

# The Bulletin Board

News from the Hicksville UFSD

## Ensuring Our School Facilities Are *Safe & Sound*

An update on upgrades and enhancements made throughout the year

This year, Hicksville Public Schools addressed facility needs districtwide, from the replacement of interior doors to partial roof replacements at two elementary schools. Other updates included the replacement of intercom systems, the refinishing of gym and stage wood floors, and the sealcoating of basketball courts. At the high school, the newly renovated Comet Shop allows students to purchase basic school supplies and spirit items. See pages 2-3 for a detailed look at the upgrades made throughout the year.

“It is important to protect the taxpayer’s financial investment in our school facilities by making yearly updates,” said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carl Bonuso. “There is a correlation between the adequacy of a school facility and student behavior



*Hicksville Middle School  
Built in 1924*

and performance. We understand the importance of maintaining the district’s facilities while remaining fiscally responsible.”

Through a capital reserve fund for technology, the district made various enhancements to ensure the safety of students and staff. Security cameras were installed throughout the district and existing cameras were tied into the system. Approximately 20 to 25 cameras were installed at each elementary school, and 15 cameras were added to the middle school and high school. Exterior lighting was added at the elementary schools, middle school and high

school. The district also implemented a card swipe system at all buildings to ensure doors remain locked throughout the day. Only authorized personnel can swipe their ID badge to enter the building; visitors must be buzzed in through the main entrance where they are asked to sign in and produce a valid ID.

The district will continue to make upgrades and enhancements to its buildings and be diligent in making certain the proper safety and security procedures are in place for students and staff. We will continue to ensure our students learn and thrive in a safe environment.



*Hicksville High School  
Built in 1954*

“It is important to protect the taxpayer’s financial investment in our school facilities by making yearly updates.”

-Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carl Bonuso



# Facilities Update: *A Look at Each School*

## **BURNS AVENUE**

- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **DUTCH LANE**

- Replaced intercom system building-wide
- Replaced stage curtains in gym
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **EAST STREET**

- Converted from oil to gas for heating
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **FORK LANE**

- Roof replacement at the intermediate wing
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **LEE AVENUE**

- Roof replacement at the first-story wing
- Converted from oil to gas for heating
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **OLD COUNTRY ROAD**

- Exterior door replacement at Blueberry Street entrance
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **WOODLAND**

- Converted from oil to gas for heating
- Replaced intercom system building-wide
- Skylight replacement
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **HICKSVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

- Replaced intercom system building-wide
- Repaired and painted hallway lockers
- Interior door replacement
- Sealcoat basketball courts
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors

## **HICKSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL**

- Renovated Comet Shop
- Converted from oil to gas for heating
- Replaced floor tiles – third-floor hallway
- Exterior brick repointing at main gym
- Interior door replacement
- Exterior door replacement at girls' gym and staff parking lot
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors
- Repaired and painted hallway lockers
- Repaired and painted girls' locker room lockers
- Refinished gym and stage wood floors



*Outdoor basketball courts enhanced with new sealcoat.*



*High School gym floor refinished.*

# Transforming the Comet Shop



“Students working in the school store will practice and utilize mathematical skills that they have learned in the classroom, and put these skills to practical use in a real-world setting.”

- High School Principal Ray Williams



The high school’s new Comet Shop is transforming into a galaxy of school spirit and learning opportunities for students at all four grade levels. Renovations started at the beginning of the school year, and the entire space is brand new. The room will now boast a new ceiling, new flooring, bright and ambient lighting, a viewing window, a service window, air conditioning, and new display shelves and cabinetry to revolutionize the shopping experience. A new mannequin, who will be outfitted with the latest Hicksville High School clothes — including sweatshirts, sweatpants and T-shirts — will also be a main staple. The shop, which was previously located near the rear of the high school, will also feature stone countertops that students will be able to use to fold merchandise for customers, and a digital display sign to mark the store’s new location in the lobby. Its new location will drive traffic and produce increased revenue as a result.

The Comet Shop will be manned by students who will develop increased responsibility, social awareness and dignity through its operations. Life skills students will learn the importance of ordering,

depositing, paying bills, organizing, marketing and customer service. They will be utilizing a newly purchased smart swipe point-of-sale system that will mimic real-world point-of-sale experiences, and allow the students to carry particular skills with them from school to their careers.

“Students working in the school store will practice and utilize mathematical skills that they have learned in the classroom, and put these skills to practical use in a real-world setting,” said high school Principal Ray Williams. “In the end, we want our students to become familiar with the practices of operating all aspects of a viable business.”

As renovations near completion, the Comet Shop is currently being used as a ticket booth for various school events; it is also open for the remainder of the year. Once complete, it will also serve as a central location where alumni can return to seek out the widely popular Hicksville paraphernalia. The shop’s new location beautifies the school, enhances learning and provides opportunities for students to grow through enriching and quality learning experiences.



THE HICKSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
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## Senator Secures Funding for Playgrounds

Earlier this year, the district learned that Sen. Jack M. Martins (R-7th Senate District) secured \$100,000 in state funding for Hicksville Schools to undertake a capital improvement project.

The funds will be used to replace, repair and renovate the playgrounds at the district's seven elementary schools, which are used by students during the school day and by the community throughout the year. Central administration is working with elementary school principals to assess each playground and determine the upgrades to be made.

"The district is thankful for the additional funding

from Sen. Martins and the support he has shown in helping our schools provide students with the services and facilities they need and deserve," said Dr. Carl Bonuso, Superintendent of Schools. "Playground activity aligns with the district's health and wellness curriculum and supports its commitment to battling obesity by increasing cardiovascular conditioning. Our playgrounds provide students with opportunities to exercise and socialize during recess. As a district, we focus on fitness and health but also want students to be children and enjoy playtime."



**REMEMBER TO VOTE!**  
**BUDGET VOTE & BOE TRUSTEE ELECTION**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2016 • 7 A.M.-9 P.M.**