

SURRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

NEWS RELEASE

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DOBSON, NC - The Surry County Schools Maintenance Department has been extremely busy all summer with various routine maintenance projects and getting school campuses ready for the start of the 2018-2019 school year. When students and teachers leave for the summer, the maintenance department is in full throttle making playground inspections and repairs, painting schools, getting carpets cleaned, and ensuring gym floors are refinished. Other routine summer projects include:

- Replacing flooring at Cedar Ridge Elementary
- Working with the Department of Transportation to power broom driveways in preparation for restriping the driveways at Shoals Elementary, White Plains Elementary, Westfield Elementary, Central Middle, East Surry High and North Surry High School
- Annual maintenance of boiler, HVAC and plumbing systems
- Annual bleacher inspection and service at all schools
- Grounds maintenance

Less routine summer projects have included the creation of an outdoor dining area at East Surry High School. This project was a collaboration between the Director of School Nutrition, Mrs. Sherri Parks and the Director of Plant Operations, Mr. Robert Draughn. Students can look forward to a large and inviting new space that includes a concrete pad housing several tables with cardinal red umbrellas. Most recently, on August 8, the outdoor dining space was the venue for the Class of 2019 Senior Cookout. Principal, Mr. Jared Jones remarked, "It is sure to be a big hit when students return to class on August 27." Mrs. Parks commented, "The outdoor dining space at East Surry High School was a labor of love. We wanted students to have additional dining space and this project turned out to be a beautiful addition for the school."

Surry Central High School culinary students will walk into a new state of the art culinary lab. This renovated lab will give students access to the actual tools they would use while working in a restaurant or taking a college culinary class. Other renovations to promote the college and career going culture of students includes the moving of dirt at North Surry High School in preparation for the live lab that will be housed there. Each of the three traditional high schools, North Surry, East Surry, and Surry Central will have live animal labs this year.

The Director of Plant Operations, Mr. Robert Draughn states, “We are always very busy during the summer and this summer has been no exception. We are currently in the bid process for construction on three elementary schools; Dobson Elementary, Franklin Elementary and Mountain Park Elementary. Additionally, we are planning to start the bid process for the East Surry High School bleacher project on September 1 with construction to begin December 1, after football season.”

If Mr. Draughn and team were not busy enough with all of these summer projects, the department is holding an online surplus auction that started August 1 and runs through August 15. This auction includes various excess equipment items from a van to appliances, furniture, and more. To participate in the online auction, patrons may visit the following website for more details and bidding opportunities. <http://www.rogersauctiongroup.com/auctions/detail/surry-county-schools-furniture-computers-van-and-more-bw29557>

“Surry County Schools takes the utmost pride in ensuring our facilities are safe, well-maintained, and secure for all of our students and staff, not just on August 27 when students report, but all throughout the school year. The hard work and effort of our maintenance team and our school custodians is second to none and I know students and parents will see the pride our employees place on everything we do from facilities to the world-class education our students receive,” stated Superintendent, Dr. Travis L. Reeves.

Superintendent Reeves further commented, “The enhancements to our facilities and programs continue to prepare students for college and careers. Students in all traditional high schools will have experiential learning opportunities that are typically reserved for college-level courses. I am so pleased to see this level of opportunity become a reality for students. Students have come to expect and deserve the best education possible. I am proud that the best is here in Surry County Schools.”

