



Emily Wenger/ewenger@mywindsornow.com |

Windsor-Severance Re-4 School District board members, employees and administrators break ground on the future Innovation Center that will be built at Windsor High School. The Innovation Center is expected to be complete by the beginning of the 2018-19 school year.

Ground is broken on new Innovation Center site at Windsor High School

Emily Wenger

ewenger@mywindsornow.com

August 22, 2017

Terry Weber went to school at Windsor High School, and Monday night he and his daughter, who is now a sophomore at the school, watched as Windsor-Severance Re-4 School District officials broke ground on the school's new Innovation Center.

Tori Weber and her parents said they are all excited for the growth and improvements coming for the school district.

The new Innovation Center will be built in place of the building that used to house the school cafeteria, which was demolished this year.

"I spent a lot of time there," Terry Weber said.

Tori said she is excited for the new learning opportunities that will be provided in the new building.

"I think it's cool how it's a place where everyone can come and it's going to be so big and everyone can just gather in one spot and not have to be in random parts of the school," she said.

Tori's mom, Carol Weber, said all the change happening in the district is exciting for her, like the renovations underway inside the high school and the new greenhouse near the agricultural sciences wing of the school.

The [Innovation Center](#) has been planned as part of the [\\$104.8 million bond measure](#) and \$3.6 million mill levy override voters passed last November. The building is expected to house more makers-spaces, updated technology and collaboration areas for students, and is expected to be complete by the beginning of the 2018-19 school year.

Tempy Boman, Windsor-Severance Re-4 School Board president, said the new building is long overdue. When the building was initially built in the 1970s, he said the high school had about half the students it does now. This year the school has 1,515 students.

While the building will be new, the goal of the project is not to add capacity. Additional

Windsor-Severance Re-4 School District superintendant Dan Seegmiller said he is glad the construction has reached the ground breaking.

"It feels great," he said.

He and board members said they are even more excited for the ribbon cutting, once the building is completed

At Monday night's Board of Education meeting, RLH Engineering representatives provided an update on the construction project to the board. Dick Huwa, the president of RLH Engineering, said a new greenhouse has been built, and a second modular is in process of being set up.

The large [modular buildings](#) around the school building are being used to house classes while construction crews work to renovate different sections of the high school.

Meals for students will continue to have "grab and go" meals, rather than hot meals as the cafeteria modular is not yet on site, Huwa said.

Health, art, and world language classrooms have already been renovated, including a collaboration space for students.

Social studies classes and the classroom portion of shop classes are the first to take place in the modular buildings. Each modular can hold four classes, and are air conditioned, wireless capable, fully-functional classrooms.

WINDSOR-SEVERANCE RE-4 PROJECTS

The Windsor-Severance Re-4 School District has several projects underway thanks to bond issues approved by district voters last year. The following is a timeline of the projects, according to the district:

» High School No. 2, the working title for the new high school to be built in Severance, will be bid this fall, with construction starting in the beginning of 2018, according to the school district. Preparation work for the site, such as roads and utilities, will begin before the building construction.

» In the summer of 2018 Windsor Middle School, Tozer Primary School, Mountain View Elementary, Skyview Elementary and the administration building will be renovated.

» In the summer of 2019 Grandview Elementary, Range View Elementary, Severance Middle School and Transportation and Maintenance buildings will be renovated.