HTC holding to summer school completion

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – The roof is on, the walls are up and construction continues to plug away as Holy Trinity Catholic closes in on a July 4 deadline to have it's $6 million new elementary school completed.

HTC Principal Michael Sheerin said the project is right on budget even with a couple change orders to better serve students.

Construction crews crawled around the facility Thursday afternoon, installing ceiling tiles and sealing dry wall joints as the two floors began to show the shape of what is to come this summer.

"There are still estimating the end of May for the building construction, however the flooring and the furnishings will be in place by the end of June," Sheerin said.

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Holy Trinity Catholic Principal Michael Sheerin stands in what his shaping up to be a larger media center on the 2nd floor of the system's new K-6th grade elementary school in West Point. The construction is on schedule with plans to have the building complete by the end of June.

The rooms will also have 1 of 15 70" Smart panel monitors that are completely integrated with each other. Sheerin said it adds the technology required of today's teaching, while allowing an additional safety measure by permitting emergency messaging to all classrooms.

He said the school will also go to 1 gigabyte bandwidth between the systems schools.

"To put that into perspective we started here with a 34 megabyte bandwidth so you've gone from a 1-inch pipe to a 12-inch pipe. We want to be at the front end instead of just continuing to upgrade," Sheerin said.

The technology was all part of the $6 million budgeted cost of the building.

Sheerin said there were a few early issues with water running down some ramps and there was a little panic about school still in session, but he said since everything's been closed in there haven't been any issues.

See ELEMENTARY, page 8

Holy Trinity Catholic Principal Michael Sheerin stands in what is shaping up to be a larger media center on the 2nd floor of the system's new K-6th grade elementary school in West Point.

Menke, Morris to headline leadership seminar in FM

FORT MADISON – The Leaders of Southeast Iowa Foundation will be hosting Success Through Service, a half day leadership conference on Friday, May 10, 2019 from 1 p.m to 4 p.m. at the Quality Inn & Suites in Fort Madison.

Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from successful Southeast Iowa business leaders who will share about their professional journeys and how their personal commitments to public service have informed their leadership styles and aided in their success.

Special guest speakers include Ann Menke of Menke & Company, Matt Morris of Connection Bank & Insurance, and Craig Smith of Sterzing's. Anyone interested in the topics of discussion is invited to attend. Tickets are $25 for adults and $10 for students and can be purchased online at www.lseif.org.

The Leaders of Southeast Iowa is a 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to promote leadership through service. The organization hosts monthly lunch & learns, providing quality professional development and leadership content and educating its membership on community needs. Additionally, the group engages its members to participate in local service projects.

This year, the Leaders of Southeast Iowa established a scholarship fund, awarding $1,000 to a graduating senior from Lee, Hancock, or Clark counties who has demonstrated a commitment to leadership through service.

Ann Menke founded Menke & Company in 1990. In 2013, as the business expanded in to Burlington, Ann took on two business partners. They assist in the management of the offices in West Point, Keokuk and Burlington.

Ann's expertise is with small to medium-size family businesses with special needs, including

See LEADERSHIP, page 3

Pen City Current
Friday, May 3, 2019 | 8 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 104

Don't forget Social Media! Check us out on the following sites:

SPRINTS:
Holy Trinity wins, Lady Hounds lose in Thursday matchups.

See pages 4-5

SPORTS:
Holy Trinity wins, Lady Hounds lose in Thursday matchups.

See pages 4-5

News Index

From the front..............Ps 3,4
Local News.................P.2
Lottery Numbers...........P.3
Obituaries.................P.2
-Laverne John Kurtzner
-Howard Wellendorf
Scene Around Town........P.3
Sports..................Ps.4-5
Weather..................P.4

Subscribe today
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HOWARD H. WELLENDORF

Howard H. Wellendorf, age 84, passed away April 25, 2019 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. He was born in Sioux City, Iowa on March 26, 1935 to the late Herman and May Lou (Clausen) Wellendorf. He retired from The Dial Corporation in Fort Madison, Iowa where he was a long time resident of 25 years.

He is survived by his wife, Gloria; children, Jon Wellendorf (Holly), David Wellendorf (Gina), Shelli Hulsing (Mark), Sarah Bailey (Eric), Michael Wellendorf (Kassy); 14 grandchildren; 24 great grandchildren; and a host of other family and friends.

Funeral service was Wednesday, May 1, 2019, 10:30 a.m., at the Hoy-Kilnoski Funeral Home. Interment was in the Morgan Cemetery in Schleswig, Iowa.

LAVERNE JOHN KIRCHNER

Laverne John Kirchner, 71, of Moberly, Missouri, formerly of Montrose, Iowa, passed away at 9:20 a.m., Monday, April 29, 2019, at his daughter’s home in Ottumwa, Iowa.

He was born on February 9, 1948, in Montrose, Iowa, the son of Albert and Hazel (Johnson) Kirchner.

Survivors include three daughters: Sylvia (James) Engles, Kathy Stevens and Kelly (Marcus) Taylor; four grandchildren: Heather Scigliano, Ty Stevens, Dalton Stevens and Jonte Byrn and five great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters: Ruth Neu- man and Betty Kirchner.

Laverne retired from Trellex Morse in Keokuk, Iowa, where he worked as a mixer operator. He enjoyed fishing. His body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation. No services are being planned.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements.

Funeral service was Wednesday, May 1, 2019, 10:30 a.m., at the Hoy-Kilnoski Funeral Home. Interment was in the Morgan Cemetery in Schleswig, Iowa.

FM water works gets fluoride recognition

BY PCC STAFF

DES MOINES – Fort Madison's Municipal Water Works was one of nine communities honored Thursday by the Iowa Department of Public Health, for it's fluoridation program.

The IDPH announced today the communities have been awarded the Certificate of Appreciation – 50 Year Award from the American Dental Association (ADA), Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors (ASTDD) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for continuously adjusting and maintaining the optimal level of fluoride in drinking water from 1968-2018 to prevent tooth decay. These communities are Allison Water Supply, Atlantic Municipal Utilities, Eldridge Water Supply, Fort Madison Municipal Water Works, Iowa Falls Water Department, Kalona Water Department, Milford Municipal Utilities, Spirit Lake Waterworks and Woodbine Water Department.

"Water fluoridation is a proven method that decreases dental decay. There is benef- fit for both children and adults; it further helps to drive down costs and unnecessary dental treatment," said IDPH Dental Director, Dr. Bob Russell.

Community water fluoridation has been recognized by CDC as one of 10 great public health achievements of the 20th Century. Today, 74% of Americans and 70% of Iowans served by community water systems have access to optimally fluoridated water. Even with the availability of other fluoride-containing products, fluoridated water prevents approximately 25% of tooth decay in children and adults. IDPH supports CDC approved fluoridation programs. The IDPH Bureau of Oral and Health Delivery Systems monitors the fluoride levels of Iowa communities and provides information and assistance to water supply professionals, healthcare professionals, and the public.

Happy Winter season!

By PCC Staff

The Current runs obituaries at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as a public service to the community.

Pen City Current obituary policy

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Clean Home. Clean Planet.

Do your part during this year’s Spring Cleaning activities by making sure you’re choosing products safe for our planet.

Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, & electronic waste
- Use environmentally-safe cleaning products
- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too!
Sterzing’s leader to talk chips

transition to the next generation, structuring the sale of the business, annual tax planning, etc.

She is currently the Board Chair for the Ft. Madison Community Hospital Board of Trustees. Ann supports many local area non-profits with her time, talent and treasures.

Matt Morris, is President and CEO of Connection Bank & Insurance which employs 96 people and operates along the river towns of southeast Iowa. Originally Fort Madison Bank & Trust, Co.

A 1997 graduate of the University of Iowa, Matt began his banking career immediately after graduating with Barnett Bank in Jacksonville, Florida. Between 1997 and 2002 through several mergers and acquisitions, he worked for Barnett Bank, Nations Bank, Bank of America, Star Bank, First Star Bank, US Bank, Brenton Bank and Wells Fargo before deciding to move home to Fort Madison.

Matt currently serves through Fort Madison Economic Development, Lee County Economic Development, Fort Madison Officers, Fort Madison SIRRC, and the Tri-State Rodeo Operating Committee.

Craig Smith is the president and co-owner of Sterzing Food Company. He is a native of Burlington and married to his wife Julie who is also from Burlington. They have been married for 33 years and have four children.

Craig is a graduate of the University of Iowa with a business degree. He has worked for Sterzing Food Co. since 1980 where he started as a delivery relief driver during the summers when he was in college. He began full time work as the production manager in 1984 and was the plant manager for 12 years before buying the business in 2011 with his sales manager Gary Scheimier.

He is an active member of the community having served on many boards and committees including the Burlington Kiwanis and the New Crystal Lake Club. He is also on the advisory board for the Bridges out of Poverty initiative.

Craig's topic for Success Through Service is "Preparing for Imminent Change" and he hopes to impart to each attendee how important it is to be prepared for a world that is rapidly changing.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Workers near the former Lee Catering company at the corner of 2nd Street and Avenue H, fill up bags of sand to keep flood waters out of the former restaurant. Updated forecasts show the Mississippi River cresting at just under 24' on Monday.
Camanche girls beat up on Lady Hounds

BY ETHAN LILLARD
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison’s girls tennis team had a combined 16-2 record over its past two contests coming into Thursday’s matchup with Camanche.

Playing on their home court, the Bloodhounds put up a fight one through six, but in the end, Camanche walked away with the 8-1 win against the Lady Hounds.

“Tonight was a good test for ours girls,” Fort Madison Head Coach Jeremy Swink said. “Seeing a different team we don’t appear to be a lopsided contest as Camanche’s Maddie Michels Thursday night in Fort Madison.

Despite what may appear to be a lopsided score, the Bloodhounds were close, forcing a tie-breaker in a third of their matches.

Fort Madison’s No. 4, Kirklyn Naflziger, and No. 6 Alyse Schmidt, were the final competitors to walk off of the pavement Thursday, as both matches went down to the wire.

Schmidt had the closest contest, as Camanche’s Emma Holstein forced a tiebreaker at 11-10. Schmidt and Holstein went back and forth again in the extra court time with the score tied at six. Needing to win by two, Holstein took the following two sets for the 8-6 win in the tiebreaker. Camanche’s Kamryn Vogel took Naflziger into a tiebreaker as well with the score at 11-10. Kamryn however, took a commanding 5-0 lead over Naflziger before she was able to score her first point during the tiebreaker. From there, Vogel went on to win the set 7-1. Alyse was down 1-4 and she fought back from that,” Swink said.

“In the tiebreaker she was down 2-6 and fought all the way back to tie it at six all. Those (two match-es) could have gone either way, but yeah, they were close matches. It’s good for us.”

Larissa Ferrill was the lone Fort Madison player to collect a win on the day, making quick work of Natalie Goble 10-1. Lexie Hart came away with a 10-3 win against the Hounds No. 2 in Laney Kuntz and both Zoe Ramatowski and Lily Cadwallader lost 10-5. Schmidt was again the only Fort Madison player to earn a point in the tiebreaker.

The duo of Ferrill and Vogel teamed up with Cadwallader, but falling to Vogel and Wright to the tune of 10-7. Fort Madison dropped its other two doubles contest as well. The duo of Ferrill and Kuntz were overpowered by Goble and Hart and Ramatowski and Naflziger took a 10-4 loss to Michels and Holstein.

“Camanche is a tough team,” Swink said. “We had some good days tonight, but more importantly we saw what we need to work on. There is no shame in losing to a good team. We need to learn from some of our mistake and move on.”

“That’s something we talked about all season is that fight component. We all talk always about how there is going to be somebody that can hit the ball harder than you, has a better serve, has a better forehand, backhand, whatever, but if you have that fight, it kind of gives you that upper edge for those close matches.”

Fort Madison’s is back on their home court once again Monday May 6 at the conference meet.
HTC girls shut out Central Lee in West Point

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity’s girls soccer team went through the roughest stretch of the season over the past four games, but despite dropping 3 of 4 matches the Crusader’s moved up two spots in the state rankings.

But the girls got back to winning ways with an 8-0 win over Central Lee at home Thursday night, at South Park despite being without seniors Elsey Pothitakis and Mya Lawlor, and junior Maile Sheerin, who all suffered injuries over the weekend.

The win moves HTC to 7-4 on the year after losing two of three matches at the Adidas Tournament of Champions over the weekend in Burlington. Then Burlington Notre Dame shut out the Tuesday Lady Crusaders 2-0 in a match that was moved to The Turf due to rainy conditions.

Sophomore Claire Pothitakis scored four goals Thursday after being shut out in the last four games, with the exception of a penalty kick against Homewood Flossmoor. Pothitakis has 22 goals on the year.

Pothitakis opened the scoring in the first quarter just 1-54 seconds into the game, when Emily Box lifted a pass from midfield down the left side. Pothitakis went in and then tapped on the brakes, moved to the front line and took the front line in for a quick 2-0 lead.

Junior Ashlynn Haas, far left, shoots past Central Lee’s Shayna Niggemeyer (2) with just under two minutes left in the first half of HTC’s 8-0 win Thursday night.

Central Lee would stiffen on defense, with the HTC front line of Rashid, Claire Pothitakis and Taylor Boeding moving to midfield, and hold the Crusaders scoreless until junior Ashlynn Haas scored in the center off a dump from Box who took a centering pass from Taylor Boeding on the right wing for a 5-0 lead.

After the half, Boeding, Claire Pothitakis would get her hat trick at the 15:31 mark when for the second home match in a row, she sent a left footed ball toward the net, but the spin on the ball caused it to fade up and over Niggemeyer into the right top of the net for a 4-0 lead.

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After the half, Boeding, Claire Pothitakis and Rashid would all get goals to see the final score 8-0. Boeding also took a header off a Pothitakis centering pass, that just missed wide right at the 37:05 mark.

Former Fort Madison High School alum and 2001 state participant Antonio Estrada is coaching the Lady Hawks in their first year of girls soccer.

He said he’s impressed with how much the girls have learned in one year.

“We’re seeing improvement. We played them about two weeks ago and the girls are starting to understand the game a little better,” Estrada said.

“Half of these girls have either never played soccer or have not played in a very long time. Some have played for me when I coached the junior high for four years so that’s helping with the transition.”

He said his goal was to win two game and not get mercy ruled. HTC was the only team that put 10 goals up on the Lady Hawks. Central Lee has not scored a goal this year and Estrada said he would like to see the girls get a goal and have that confidence going into next year.

“I think we have a couple games left if we can reschedule Wapello and we have Keokuk left to so hopefully we can catch a win or two there to let the girls see what that feels like,” he said.

Holy Trinity will have another home game on Monday when they host Canton, Mo., at South Park.

This weekend the girls lost an opening round game in the Adidas tournament to Pekin, Ill., 2-0 to move to the consolation bracket where they knocked off Flossmoor 1-0 on a penalty kick showdown where Claire Pothitakis, Box and Haas all scored in the showdown.

The Crusaders would then fall to Lockport High School 4-0, Lockport would end up winning the consolation bracket. Olathe, Kan won the pool bracket that contained HTC and Burlington Notre Dame.
Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at session at 5:30 P.M. on Council met in adjourned

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROCEEDINGS
FORT MADISON
CITY COUNCIL
4/16/2019

The Fort Madison City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 16, 2019, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Randolph presided with Council Members Greenwald, Morsowtiz, Rink, Andrews, Mohrfield, Lur and Cangas present.


On motion, Council approved Ordinance D-52, amending Title 3, Building, Chapter 5, Housing Code, Section 3, Definitions, to update the definition of “Rental Housing Unit” and Title 6, Health and Sanitation, Chapter 4, Nuisances, Section 3, Abatement by the City, by removing Paragraph (2)(a), Form of Notice. On motion, Council approved Ordinance D-53, amending Title 3, Building, Chapter 2, Plumbing Code, to set plumbing fees by resolution. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2019-30, setting zoning and building related fees. On motion, Council approved Resolution No. 2019-31, adopting Small Cell Guidelines.

On motion, Council approved the Mayor’s appointment of Jaqueline Lumden to the Parks Board, filling an unexpired term expiring March 31, 2021.

HR Green and Public Works Director Larry Director gave a presentation on the Avenue G Sidewalk and Storm Water Improvement Status and Options for SRF Funds. (Andrews left at 6:42 P.M.) Council discussed transferring $226,230 over two fiscal years from the Water Operations and Maintenance Fund to the General Fund for reimbursement of construction costs for the Bluff Road Booster Station. An update regarding the former Rashid Library Building was given. A discussion was held regarding a proposed Water Treatment Plant Equipment Capacity Expansion. At 7:40 P.M. on motion, Council adjourned until May 7, 2019, at 5:30 P.M. /s/ Bradley A. Randolph, Mayor.

ATTTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. D-53

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 3, BUILDING, CHAPTER 2, PLUMBING CODE

Be it enacted by the City Council of the City of Fort Madison, Iowa:

Section 1. The City Council of the City of Fort Madison does hereby amend Title 3 “BUILDING”, Chapter 2 “PLUMBING CODE”, Subsection 3: Adoption of the Plumbing Code, by removing 2012 IPC section 1.6.6.2 and replacing it with the following: “2012 IPC section 1.6.6.2: Plumbing fees shall be set by resolution.”

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any section, provision, or part thereof not judged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council this 16th day of April, 2019. /s/ Bradley A. Randolph, Mayor.

ATTTEST: /s/Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL
4/16/2019

CLAIRE KLAASS, Recorder
I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
II. Recognition of guests III. Approve the agenda
IV. Professional Development - Harry Heiligenthal, consultant IASB
V. Regular policies #711.2, 711.3, 711.5 - Student Transportation
     Program Transportation Credit Cards No change
     711.4 - Summer School Program Transportation Service
     Same as IASB
     711.5 - Transportation of Nonresident and Nonpublic School Students
     Same as IASB
     711.6 - Transportation of Nonschool Groups No change
     711.7 - School Bus Safety Instruction No change
     711.8 - Transportation in Inclement Weather
     711.9 - District Vehicle Idling Same as IASB
     711.10 - School-Owned Passenger Vehicles No change
     711.12 - Travel Expenses - Reimbursements No change
     711.13 - District/Transportation Credit Cards No change
     Minor change
     800 - Objectives of Buildings & Sites No change
     800.1 - Building & Sites Long Range Planning No change
     800.2 - Buildings & Sites Surveys No change
     800.3 - Educational Specifications for Buildings & Sites No change
     801.4 - Site Acquisition No change
     801.5 - Bids and Awards for Construction Contracts Minor change
     802.1 - Maintenance of Plant No change
     802.1-R - Custodial Operations Minor changes
     802.2 - Requests for Improvement Align with IASB w/minor changes
     802.3 - Emergency Repairs No change
     802.4 - Capital Assets No change
     802.4-R-1 - Capital Assets Regulation No change
     802.4-R-2 - Capital Assets Management System Definitions No change
     802.5 - Buildings & Sites Adaption for Persons with Disabilities No change
     802.6 - Vandalism No change
     802.6b - Damaged or Lost Property/Materials No change
     802.7 - Energy Conservation No change
     802.8 - Receiving, Storing and Distributing No change
     803.2 - Lease, Sale or Disposal of School District Buildings & Sites No change
     803.3 - Sale or Disposal of School District Property No change
     VI. Announcements May 13 5:30 PM - District Retirement Reception, FMHS Media Center.
     May 14 10:00 AM - Board Tour of Central Office and High School External Facilities
     May 28 6:00 PM - Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
     May 30 6:15 PM - Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
     VI. Adjourn

HELP WANTED
WE’RE HIRING

Holy Trinity Catholic is a growing, future ready school in Southeast Iowa. Holy Trinity Catholic School seeks qualified, committed, and talented individuals for a variety of positions that will allow them to fulfill their unique potential within the context of faith based education.

- Junior/Senior High School Administrator – full time position that requires a Master’s in school administration, experience in curriculum planning desired.
- Junior/Senior High Math Teacher - full time, degree and certification required
- Senior High School English Teacher - full time, degree and certification required
- Junior/Senior High Spanish Teacher – 0.4 time, degree and certification required
- Junior/Senior High Spanish Teacher – 0.4 time, degree and certification required
- Junior/Senior High Spanish Teacher – full time, degree and certification required
- Junior/Senior High Spanish Teacher – full time, degree and certification required
- TAG Teacher – 0.5 time, degree and certification required
- Upper Elementary Music Teacher – 0.4 time, degree and certification required
- Business Manager – full time, degree in Business or Accounting required
- Janitorial Staff - full time

Please contact Judi Dinwiddie at judi.dinwiddie@holytrinityschools.org for additional information in regard to all open positions.

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

Office Space for Rent
Office / retail space available for rent at 1225 Avenue H Fort Madison. 875 square feet of open space, Ample parking, visible advertising sign, great location. Please inquire at 319-470-1384.

OPEN INTERVIEWS

Starting wages as high as $14/hr.

When: Thursday, May 9th 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Location: Bagcraft Packaging 2068 303rd Avenue Ft. Madison, IA 52627

Full-time 2nd and 3rd shift positions available.

Machine Operators: Starting pay – $12-$14/hr.
Material Handlers: Starting pay – $12.50/hr.
Packers: Starting pay – $11/hr.

Bagcraft Packaging, a Novolex Brand, offers medical, dental, vision, vacation and a 401(k) plan.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Chateau Apartments Extra Clean & Quiet Apartments for Rent
Extra clean & quiet with free YMCA membership included.
- 2 bedrooms, some with decks/patio.
- Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, in-unit microwave.
- Non-smoking, no pets. Very affordable security deposit $300.
- Must pass background & credit checks (no felonies).
- Large backyard with picnic tables & glider swing in very nice, quiet neighborhood. Rents range from $595-$635. Lease required. 850 sq. ft. units. All electric. Water, sewer, trash furnished. 650 sq. ft. units. Water, heat, sewer, gas, trash furnished. Laundry rooms have new coin-operated washers & dryers (located in all buildings). On-site manager. Call 319-372-9409 or 319-750-3115 for appointment to view. Owned by Alliance Realty Co.

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- 2 bedrooms, some with decks/patio.
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Elementary - Continued from Page 1

He said change orders have been minor, including some additional support for the smart panels that are being hung on the walls with hydraulic lifts, and some entry way changes.

“When you get into construction you start to look at the aesthetics and so I would say we have more changes than any snafus, so to speak,” he said.

Sheerin said the reason the changes have been minimal is that he, and other staff, have been doing background work on the new classrooms for the past three years.

“It’s kind of like education tends to look for clearance items. Everyone says, this is a huge cost to do something, but if we buy computers for 50 to 60% off, there’s a reason there on sale,” he said.

“They may be sufficient, but they’re not efficient and not progressive enough so you have a short term savings, but then you get rid of all that and buy all new. Education is the perfect Hines commercial because K-12 education is constant – catchup.”

But he said the system didn’t want to do that and invested in current upgradeable, and efficient technology.

The first floor will hold the K-3rd grade students, a new cafeteria and kitchen and some administrative and staff space and a small media centralized media center.

The upper floor holds classrooms for 4th – 6th grade students. With classrooms running down the east side of the building all but one of the classrooms is expandable. Sheerin said HTC teachers are looking at some programming where they can have six teachers in one room with 50 or 60 kids, but then close the expandable walls when needed to do more traditional style teaching.

Sheerin said HTC teachers looking at some programming like they can have six teachers in one room with 50 or 60 kids, but then close the expandable walls when needed to do more traditional style teaching.

He said not only is the project a win for students, teachers will also benefit from the new facility.

“You can put all the new technology in here you want, but it won’t mean a thing without the impact of our teachers,” Sheerin said.

“This isn’t your grandparents Buick anymore. That’s what we’re trying to be about. We want to move with the times and hold to traditional values with teaching, to some degree, but moving forward into the technology and personalization learning.”

HTC officials are hoping to set up public tours of the facility later in the summer and then have everything turnkey ready when teachers arrive for the first day of the 2019-20 school year.