



The Herald

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Finally.....A Great Answer to a Much Asked Question!

“So when will the second high school building be ready?” That’s a question that’s come up quite a bit recently, especially from our high school students. Our current high school building, which opened in fall 2014, is already full with just enough room to accommodate our students for the coming school year. Literally hundreds of work hours have already gone into the design and planning of Phase II of the expansion. Originally under consideration was a two-story building to the left of the current high school wing, but costs for a two-story building turned out to be prohibitive. After that, design considerations turned to a large multi-wing building on the soccer field. Site work then determined that the water table under the soccer field was too high and the ground too soft to support construction. Although, at the time, these set backs seemed very discouraging, they ultimately helped lead to a better, more functional, and even more cost effective design of a one story, large classroom building that will be directly adjacent to the high school wing. Because the building is adjacent, it lets us incorporate savings by eliminating an additional office suite. It even lends itself to a new and improved drive pattern with a driveway entering and exiting directly from Riverside Drive.

The Phase II expansion will have seventeen classrooms with science lab spaces for chemistry and biology, and it will have a beautiful new commons area that is almost triple the size of the current commons area in Phase I. This new commons area will face Riverside Drive, and it is sure to be a beautiful stand-out feature of our school for all those who drive by.



Architectural rendering of the front of the Phase II expansion, highlighting the new commons area. This faces Riverside Drive.



In addition to the new classroom building, Phase II will include a new gymnasium. This new facility will be located on what is now our baseball field, and will have locker rooms, coach’s offices, work out rooms, and bleachers. The new gymnasium will greatly help the MCA athletic program since scheduling sixth through eighth grade games and high school games will be more flexible with the use of two gymnasiums for practice and conference games.

The classroom facility is scheduled to open by August 2017, with completion of the gymnasium occurring simultaneously or very shortly thereafter. Additional architectural renderings are on display in the upper school lobby. Please feel free to drop by during office hours this summer if you’d like to have a look!

Architectural rendering showing the new classroom expansion behind our current Phase I with the new gymnasium in the background. Current trees along the small creek will still remain. They’re just not shown in the rendered drawing.