

WEST COVINA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FACILITIES UPDATE

2024



A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear West Covina Unified community,

As we begin the 2024-25 school year, I am thrilled to welcome all the new and returning members of our West Covina Unified family. I hope this message finds you well-rested, rejuvenated, and ready for a year brimming with numerous opportunities for growth, learning, and discovery.

At West Covina Unified, we are committed to providing every student with access to a high-quality, well-rounded, rigorous curriculum. We believe that pristine learning environments are key to success, which is why we prioritize modernizing our facilities and integrating emerging technologies to foster engagement, spark interest, and ensure uncompromising excellence.

Throughout the 2023-24 school year, West Covina Unified achieved significant milestones and completed several projects using the 2016 voter-approved Measure ES and other District funds.

Notably, the state-of-the-art Hollencrest Middle School gym and music building is nearing completion and is set to open its doors to students this fall.

Due to last year's significant rainfall, our West Covina Unified Performing Arts Center project was slightly delayed. We deeply appreciate your patience and understanding as we diligently make up for lost time, with the project expected to be completed in Summer 2025.

We also channeled students' passion for gaming into college and career readiness by developing three Esports classrooms at West Covina and Edgewood high schools and Mt. SAC Early College Academy. These classrooms are not just about gaming; they are about cultivating confidence, boosting morale, and unlocking potential in students who may not otherwise engage in traditional sports or school activities.

Our Board of Education, District administrators, construction managers, local agencies, and

I collaborate year-round to assess facility needs, optimize financial resources, and monitor projects. Thank you to our Board, Independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, Business Services Department, and our facilities team for your hard work and commitment in ensuring our facilities meet the needs of our remarkable students, teachers, staff, and entire West Covina Unified community.

It gives me great honor to present our 2024 Facilities Update, showcasing how the community-approved bond funds are being spent and sharing the significant progress and completion of various projects supporting student success. This update is not just about informing you; it's about involving you in the development of our schools and making you feel part of our journey toward providing the best education for our students.

Dr. Emy Flores

Superintendent of Schools
West Covina Unified School District



MEASURE ES



AMOUNT:
\$143 million



PASSED:
November 2016



BREAKDOWN:
\$75 million
in 2017 Series A bonds sold
\$32.4 million
in 2020 Series B bonds sold
\$35.6 million
in 2024 Series C bonds sold

The West Covina Unified School District's Board of Education adopted the Facilities Master Plan in 2017, ensuring all projects comply with the District's critical enhancements and repair requests. Throughout the past year, the District continued to use the allotted bond dollars granted through Measure ES for several high-quality school facility improvements, including the completion of West Covina High School's parking lot in December 2023 and the school's Culinary Arts Facilities Project, which opened its doors to students in April 2024.

West Covina Unified is using the remaining funds to replace the heating and air conditioning systems with energy-efficient models, replace outdated electrical systems, and more. These projects are designed to reduce costs, improve student and staff comfort and health, and create a better learning environment to support productivity.

Students and staff thrive when they feel safe and supported and have a clean and healthy learning environment. The Measure ES bond has been instrumental in this regard, enabling the District to complete repairs and long-term improvements that have significantly enhanced the teaching and learning experience across all schools. With \$143 million in bond funds, West Covina Unified students, staff, and school communities have improved spaces and top-notch facilities to enjoy and excel in.

The District will continue to ensure the community is well-informed about project spending by actively communicating with the Independent Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee and the Board at regular public meetings. Your involvement and feedback are crucial, and we look forward to our continued collaboration.



INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:

Manal Elhusseiny, Roger Garner, Sandra Moitozo, Jorge Ronquillo, Robert Torres and Michelle Wong

NEARING COMPLETION

Hollencrest Middle School Gym and Music Building

The Hollencrest Middle School Gym and Music Building will provide students with a state-of-the-art, modern facility to sharpen their athletic and musical skills. The 750-seat building includes locker rooms, a music room, an indoor and outdoor stage, and upgraded basketball and volleyball courts.

This modern facility will serve as a place where students' passions can flourish. Whether they are in athletics or the performing arts, this facility aims to provide the resources they need to pursue their dreams.

The building has been carefully designed to seamlessly blend with the school's existing architecture, ensuring the new facility feels like an integral part of Hollencrest Middle School's campus. This thoughtful integration will provide a sense of continuity and pride to our students, parents, and staff.



EST. COMPLETION
Fall 2024



COST
\$16.6 million



COMPLETED



Esports Classrooms

West Covina and Edgewood high schools and Mt. SAC Early College Academy received state-of-the-art Esports Labs during the 2023-24 school year. The gaming suites were integrated into each school to provide teams and players with a space to enhance education, teamwork, and competition. The new labs are fully equipped with gaming computers, high-definition monitors, gaming chairs, desks, and lighting.

All three esports programs have benefitted from these tailored learning and competition spaces. Each team received high rankings during the spring 2024 season, including West Covina High School's varsity Super Smash Bros team, which clinched the 2024 CIF Esports Initiative Ultimate-Gold Division State Championship.



COMPLETED

December 2023



COST

\$450,000

Culinary Arts Facility at West Covina High School

The recently completed West Covina High School Culinary Arts Facility Project supports the District's expanding career technical education programs, ensuring students can explore and grow in college and their chosen career path.

The modernized space includes advanced kitchen equipment and upgraded learning spaces to create a state-of-the-art culinary facility. The center of the lab consists of a collaborative demonstration and instruction station and six individual cooking stations with dedicated exhaust hoods.

In addition, the facility includes an outdoor seating area designed for students to proudly share their culinary creations with their peers.



COMPLETED

April 2024



COST

\$2.4 million

COMPLETED

West Covina High School Stadium Parking Lot

The new West Covina High School parking lot project added 124 spaces beneath existing solar panel structures. This essential upgrade enhances safety and organization for daily use, commencement ceremonies, and large events, while supporting our softball, track and field, baseball, and football teams throughout the year. The renovations also include a stormwater retention system.



GROUNDBREAKING
June 2023



COMPLETED
December 2023



COST
\$2.4 million



HVAC Systems

at Walnut Grove Intermediate School and Wescove Elementary School

West Covina Unified replaced the heating and air conditioning systems at Wescove Elementary School with energy-efficient models. Walnut Grove Intermediate School is expected to have its systems replaced in December 2024. The project is designed to reduce costs, improve student and staff comfort and productivity, and enhance overall learning.



COMPLETED
April 2024



COST
\$3.2 million

Roofing

at Hollencrest Middle School

Roofing repairs and replacements were finalized at Hollencrest Middle School to maintain the school's structural integrity and ensure safe and effective learning environments for students and staff.



COMPLETED
August 2024



COST
\$1.6 million

Parking Lot

at Wescove Elementary School

A new parking lot was completed at Wescove Elementary School, which added 36 parking stalls on campus. The project was designed to alleviate traffic congestion and provide easily accessible parking spots.



COMPLETED
August 2023



COST
\$350,000

Sewer and Gas Lines

at Vine Elementary School

Gas and sewer piping replacements were completed throughout Vine Elementary School during summer of 2024. The upgrades also included the addition of two new bottle-filling stations to encourage water consumption during educational activities.



COMPLETED
August 2024



COST
\$700,000

IN PROGRESS



District Performing Arts Center

The West Covina Unified School District Performing Arts Center will offer a space for students across the District to practice and perform with their drama, dance, music, and choral programs. Students will also be able to stage their own visual and performing arts events in the venue.

Featuring a 650-seat auditorium, a dance studio, dressing rooms, a black box theater, and dedicated spaces for the school's theater and choir departments, the Performing Arts Center is a state-of-the-art facility that aims to significantly enhance the arts programs across the District.

The District launched the West Covina High School Performing Arts Academy in 2020 to provide students passionate about the fine arts with a hub of unique educational and career opportunities. The Performing Arts Center, expected to be completed in Summer 2025, will be a cornerstone of the Academy's innovative approach to arts education, playing a vital role in shaping the future of our students.



EST. COMPLETION
Summer 2025



EST. COST
\$34.4 million

Walnut Grove Science Lab

The new science classroom project at Walnut Grove Intermediate School will provide students with innovative learning tools to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The spaces will include teacher demonstration areas, new upper and lower cabinets, and new flooring and ceilings in three classrooms.

In addition to the teaching space, the labs will include durable, functional equipment, materials, and more extensive work surfaces and tables for students to collaborate during lab projects.



GROUNDBREAKING
June 2024



EST. COMPLETION
Spring 2025



EST. COST
\$2.4 million





West Covina Unified School District

1717 W. Merced Ave. West Covina, CA 91790
(626) 939-4600 • www.wcusd.org

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RECENTLY COMPLETED

Mt. SAC Early College Academy Multipurpose Room, Stage & Kitchen



The updated Mt. SAC Early College Academy multipurpose room, stage, and kitchen are now equipped with new air conditioning,

lighting, and restroom upgrades. The facilities reopened in September 2023, offering students refreshed learning spaces for instructional and extracurricular activities. The stage and multipurpose room serve as a community hub designed to inspire a sense of school spirit and civic engagement by bringing students together to do good work across the campus.

 **COMPLETED**
September 2023

 **COST**
\$1.8 million

New Marquees

West Covina Unified completed new marquee installations at various school sites to showcase important announcements, events, and achievements with the community. Additionally, the versatile signs are designed to strengthen the school brands, provide a dynamic means to communicate timely, and give students a warm and inviting welcome each day.



 **COMPLETED**
June 2023

 **COST**
\$500,000