

## **2018-2019 Opening of School Updates**

### **Assistant Superintendent for Administration—Andrew Morrow**

The summer months were busy across the school system. The following summary reflects activities in the areas of buildings and grounds, information technology, and transportation.

#### **Plant and Facilities Services**

The summer months were active with a number of capital improvement projects, smaller improvement projects, and routine maintenance and cleaning.

Capital and smaller improvement projects undertaken this summer included:

##### **Aiken Elementary School**

- Cafeteria air conditioning replaced
- Main office painted
- All lights converted to LED

##### **Braeburn Elementary School**

- Flooring replaced for 4 classrooms
- Painted 6 classrooms
- All lights converted to LED
- Playground equipment replaced (significantly funded by PTB), to be completed in September
- Safety improvements made in parking lot and sidewalks

##### **Bristow Middle School**

- Gym floor refinished
- Painted hallways
- All lights converted to LED

##### **Bugbee Elementary School**

- All lights converted to LED
- Office reconfiguration postponed until 2018-19

##### **Conard High School**

- Main gym floor refinished
- Pavement and traffic improvements made to both driveways on Berkshire Road

##### **Duffy Elementary School**

- All lights converted to LED
- Flooring replacement postponed until 2018-19

**Agenda Item:  
VI.A.1.c.**

**Hall High School**

- Complete renovation of 8 science classrooms
- Flooring replaced in 2 classrooms
- Roof replaced over the “E” section
- Masonry repaired on north exterior wall of gym
- Science classroom addition of 6 classrooms continues, completion scheduled for late spring 2019

**King Philip Middle School**

- Flooring replaced in main offices, adjacent hallways and small cafeteria
- Roof replaced (phase 3 of 3), finish work to be completed in September
- Accessibility improvements for fitness room

**Morley Elementary School**

- New hot water heater installed

**Norfeltd Elementary School**

- Painted and made minor improvements of 3 classrooms
- Auditorium renovated including new seating, painting and flooring

**Sedgwick Middle School**

- Painted 4 classrooms

**Smith Elementary School**

- Painted 17 classrooms
- Flooring replaced in 1 classroom

**Webster Hill Elementary School**

- Painted 2 classrooms, main office and 2 smaller offices
- Refinished gym floor
- All lights converted to LED
- New hot water heater installed

**Whiting Lane Elementary School**

- New playground equipment installed for K-2 playground

**Wolcott Elementary School**

- Painted 2 classrooms
- All lights converted to LED

In addition to the projects listed, additional routine maintenance and cleaning work was completed including:

- Painted parking lots and playgrounds, throughout the school district
- All buildings received a thorough cleaning of all spaces and inspection and repair of life safety and emergency systems.
- Energy Management System at each building was upgraded and additional controls added.

## **Information Technology 2018**

1. Replaced our existing disaster recovery (DR) system for the Town and Board of Education, increasing the retention duration and overall storage capacity.
2. Completed the deployment of over 500 IP security cameras for all Public Schools, Public Works, Municipal Parking, and the Police Department.
3. Implemented Accela Ecollect for PowerSchool, a flexible online data collection platform to facilitate the transition to paperless across all facets of school business (e.g. new student enrollment, back to school paperwork, and more.)
4. Implemented School Messenger with direct PowerSchool integration which replaces BlackBoard Connect, saving the district \$10,000 per year. School Messenger will enable schools to contact parents using existing PowerSchool groups in real time (e.g. students on a specific bus, or just a certain grade level).
5. Deployed over 1,277 new devices as part of the ongoing strategic technology refresh cycle; 191 new iPads, 696 Chromebooks, and 390 Windows devices for instruction.
6. Installed new municipal fiber to the Cogswell building on the ASD campus, currently leased by the WHPS. The fiber will go live this fall and is 100 times faster than the current connection and will save the district over \$12,000 in annual Comcast charges.
7. Maintained 99.9% uptime availability of the entire communication infrastructure for the past 12 months.
8. Closed over 11,707 work orders, a decrease of 1.12% over the prior year; average time to completion was 4.4 days.

## **Transportation**

During the 2018-2019 school year, we expect to transport approximately 5,312 students on 93 buses with 228 runs.

First Student is located at 7A Andover Drive, West Hartford, and their telephone number is 860-953-2030. Contract Manager is Anthony Pacheco.

The Fleet has the following equipment:

- Digit visual/audio monitoring system
- Child Check system – Each bus is equipped so that the driver must walk to the back of the bus and engage a switch indicating they have walked to the rear of the bus, while checking for students. If a driver gets off the bus without activating the switch, an alarm will sound.

- Warning check system providing additional monitoring of children (i.e. sleeping children)
- Global Positioning System
- Each large bus has 8 integrated car seat placements. The new mini buses have no less than 8 integrated car seat placements, and the new lift buses have placement for 3 wheelchairs and also 6 integrated car seat placements.

Buses were available at all of our elementary schools for the “kindergarten practice run” which took place on Monday, August 6, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. This practice run is scheduled to familiarize new kindergarten students with the feel of riding a school bus for the first time. The program is voluntary and the new kindergarten student attends with a parent or other adult. The purpose of the program is to allow a kindergarten student the experience of boarding a bus, the seating situation, the feel of the ride as well as the noises created by the bus.

First Student held their fall orientation and start up meetings on August 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at their yard. Drivers practiced their routes for the start up of school the week of August 20, 2018 and ran a full regular scheduled run on Monday, August 27 to ensure the runs were set for the first school day, Wednesday, August 29.

**We continue to work with all interested parties, again this year, to do whatever we can to maintain the timeliness of the buses with all local construction.**