



## **Air Conditioning and Infrastructure Improvements**

### **August 2017**

- In the Long Beach Unified School District, 34 schools (40 percent) have air conditioning (A/C), while the remaining 51 schools have limited A/C or outdated units. Most of the latter group are schools that were built more than 40 years ago and do not have infrastructure capability for A/C.
- LBUSD's Board of Education recognized the need for school facility upgrades by placing a \$1.5 billion school bond measure, Measure E, on the ballot in November 2016. Voters approved that measure by a wide margin (75 percent), providing funding for installing air conditioning and the infrastructure to support it at all campuses in need. Other upcoming projects include all-weather tracks and fields, new buildings and fire alarms.
- Since January, the Facilities staff has been fast-tracking plans for such projects to the Division of the State Architect, a process that can take up to 12 months. In some cases, entire schools or grade levels will be relocated while A/C is installed.
- A three-year plan for the first round of projects is being implemented, with air conditioned portable classrooms being put back in use at the Monroe site and newly installed this fall at four other "hub" schools where some students will be relocated while their school is modernized. Also, Browning High School will temporarily house Rogers eighth graders beginning in January 2018.
- The goal is to have all schools air conditioned within about eight years. The schedule is contingent on several factors, including the timing of bond sales and regulatory review.
- For schools that do not yet have air conditioning, the district will continue to implement its usual interim measures during hot weather. This includes planning strenuous activities for cooler parts of the day, limiting time outside during peak heat, and encouraging students to remain hydrated. As always, parents have the authority to remove their child from school if they feel compelled to do so because of heat, and students will be allowed to make up school work. When needed, support staff will open up non-air-conditioned classrooms in early morning to allow trapped heat to escape.

*For more information about LBUSD campus improvements, visit [lbschoolbonds.net](http://lbschoolbonds.net)*