

The New Wellington Elementary School

September 2011

Welcome to the new Roger Wellington Elementary School!

Here is a quick fact sheet to help you understand and appreciate Belmont's newest building.

The Building

- Designed as a 5-track school, grades pre-K – 4th, 575 students
- Two distinct wings – “upper” and “lower”, with age-appropriate play areas
- Specifically designed for elementary age students, including facilities for those with special needs
- 80 parking spaces for staff to free up on-street parking
- Artificial turf field for year-round play
- 88,000 sq ft (old building was 93,000)
- Gym is approximately the same size as Butler's
- Designed to blend in with neighboring houses – similar scale, mix of wood and brick
- Security:
 - Cardkey access throughout, controlled entry during school day (like other Belmont schools)
 - Cameras monitor exterior and main entrances (*not* children inside building or neighboring houses)
- Energy-saving and green features:
 - Natural light, to reduce electricity use and provide healthier environment
 - Geo-thermal wells (1500 feet deep) to reduce heating and cooling costs
 - Healthier materials (i.e., low-VOC paint and floors)
 - Roof designed for installation of solar panels and portions for green roof
 - Gas fired boiler for efficiency and cost savings
 - Diffused air system to remove moisture and make spaces feel cooler
- Costs:
 - Total: \$39.8M, including design, construction, demolition, temporary relocation
 - State reimbursement: \$12.4M (40% of eligible costs)

The Classroom Wings

- Built-in benches and shelves
- Whiteboard (“wall talker”) on most open walls
- Smartboards in all classrooms
- Computers for students and teacher in each classroom (no dedicated lab)
- Large (“clerestory”) windows and light shelves for natural light (reduce electrical costs)
- Low-velocity HVAC system is very quiet
- 900 square foot rooms (1000+ for pre-K and Kindergarten)
- Sinks in all rooms, dedicated bathrooms in pre-K and Kindergarten
- Numerous break-out and special instruction areas to provide flexibility to meet student needs.

The Core Area

- Two art rooms and music rooms
- Nurses office
- Gymnasium (Similar in size to Butler)
- Cafetorium and full service kitchen; space in cafetorium can be cordoned off as additional music/instructional space
- Core area Music Room doubles as shared community space (as at Chenery)
- Administration offices and some special education rooms air-conditioned for summer use
- Media Center/Library space

The Old Wellington

- Built in phases, 1910s – 1970, originally used as the Belmont High School
- 700 square foot classrooms, designed for high school students
- Much of building was not disability-accessible for students, staff and community
- Severely outdated heating, electrical, plumbing systems, including no sprinklers
- Was the most expensive building to operate, per square foot (both energy and maintenance) in Belmont school system

Work Still To Complete

- Landscaping, both this fall and next spring
- Stair railings, interior/exterior benches, wood trim, signage, front entrance details, install window shades, bike racks, fencing, etc.
- Numerous small “punch list” items
- ***No work to be done when students present***

Building Committee: Mark Haley (chair), Pat Bruschi (vice chair), Joseph Barrell, John Bowe, Laurie Graham, Mary McHugh, Joel Mooney, Bill Lovallo, Lucy Pullen, Ike Papadopoulos, Heidi Sawyer, and Eric Smith

School Staff: Amy Wagner (Principal), Tony DiCologero, Donna Pini

Town Staff: Ara Yeghayan, consult with Glenn Clancy, Peter Castanino

Architect: Jonathan Levi Associates/Burt Hill

Contractor: Skanska USA

Owner's Project Manager: PMA

Clerk of the Works: Dominic Ingeneri