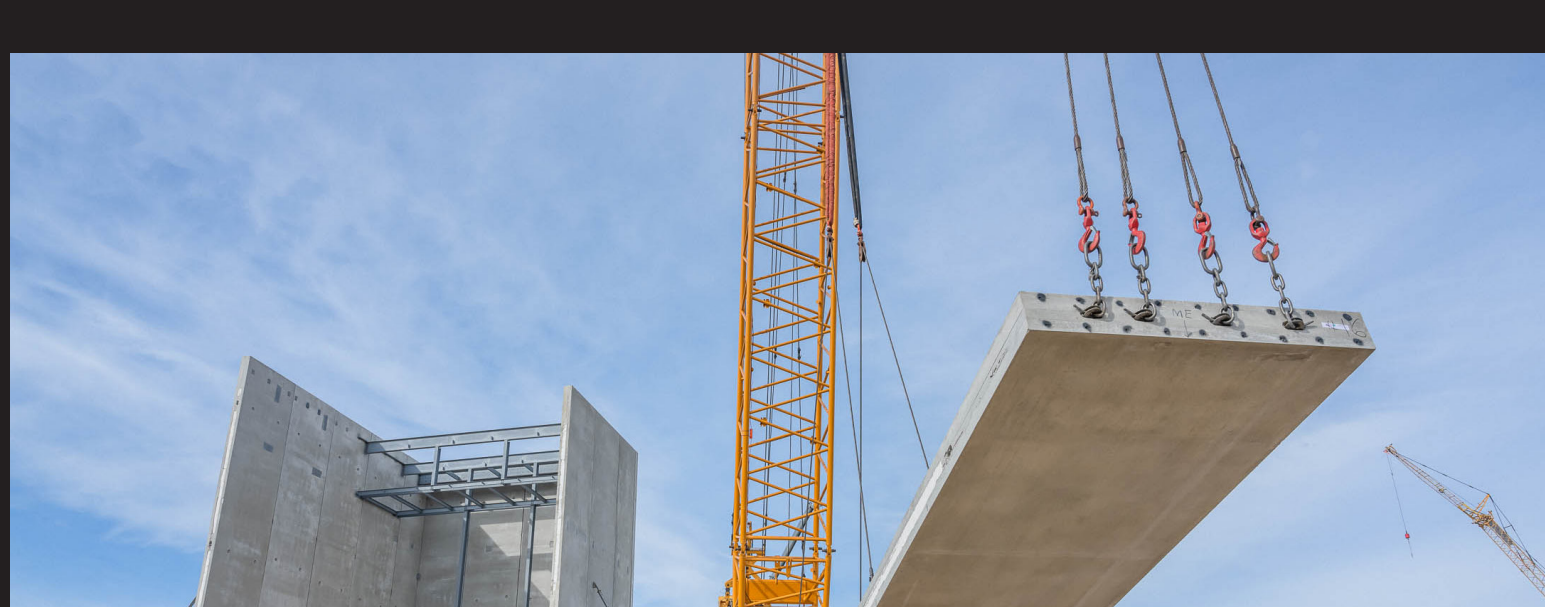
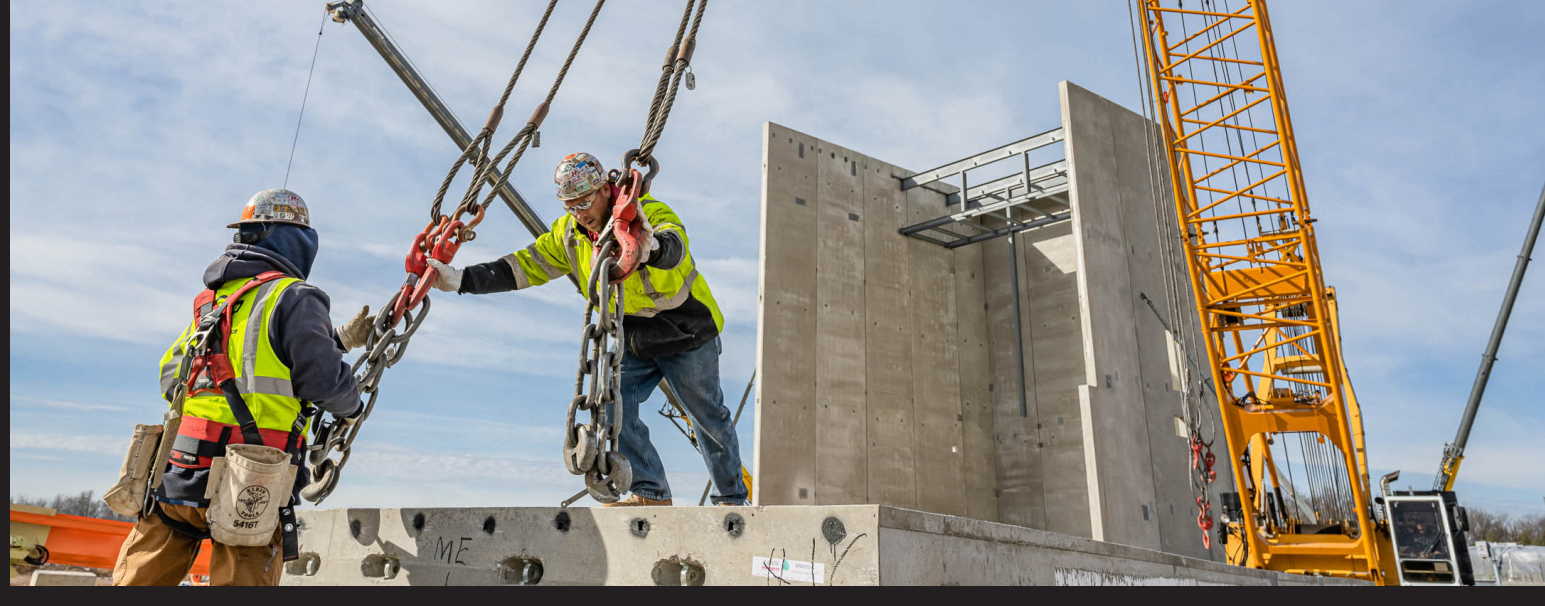
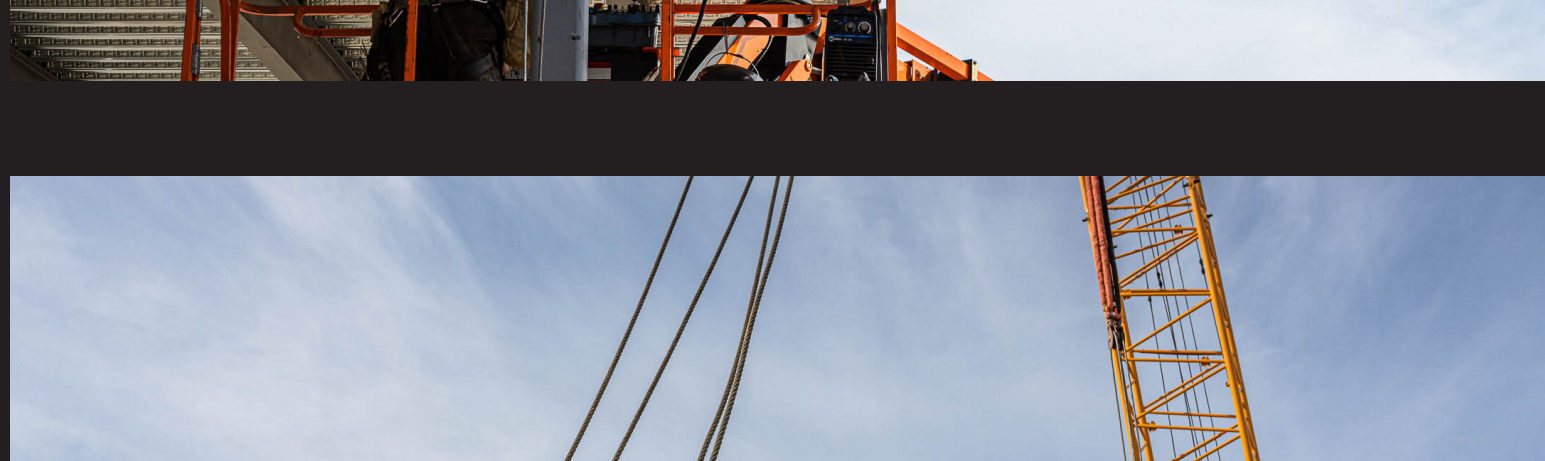


## New Neenah High School Taking Shape

The new Neenah High School is on schedule to open in the fall of 2023. Progress has been made in a number of areas. Here's a look at the current state of construction:

- Piping for sanitary, utilities and storm water has been completed
- Roads have been roughed in and site grading is complete
- Geothermal well drilling is approximately 30 percent complete
- Concrete foundations are nearly complete
- Steel erection, precast wall erection and masonry has begun on various sections of the school

For a real-time look at the project via webcam and for other project updates, visit the District website: [www.neenah.k12.wi.us/forwardtogether.cfm](http://www.neenah.k12.wi.us/forwardtogether.cfm)



## Low Bond Rate Saves \$27 million

The \$157 million Neenah High School project is on track to open in the fall of 2023, but is running about \$14 million over the projected cost, not including the construction contingency. Nearly all of the materials costs were higher than originally budgeted in 2019 due to inflation. Steel had the biggest impact on the budget at about \$7 million over its projection. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has stated that during 2021, construction costs nationwide rose about 19.6%. All of the bids are concluded, so the costs are expected to remain relatively stable through the remainder of the project.

The District has also concluded its bond sale for the project and took advantage of low interest rates to borrow \$161.9 million. The first borrow of \$99 million in 2020 came at 2.01%, while the second borrow of \$62.9 million in April 2022 resulted in 2.99% interest. The first \$114.9 million will be paid from the April 2020 referendum, while the remaining \$47 million is being financed through the District's operating budget. The District had estimated a 4-4.5% interest rate during the referendum process, so the lower rates are expected to result in a savings of about \$27 million below the anticipated payments.

## Middle School Renovations Begin in May 2022



Renovation will begin on the current Neenah High School in May 2022 in preparation for its transition to Neenah Middle School in the fall of 2023. Science classrooms to support the current teaching model and spaces for collaboration were two priorities during the planning process to adapt the current high school to support 5th-8th grade learners. The rendering above shows a collaboration space in place of a large lecture hall in the Armstrong building and will be adjacent to renovated science labs to encourage collaboration and teamwork, as well as support additional activities outside the classroom.

Transforming the current high school into the new Neenah Middle School will require two summers' worth of construction. Here are the updates being addressed in each phase:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family and Consumer Science kitchens</li> <li>Science labs</li> <li>A second kitchen servery added to the existing cafeteria</li> <li>Single-use toilet rooms a converted from multi-stall toilets</li> <li>Special Education toilet room and kitchen renovation</li> <li>Classroom renovations to right-size core learning spaces in Contant building</li> </ul> | <p><b>2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art rooms</li> <li>Family and Consumer Science classroom</li> <li>Tech ed spaces</li> <li>Collaborative areas</li> <li>Science labs</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

## Elementary Schools Update

Changes are also happening at the elementary level in the Neenah Joint School District. Roosevelt and Willson 5K-4 students and staff will be consolidated into a three-section school at the existing Horace Mann Middle School building for the 2023-24 school year as the Horace Mann sixth-graders move into the existing high school. Alliance Charter Elementary will also expand into two sections in the current Wilson building, and Roosevelt will be closed in the fall of 2023. The boundary areas for our other seven elementary schools remain unchanged.

## Milestone Moment YOU ARE INVITED!

**Wednesday, May 18**  
**4-5 P.M.**  
 500 Rocket Way, Neenah, WI 54956

*The site is located along County Hwy II across from Kimberly Clark's west office location. Parking is available on site. The event will take place on an active construction site; please dress accordingly. Closed-toe shoes are required.*

Join us for a close-up viewing of construction progress and to learn more about what's happening on-site at this stage of the project. Learn about:

- Building Information Modeling (BIM)
- Concrete pours
- Robotic 'MULE' used in concrete masonry
- Setting steel and precast

## Next Steps

- High School
  - Drilling for the geothermal wells continues
  - Structural steel and concrete pours are underway for the North education wings
  - Underground mechanical, electrical, and plumbing installation has begun at the North education wings
  - Precast wall panels are going up for the auditorium
  - Masonry wall construction is underway in several units
  - Site work is poised to begin again in mid-April
- Middle School Renovation
  - Bidding has closed; contracts are being awarded to subcontractors
  - Construction to begin in spring 2022

