

Romeo Community Schools

The **Bulldog** Bulletin Special Edition

Celebrating Our Transformation

The story behind nearly a decade of progress

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A Note to **R** Community

Romeo Community Schools has been under construction for almost a decade now. Our five-phase long range facilities improvement plan includes building upgrades, facility renovations, and new construction. We couldn't be prouder of our progress, but the story behind our transformation includes so much more. The focus has been to create an educational system that meets the needs of today's learners, provides programs that bring learning alive, and relies on strong community partnerships.

We have been very intentional about making sure our facility improvements directly impact the greater transformation of our educational program. The true story lies in the expanded learning and extracurricular opportunities that are impacting students from preschool until they receive their diploma. Driving by school construction sites doesn't tell the full story, but below are some examples for us to celebrate.

- Croswell was converted from an outdated elementary building to the Croswell Early Childhood Center to accommodate current and future preschool students. These enhancements support our early childhood programs, from a developmentally appropriate, research-based curriculum to kinesthetic learning through play.
- Our five elementary buildings have received security improvements, comprehensive classroom renovations, new classroom furniture, technology upgrades, and new state-of-the-art specialty classrooms that support expanded fine arts and new STEM programming.
- The original Romeo High School building went through a significant renovation to become the new Romeo Middle School that serves all of Romeo's sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students. All general education classrooms were renovated and new specialty classrooms were created to support best practices for middle level education.
- The Romeo Middle School campus has a new STEM and Robotics Center (home of the Byting Bulldogs robotics program) and outdoor athletic facilities upgrades that include a new track, grass football field, and a renovated practice field. These improvements will allow all extracurricular programming for our middle school students to occur on campus.
- Powell Middle School was converted to the 9th Grade Academy and now serves all Romeo ninth graders in small learning communities where every student is ensured a strong foundation for a successful high school experience.
- The new Romeo High School was designed and constructed to support the implementation of The Academies at Romeo High School, where all students in grades 10 through 12 have a comprehensive experience that prepares them for college, careers and life. The Academy of Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Academy of Design, Engineering and Manufacturing, and Academy of Health, Human and Public Service all have dedicated learning labs, specialty classrooms, and collaborative learning areas that support our unique high school experience.
- The "one campus" vision for athletics and extracurricular programs has seen significant updates to Barnabo Field, new stadium amenities, a new track, and new field event areas. We have new tennis courts and this spring will bring the opening of our new varsity baseball, varsity softball and JV softball fields.

As we prepare for the final phase of our long range plan, it is important for community members to understand the full impact of your support. We hope this newsletter allows all of us to reflect upon and celebrate our incredible transformation journey.

Sincerely,

Dr. Todd R. Robinson Superintendent



Scan the QR code to follow our bond progress

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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PHASE 1: 2016 FACILITIES BOND May 2016—\$86 million | Construction projects through 2021

2016 Facilities Bond Projects



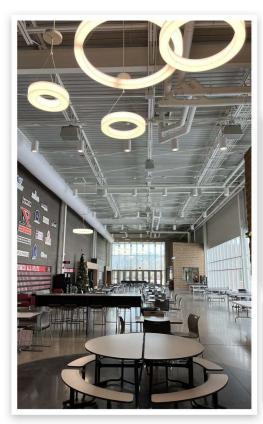
Safety and Security

- Constructed secure entries and main offices at Indian Hills, Amanda Moore and Hamilton-Parsons Elementary Schools
- Constructed a secured entry at Hevel Elementary School
- Constructed a new main office with secured entry at the 9th Grade Academy
- Expanded video surveillance systems

Learning Environment Improvements

- Constructed the new Romeo High School on the site of the old RETC facility
 - Project included renovation of the old RETC facility to the Design, Engineering and Manufacturing Academy, resulting in the creation of new specialty classrooms, collaborative learning spaces and an academy office
 - New two-story facility for the Health, Human and Public Service Academy and the Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Academy with specialty classrooms, general education classrooms, collaborative learning areas and academy offices
 - New large common area/cafeteria, media center, gymnasium, locker rooms, weight room, auditorium, fine arts classrooms and main office

- Converted the old Romeo High School to the new Romeo Middle School
 - Projects included renovation of classrooms: ceilings, lights, paint, flooring, and new casework
- New classroom furniture, renovation of the main office, construction of a new secured entry, and renovation of the main and auxiliary gymnasiums
- Replaced the hallway and cafeteria flooring
- Renovation of classrooms at Amanda Moore, Hamilton-Parsons, Indian Hills, and Washington Elementary Schools
 - Projects included new windows, ceilings, paint, lighting, flooring, casework, and HVAC upgrades
- Renovations at Hevel Elementary School
 - Projects included updates to the classroom pod areas, created a new special education classroom, and renovated a specialty classroom



- Converted the old Powell Middle School to the new 9th Grade
 - Academy
 - Projects included renovation of the media center and gymnasium, created a new multipurpose



room and converted the old office area to a new collaborative learning space

- Created a new main entrance, main office and secured entry
- Created the new Romeo Virtual Academy Lab

Athletics and Play Spaces

- Renovated the stadium at Romeo High School
 - Projects included new bleachers, press box, lights, entrance, and sound system
 - Constructed a new concession/ restrooms building and ticket booth
 - Renovated Barnabo Field to synthetic turf and installed a stateof-the-art digital scoreboard
- Constructed new tennis courts at Romeo High School



2017-2018 Sinking Fund Projects

- Replaced roofing at the old Romeo High School facility
- Replaced one boiler at the old Romeo High School facility

PHASE 3: 2021 FACILITIES BOND

November 2021—\$87.5 million | Construction projects through 2026

Infrastructure

- Replaced and expanded the 9th Grade Academy parking lot
- Replaced the boiler at Croswell Early Childhood Center
- Completed the demolition of the old Romeo Middle School
- Constructed a new transportation facility and bus lot
- Project included demolition of the old facility, new gate access and purchasing of new buses



2019 Facilities Assessment

The school district completed a comprehensive facilities assessment in February 2019 in preparation for pursuing the renewal of the Building and Site Sinking Fund Millage in November 2019. This assessment was also used to finalize the long range fivephase facilities plan for the school district.

2019-2020 Sinking Fund Projects

- Replaced the driveway at Hamilton-Parsons Elementary
- Replaced the boiler at the Administration Building
- Renovation of the pool at Romeo Middle School
 - Projects included replacement of pool and

deck, constructed new locker rooms, an officials scoring room and a new community meeting room

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2021 Facilities Assessment

The school district updated the 2019 Facilities Assessment in preparation for pursuing a new Facilities Bond in November 2021.

2021 Facilities Bond Group 1 & 2 projects (2022-2024)

Safety and Security

- Replaced interior and exterior doors
- New interior door hardware—thumb turn locks with indicator panel
- New interior surveillance systems at all five elementary schools

Learning Environment Improvements

- Renovations and new addition at Croswell Early Childhood Center
 - Projects included renovation of all classrooms: ceilings, lights, paint, flooring, and new casework
 - Construction of a new main office, secured entry and welcome center
 - Renovation of all corridors flooring, ceiling, lighting
 - Renovation of early childhood special education wing
 - New playground and equipment



- Replacement of auditorium lighting and sound equipment at Romeo Middle School
- Replaced classroom furniture at all five elementary schools
- Constructed a new specialty classroom addition at Hamilton-Parsons
 - Project includes new art, music and STEM rooms, new furniture and equipment

- Constructed a specialty classroom and elevator addition at Indian Hills
 - Project includes

new music and STEM rooms, new furniture and equipment

- Constructed a specialty classroom addition at Amanda Moore Elementary School
 - Project includes new art, music and STEM rooms with new furniture and equipment
- Constructed a new addition at Washington Elementary School
 - Project includes new STEM room and renovations to the art and music rooms, new furniture and equipment for all specialty classrooms
- Technology project—Upgraded classroom audio-visual projection systems at Romeo Middle School and all elementary schools
- Created new District Training and Meeting Rooms at Croswell Early Childhood Center
- Created a new STEM and Robotics Center at Romeo Middle School



2021-2022 Sinking Fund Projects

- Constructed a new secure entry at Croswell Early Childhood Center
- Technology Project—Replaced 4,250 student Chromebooks in 2021
- Replaced a boiler at the Administration Building



PHASE 4: 2024 SIN

February 2024—1.25 m

Athletics and Play Spaces

- Constructed athletic facilities at Romeo High School
 - Projects included synthetic turf varsity baseball and softball fields, and new grass JV softball field



- Constructed new outdoor athletic facility at Romeo Middle School
 - Project includes a new track, grass football field, storage building, practice field and scoreboard

Infrastructure

- Replacement of fire alarm at Washington Elementary School
- Renovated the kitchen and constructed a new serving area at Romeo Middle School
- Renovated and expanded the north parking lot at Romeo Middle School



Group 3 projects (2024-2025)

Learning Environment Improvements

- Renovations at the 9th Grade Academy
 - Projects included renovation of all classrooms: ceilings, lights, paint, flooring, and new casework

 New classroom furniture, specialty classroom furniture and cafeteria furniture

Planning in progress

- Renovation of locker rooms
- New art room and science labs
- Renovation of cafeteria including paint, flooring, ceiling, lighting and serving area
- Technology project—Upgrade classroom audio-visual projection systems at Romeo High School and 9th Grade Academy

Athletics and Play Spaces

- Renovation and expansion of elementary playgrounds at Amanda Moore, Hamilton-Parsons and Washington Elementary Schools
 - Projects include new equipment, walking path and hard surface play area
- Romeo Middle School locker room renovation



Infrastructure

- Construction of new outdoor storage and restrooms at 9GA (supporting baseball and softball fields)
- Replacement and expansion of Hamilton-Parson Elementary parking lot
- Drinking fountain replacement project—RHS, Croswell, Hevel and Indian Hills
- Fire Alarm replacement project— Amanda Moore, Hamilton-Parsons, Hevel and Indian Hills Elementary Schools
- Priority HVAC unit replacement at Romeo High School and Romeo Middle School

2023-2024 Sinking Fund Projects

PHASE 5: FUTURE FACILITIES BOND

- Upgraded district-wide heating and cooling control systems
- Replaced roofing sections at the 9th Grade Academy, Hamilton-Parsons, and Romeo Middle School
- Replaced the old RETC area boiler at Romeo High School
- Replaced the sewage grinder at Romeo Middle School
- Replaced the pool heater at Romeo Middle School

2025 Facilities Assessment

The school district completed a Facilities Assessment in January 2025 in preparation for a future facilities bond proposal.

Group 4 projects (2026)

Learning Environment Improvements

Renovate RMS band and choir rooms

Athletics and Play Spaces

- Renovation and expansion of elementary playgrounds at Hevel and Indian Hills Elementary Schools
 - Projects include new equipment, walking path and hard surface play area

Infrastructure

- Elementary restroom renovations
- Exterior metal siding and athletic entrance overhang renovation at Romeo Middle School
- Exterior metal siding painting at Indian Hills

2025 Sinking Fund Projects

- Replace roofing at Romeo Middle School
- Replace the parking lot at Hevel and Hamilton-Parsons Elementary Schools and Croswell Early Childhood Center
- Technology Project—Replace 4,800 student Chromebooks



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2024-2025 Board of Education

Rachel Eichhorst, President Anita Banach, Vice President Katherine Rice, Secretary Michael Antoine, Treasurer Allyson Bowman, Trustee Aaron Boyer, Trustee Brielle Cichocki, Trustee Dr. Todd Robinson, Superintendent

Mission

Embracing **R** community while engaging, educating, and empowering students to inspire the future.

Vision

Forging pathways through academic exploration guided by...

- Passions of our students
- Dynamic learning environments
- Invested community advocates



THANK YOU!

The two most important words in our transformation journey are... Thank you! We want to thank our community again as we approach the final phase of our long range facilities plan. For nearly a decade we have been leveraging facilities improvements to transform the school experience in our district.

We are grateful for the support of our community during the past nine years. The engagement of students, staff, parents, business partners, municipal leaders and other community members ensures that we can continue providing high quality educational experiences.

Our remarkable progress in transforming our school district was made possible by unwavering support from our voters. We will never take this for granted and will always be grateful.

Please take a few moments to review this publication, then join us in celebrating all we have achieved together.



Notice of Nondiscrimination In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy that the Romeo Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (sexual orientation or gender), disability, age, height, weight, marital status or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs, services or activities, including employment opportunities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Director of Employee Services, 316 North Main Street, Romeo, MI 48065. (586) 752-0230.