, Superintendent