

# **Central Middle School**

## **Progress Week of June 7, 2019**

Dear Colleagues,

We've had a good week of cooler weather with a few showers mixed in but progress at Central has been great. We were concerned that some of the craftsmen we had would go to other jobs to keep from losing a week when we closed the job down for student testing. It appears our fears were unfounded. When I walked the job this morning, I paid attention to who was there. I really did not notice any new faces and work was taking place in quite a few areas as usual.

The first thing I noticed this morning is progress on the roof of the gym. It really did not hit me until I was completing my rounds that the east and west stud walls for the gym are in place. Things are really taking shape. One thing to notice in the pictures is this does not look like a state road crew with one man working and twelve supervising. There is some talking going on but it appears to be necessary job related conversation. Results indicate this to be the case.



When entered the building through the gym entrance on the northeast corner I noticed two workers at a corner. The picture is taken with me facing west. They were installing a wall tray for studs to be secured to each side. The tray had to be installed under the section of tray running north and south. I had noticed the metal stud craftsmen toting hatchets and simply had no idea why a hatchet would be employed installing metal studs. Now we know!!! It is a pry bar/wedge/hammer/whatever you need when you are in a bind tool! I keep telling you I'm learning all the time.



The next photo is a closeup of the above picture. Notice the hatchet used as a pry bar to make room for the tray slipping in from the west. Notice both workmen are wearing safety glasses and both are wearing cut resistant gloves. Not all work sites display this regard for safety.





I happened to notice a manlift from Sunbelt Rentals with a unique paint job.



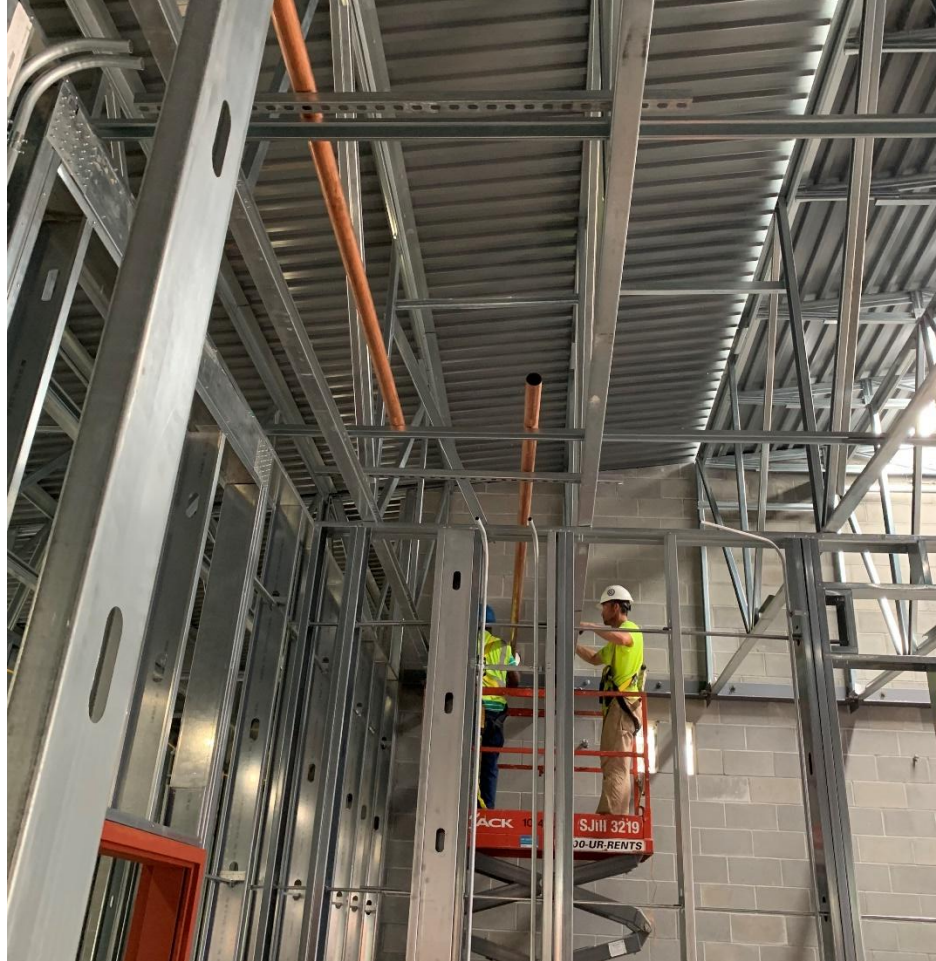
This foundation was founded by an actor and supports our military especially wounded warriors. That is very important as we have remembered this week with the anniversary of D-Day invasion, the start of the preservation of our freedoms we enjoy every day and so often take for granted.

The next picture is of the east side of the north-south firewall separating the gym area from the administrative and classroom areas. In pictures from a previous newsletter I had noted the steps in the wall would be filled in after the trusses were in place to give the masons a definite point to lay to. This prevents fire from traveling through the building at this point. The wall saved a considerable amount of money because it eliminated the need for sprinklers.

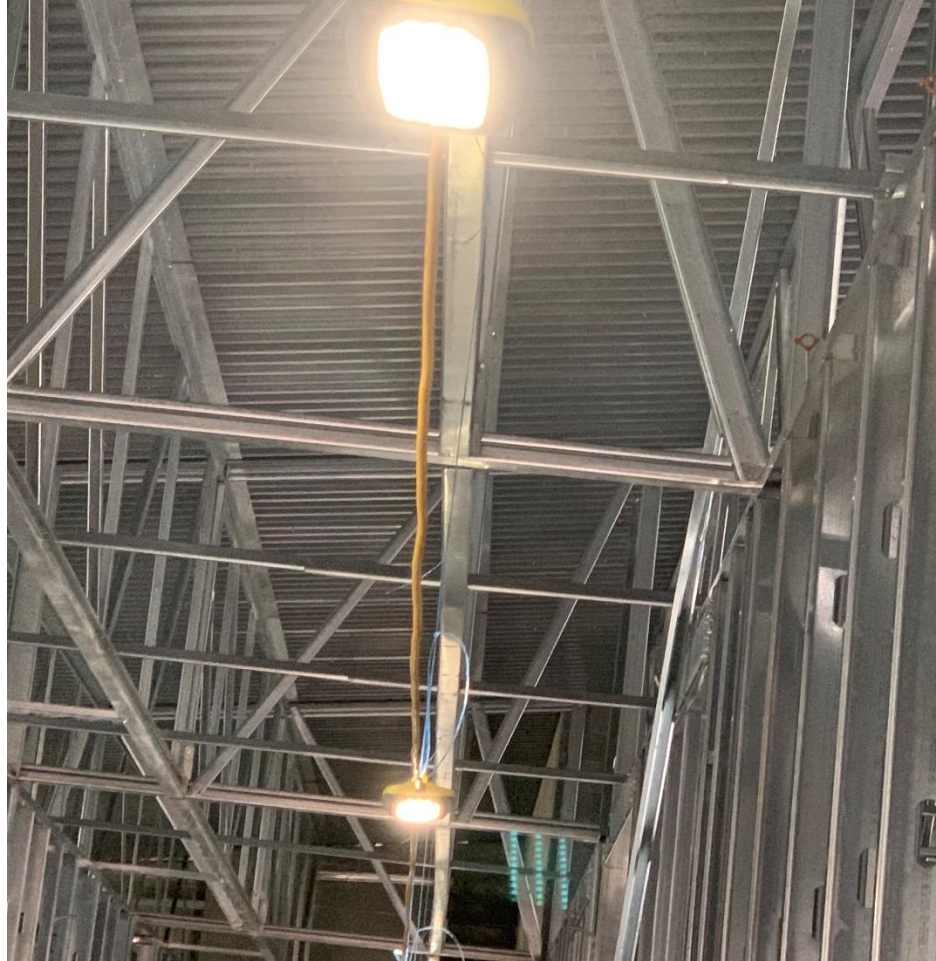


The next picture is of the same firewall in another area. Notice the 2" copper water lines installed in this area. They are establishing the run of the pipe for installation of supports and hangers making sure they don't interfere with other electrical and data runs to be installed in this same area.





I'm showing progress AND my age in this next picture. This is the hallway through the administrative area. Gypsum board covers the most of the exterior walls and most of the first layer of sheets has been installed necessitating temporary lighting.



WHEN I WAS WORKING, those lights were incandescent bulbs hanging from a wire. Now the lights are LED, more efficient and much more durable when they get a little abuse in the construction setting.

When I got to the end of the hallway through the administrative area, I was at the computer room on the northwest corner of the seventh grade wing. I had to ask why the boards were in the north wall. They are to secure cabinets to the wall. Again, I'm learning.





I walked down the eighth grade hallway and looked up and saw a good number of holes in the bottom sheets of the roof.



After talking with Brian Plyler I learned the holes were made when lanyards were secured for workmen on the roof. Some holes were possibly made when workmen were attaching the sheets and missed the truss location. All this will be covered with 6" thick Styrofoam insulation next week then more weatherproofing material and finally the standing seam roof.

Traveling to the outside I saw changes from earlier this week when I observed 2 X 6 lumber attached at the edge of the roof sheets at the building perimeter.





When I looked up this morning I could see considerable change in the appearance of the roof.





Half inch plywood has been added outside the 2 X 6 perimeter. The plywood covers the 2 X 6 pad and comes down to the bottom of the face across the end of the trusses to serve as an attach point for the roof edge covering. The 6" thick insulation will lay inside the 2 X 6 perimeter.

I speak frequently of housekeeping. The following picture is of a worker with the block masons doing housekeeping after they finished laying the block. This is part of taking pride in doing a good job.



The next picture is of two workmen tooling the joints on the last two rows of block at the back of the locker rooms behind the gym. Brick will be laid on the side of the wall they are standing on. They are working from that side because it is easier to install the staging outside the wall. I did notice at least one of the workmen had a small amount of mortar in their free hand to fill in wherever it might be needed.





The bottom line is I am thrilled with how far we've come after we finally got above ground. It seemed like a long wait but all the work above ground is useless if the work below ground is not completed correctly. I sincerely believe we have a very good job to this point.

Next week we will have a larger crew with work also taking place in the seventh grade wing with a tight deadline. It should be interesting these next few weeks. Thank you for your continued interest and patience.

Ray