

Dayton Public Schools

# Construction Zone

## Report to the Community



A community update on our neighborhood schools construction program



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Superintendent

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## Jackson razed, new school plans under way

The wrecking ball was set in motion on August 21 as officials and community partners gathered in front of the long-vacant Jackson elementary building, 329 Abbey Avenue, to bid the structure farewell.

"Citizens have waited patiently to see these vacant buildings come down," said Superintendent Percy Mack. "We are here today as a result of more than two years of planning and community involvement. We will continue to count on and encourage citizen participation throughout the construction process, so that all our new neighborhood schools are designed with community input."

Demolition of the former Highview Elementary School, located on McArthur Street, began October 8th. The former Cleveland and Jane Addams schools will come down later in the school year. No new school construction will take place on the Highview and Jane Addams sites.

As promised during last fall's bond levy campaign, the number of schools in the district will be reduced from 43 to 34 new neighborhood schools. Jackson and Highview, closed in 1982, will not be rebuilt. Issue 4, approved overwhelmingly by district voters last November, provides the local 39-percent share for building

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Jackson is ready to go...



going...



going...



gone. A new day is dawning.



## Construction Bio



**Terri Allen**  
Diversity and  
Outreach  
Coordinator

In September 2002, the Dayton Board of Education unanimously adopted a resolution to ensure equal employment opportunity and fair participation by economically disadvantaged businesses in all contracting activities involving the district's \$650 million facilities development plan.

As the new DPS diversity and outreach coordinator, it's Terri Allen's job to make sure that a diverse supplier base and workforce have the opportunity to come to the table during the district's 10-year school construction plan.

Allen is applying her 20 years of experience in the private and public sectors to build a strong foundation for the success of the DPS diversity program. She will accomplish this by meeting with community leaders and local organizations to identify their challenges and

resources. She also will build sound relationships through outreach and training.

"The construction or renovation of 34 schools presents an economic opportunity that is not limited to the Dayton school district," says Allen. "We want to ensure the highest rate of return on the dollars generated by new school construction to the local economy."

The building project, the largest in Dayton history, will improve the community's economic base and generate hundreds of jobs in construction, procurement and related areas. The project also will provide opportunities for student vocational training and increased City of Dayton tax revenues through the jobs created over the next 10 years.

A native Daytonian, Allen attended Wogaman and Jefferson Elementary Schools, Longfellow Middle School, and Patterson Co-operative High School. She earned her bachelor's degree in business management from Fisk University and has one son, who attends Belle Haven Elementary School.

## Jackson razed, new school plans under way

(continued from page 1)

demolition. The state funds the remaining 61 percent.

Plans for the demolition of the district's vacant buildings were announced last March from the steps of the closed Cleveland Elementary School, which is scheduled to be rebuilt as a new preK-8 school in the district's 10-year school construction plan.

"We promised taxpayers that no boarded-up buildings would be left in our neighborhoods to create eyesores. We are here today to demonstrate that we are keeping that promise," said Dayton Board of Education Vice President and Construction Committee Chair Tony Hill during the recent news conference at Jackson.

### PROJECTED DEMOLITION SCHEDULE

School	Date
Highview Elementary	Oct. 8, 2003
Wogaman Elementary	Dec. 17, 2003
Cleveland Elementary	Jan. 2, 2004
Jane Addams Elem.	Jan. 15, 2004

## Citizens celebrate Cleveland's past and future

On a sunny September day, more than 150 friends, neighbors and alumni of Cleveland Elementary School gathered to share memories of the school that played a part in each of their lives. They came by the dozens, some with children and grandchildren, to reminisce and share stories.

Cleveland Elementary School at 1102 Pursell Street stands vacant now, waiting for demolition and rebirth. The site will be among the first to see new school construction. The new Cleveland School will

serve students in prekindergarten through grade eight and will be ready for students in 2006.

Picnickers, who gathered in the park behind the school, got a glimpse of the future, as architects presented drawings of the new Cleveland School.

Linden Heights Community Council President Sylvia Christy lives a block from the school and was amazed to see so many people at the Cleveland event. "I was shocked that the [planning] process for Cleveland was not fur-

ther along," said Christy. "Now that I have attended several planning meetings, I realize that this is a long and complex process especially when planners are trying to incorporate the recommendations from the neighborhoods."

She encourages residents to stay informed about the district's construction project. "Look for announcements of priority board meetings, planning sessions or zoning board hearings," continued Christy. "That's where you'll learn and be able to ask questions."



# Designs on the future of DPS

Over the summer, citizens attended a series of community meetings to see and comment on preliminary school designs for Belle Haven, Cleveland, Kiser, and Wogaman. The schools, scheduled for completion in 2005 and 2006, will be among the first of 28 new 500-student buildings that will serve students in pre-kindergarten through grade eight. Illustrated below are architect's schematic drawings

Wogaman will be designed by DNK Architects, Inc.

Features of the new schools, such as class size, use of learning spaces, and community access to school facilities were determined



for the first four buildings to be constructed as part of the district's neighborhood school construction project.

Architects for Belle Haven and Cleveland are Moody Nolan Ltd., Inc. Kiser will be designed by Levin Porter Associates, Inc. Both firms are members of the Dayton School Design Association, which is comprised of four local firms: Lorenz and Williams, Inc.; Levin Porter Associates, Inc.; Ruetschle Architects; and Woolpert LLP; as well as Fanning Howey Associates, Inc. and Moody Nolan, Ltd. Inc.

with input from the community during a series of public forums two years ago.

The vision is that in the foreseeable future Dayton Public Schools students will learn in newly renovated or reconstructed schools that are literally built around their educational needs and the needs of the community.

To catch a glimpse of the new designs, tune in to DPS-TV Time Warner Channel 21 for a replay of the community presentations.

**Architects' designs, from top to bottom: Wogaman (campus view and street-level view), Cleveland, Kiser and Belle Haven.**

## Construction Zone on DPS-TV Time Warner 21

- Mondays ..... 5 p.m.**
- Wednesdays ..... 6:30 p.m.**
- Fridays ..... 7 p.m.**
- Saturdays .... 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.**
- Sundays ..... 1 p.m. and 9 p.m.**

*Stay informed from the comfort of your home. All you need is your remote control.*



## Plans for future take shape



**Percy A. Mack, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent  
Dayton Public Schools

As plans for new neighborhood schools take shape, we are preparing students for the future with our focus on academic reform. DPS students have made record improvements—especially in the area of reading—but there is much work to be done. Our focus on reading skills continues this year, along with writing, mathematics and attendance.

This fall issue of *Construction Zone* has been prepared to update you on our 10-year school construction project, made possible with the passage of Issue 4 last November. I invite you to stay informed about our 10-year construction project, attend your community's planning meetings, and support our efforts to guarantee a quality education for every student, every day.

## Administrative offices consolidate

With the school year in full swing, DPS has undertaken a comprehensive consolidation plan that places most of the district's administrative offices and services under one roof. According to DPS officials, the central location will make it more convenient for parents and other customers to take advantage of district services. The move also will save taxpayers \$9 million over the next four years. Consolidation will reduce spending for the upkeep of multiple administrative buildings.

It is important to note that **not one penny of Issue 4 dollars was spent on the move.** The funds generated from the district's bond issue, which the community so generously supported last November, are earmarked specifically for new school construction and renovation. One-half mil of the bond issue funds will be permanently earmarked for upkeep of the new neighborhood schools, so that the district's capital investment is protected for future generations.

"With shrinking education dollars, we had to hold the line to maintain a balanced budget. Smart financing at a time when interest rates were at a record low made the time right for consolidation. It was the fiscally

responsible thing to do," said Superintendent Percy Mack.

The administrative offices, which are in move-in condition, require almost no remodeling and permit the district to consolidate operations that were previously conducted at the Administration Building on West First Street, the Service Building on North James H. McGee Boulevard, and Roosevelt Center on West Third Street. The consolidation plan also includes creation of a community task force to weigh options for alternative use of the former Roosevelt High School. Keeping even part of the massive building in long-term usable shape would cost an estimated \$29.6 million to renovate.

### DPS offices move to 115 South Ludlow Street

#### Benefits include:

- Savings to taxpayers, \$9 million over four years
- No levy dollars spent on move
- More dollars available for classroom instruction
- Central location for district services
- One-stop convenience for customers



348 West First Street  
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