

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District



Building Futures

Stay Informed with Building Futures!

Follow the progress of construction projects at your neighborhood school, from initial designs to the final touches. See how your bond dollars are making a difference—building better futures for our students and community!

- ✓ Building updates
- ✓ Building features
- ✓ Project renderings

Bond
Measure
QS!



Fall 2025

McKinley Elementary School

Building Tomorrow's Future: New Classroom and Administration Building

The new classroom and administration building at McKinley Elementary School will not open in January 2026 as originally anticipated. Despite the District and contractor efforts to make up for the delayed start of construction, the project will not be completed ahead of schedule .



The building is scheduled to be completed by the end of February 2026. The move-in schedule is still being determined.

The project was awarded to Balfour Beatty in April 2023, with construction originally scheduled to begin July 24, 2023, and to be completed by July 2025.



However, work was significantly delayed after the discovery of dry-cleaning solvent chemicals and naturally occurring arsenic was found at low to moderate levels in the soil. The District worked closely with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to develop and implement a remediation plan to ensure the site is safe and protected.

That process halted the project for 13 months, from August 2023 through September 2024. In summer 2024, a revised construction schedule was established, extending the contractual completion date to February 2026.

The contractor took several measures to accelerate the schedule and aim for an earlier completion target of December 2025. This included expedited delivery of electrical switchgear,

authorizing limited overtime such as Saturday work and extending certain trade shifts to 10 hours per day.

However, it has become clear that those acceleration efforts will not be enough to overcome the delayed start of construction and allow the building to open at the beginning of the spring 2026 semester. Rather than spending additional funds and resources, the project will proceed with the opening date that was established in the revised contractual timeline . Facilities improvement staff is working with site administration to determine the appropriate occupancy date.

The SMMUSD Facility Improvement Projects (FIP) team is committed to minimizing disruptions during construction while ensuring these enhancements benefit generations of students to come.



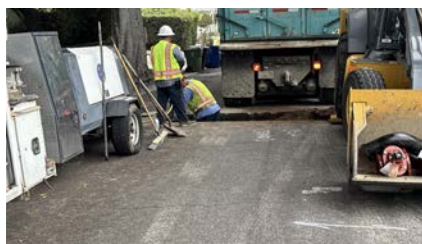
Learn more about FIP here: <https://bit.ly/FIPHomePage>.

Read more about McKinley's campus plan [here](#).

The future is bright for McKinley Elementary and with the community's support the sky is the limit!

To help keep you in the know about upcoming events and activities at your neighborhood school, please join the Neighbor Email List here: [https://bit.ly/HelloNeighborSignup](https://bit.ly>HelloNeighborSignup). Be sure to subscribe to one or more schools for updates.

"A school building tells students who they are and how they should think about the world. It can help to manufacture rote obedience or independent activity; it can create high self-confidence or low self-esteem." Alison Lurie



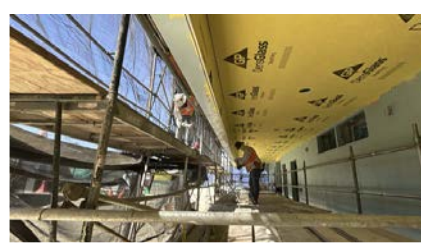
New Classroom and Administration Building

City of Santa Monica trenching for water main for forthcoming connection to the building.



New Classroom and Administration Building

Level 2 parapet waterproofing.



New Classroom and Administration Building

Level 1 exterior waterproofing.



Santa Monica USD

<https://bit.ly/FIPHomepage>

