

August 23, 2023

Dear West Elementary and Shawsheen Preschool staff, families, and neighbors,

We are writing to inform you of the construction work on the West Elementary and Shawsheen Preschool Building Project.

Prepared and readied for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year



Despite some rainy days this summer, West Elementary School has been prepared and readied for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year. Students and staff returning from summer recess will find the same exciting and welcoming learning environment as last year. Construction fencing is safely separating the new school building site from the current school. Playgrounds, parking areas, and site circulation patterns are still the same. A few differences include ongoing upgrades at lawn areas, and the new exterior masonry walls being built for the new West Elementary and Shawsheen Preschool.

Construction work activities performed this summer for the new school include the following:

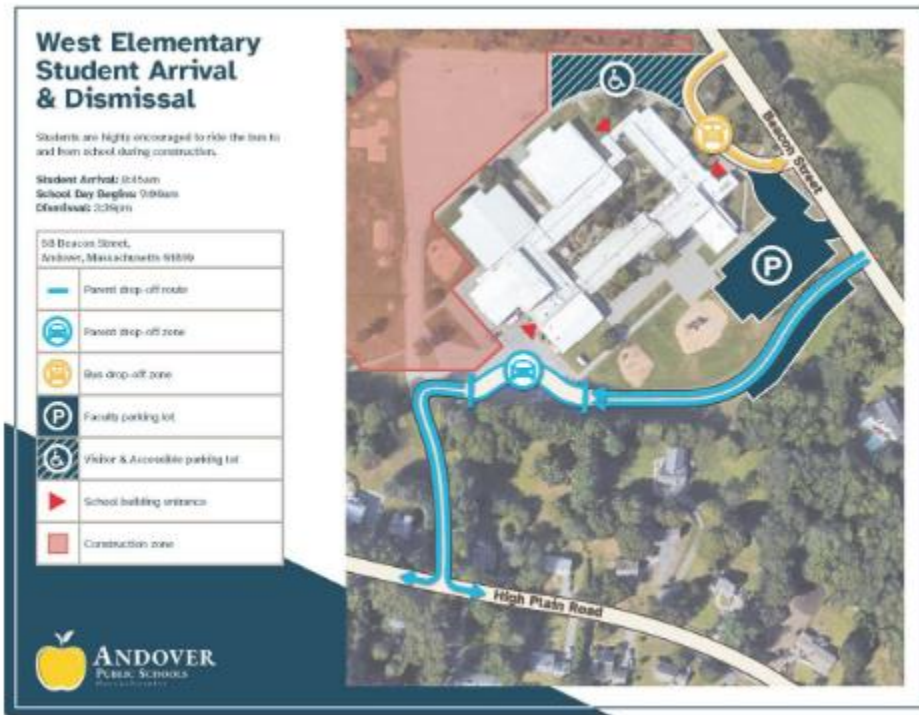
- Exterior wall construction and brick installation
- New school underground utility work for water, sewer, drainage, and electrical systems
- Beacon Street and High Plain Road utility system connections
- New school roofing installation and weatherproofing
- Interior classroom layout and electrical, plumbing, mechanical, fire suppression system installations
- New concrete floors for loading dock, kitchen, and stage



Access for Student Drop-Off and Pick Up

School bus access will continue unchanged along the Beacon Street entrance for the 2023-24 school year. Student vehicle drop-off and pick-up will enter from Beacon Street, also the same as last year. As shown on the map below, families dropping off or picking up their students will continue to enter school grounds from Beacon St. and will exit onto High Plain Rd in two lanes.

See map below for details.



Work Activities planned for September & October

Upcoming activities include:

- Installation of gymnasium and loading dock roofing
- Interior classroom wall framing
- Exterior wall weatherproofing
- Preparation for new window installation
- Exterior masonry wall installation and preparation for new metal siding installation
- Interior building mechanical, electrical, plumbing and fire suppression systems installation

Construction work will continue to be safely isolated from all adjacent areas. Workers are allowed access to the project site upon approval of background checks. Construction parking continues to be monitored and no construction vehicles are allowed to park on neighboring streets. All material deliveries continue to be carefully planned around school drop-off and pick-up times with construction vehicle routes monitored to prevent impact to the community.

For Project Updates

For those who would like to learn more about the project, please visit the West Elementary and Shawsheen Building Project's [webpage](#). To sign up for this newsletter on the progress of the project, click [here](#). Please note that if you are a current West El & Shawsheen family or staff member, we will automatically send updates, no need to sign up!

The public is invited to attend the West Elementary and Shawsheen School Building Committee Meetings, which are [held monthly](#) with the agenda posted at least 48 hours in advance. The next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 7 p.m. via Webex and will be broadcast on Comcast Channel 99, Verizon Channel 43, and streamed from www.andovertv.org.

If you still have questions, please contact Joel Blumstein, the Building Committee Chair, at joel.blumstein@andoverma.us