



Fall 2007

Established in 1910

Penzel Builds Schools

Clearly, a commercial construction company in operation for nearly a century boasts an extensive job résumé. Without exception, Penzel's scope of successfully completed projects runs the gamut from heavy industrial and highway construction, to commercial and institutional structures. Among the latter are many school buildings in southeast Missouri, including our hometown high school, built in 1920. Penzel has, as a matter of course, been historically active in school construction, and continues to maintain a focus on educational projects.

Developing a character of their own, these buildings mature to be esteemed reflections of community pride. Many of us retain fond memories of those hallowed halls, which had also served our parents and possibly grandparents. Prior to the technology explosion, updating a school building was rather undemanding. The start of each new school year brought the sparkle of clean windows, the smell of fresh paint on the walls and slick new wax on the floors. To accommodate enrollment fluctuations, desks were moved in or out of classrooms.

Present school administrators are faced with a much more daunting challenge, one of balancing the value of aged buildings with the costs of maintaining them amid growing student requirements. Existing buildings that have served well need to be brought up to current standards, and expanded facilities are required to accommodate the progression in instructional practices and technology.

Having recently completed an integral 9,802-square-foot addition and installation of a new elevator at Trinity Lutheran School in Cape Girardeau, Penzel Construction has three other school building projects at varying states of completion.

The largest project, Jackson School District's renovated and expanded high school campus, will be complete in the spring of



Jackson High School under construction.

2008. This \$15.5 million extensive renovation project incorporates two of the existing buildings into one large building footprint of approximately 110,000 square feet. New development includes construction of spaces with suitable acoustics and practice rooms for the music programs, a cafeteria with commons areas and art rooms. Key to the plan is an events center with seating on upper and lower levels, spacious locker rooms and a sports floor to serve as both a high school gymnasium and a place for performance arts. An elevator is being installed to offer entry to both levels. Other parts of the existing campus are under renovation and most of the high school buildings are to be brought together under one roof.

With completion scheduled prior to the start of the 2007 school year, rapid progress was essential for the Advance School project. Bid on January 23 of this year, awarded on February 6th, Penzel started work on February 19th, and to facilitate a



fast-track construction schedule, the school system pre-planned an early end to the 2006 school year. Renovations involved demolition of the old administrative building and the construction of approximately 9,500 square feet of new building space for administrative needs, with offices and a conference room, greatly expanded kitchen area, classrooms, restrooms and protected walkways for the students. A new roof and ceilings in most of the areas of the elementary wing assimilates the new work into the existing buildings.

Penzel's newest school project is a renovation and addition for Nell Holcomb R-IV School District. Faced with too few classrooms, forcing some classes to be held in a trailer, and a 30-year-old gym with shifting

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Project Updates

- **Wood and Huston Bank's** new 5,000-square-foot Jackson facility is located on East Jackson Boulevard. Construction started in early spring, with an October completion anticipated. Penzel is providing the design-build services for the bank. Luke Miget is the project manager and Bob Sachse is the site superintendent.
- **The Bank of Missouri's** new facility was completed in September. The 4,000-square-foot project provides easy access when the new I-55 interchange is completed. Penzel was the design-build contractor for the Bank of Missouri's second Jackson location. Luke Miget was the project manager and Bob Sachse the site superintendent.
- **OB-GYN Specialists of Southeast Missouri** is a new doctors' office with almost 13,000 square feet of space. The project is scheduled for completion in mid November. Project manager Luke Miget and site superintendent Jack Conklin, Jr. are overseeing the work.
- **Christ Church of the Heartland** in Cape Girardeau is complete. Phases

1 and 2 were finished in August and added 24,000 square feet to the existing structure. Luke Miget was the project manager and Dennis Ward the site superintendent.



- **Route 34 Phase II** started May 15, 2006 and was finished at the end of August. It involved widening the existing roadway and included staged bridge construction, storm sewers, curb and gutter, driveways and concrete paved approaches. Mike Williams was the Superintendent for this project.
- The AECl project involves fly ash silo modifications at the **New Madrid Missouri Power Plant**. A new walkway and door into two existing silos will be added, along with modifications of the silo interiors to create sloping walls for the smoother flow of materials. Silo #1 is complete; the concrete step footings, gunite and structural steel were completed April 25. Silo #2 started in mid September. Paul Koeper is the project manager and Jack Conklin, Jr. the site superintendent.
- **Route 77 Bridge** guardrail project will be completed in early November.

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walls, the school board made the decision to proceed with a much-needed expansion and simultaneous gym replacement. The project addresses the need for additional classrooms and features a music room with stage, basketball court, coach's office, new elevator and storage areas.

The existing front entrance is on the north side of the building and is not readily visible from the main traffic corridor. Adding a new front entrance to the east side of the building, facing Highway 177, provides a much more prominent frontage and direct access from the new front parking lot that is included in the project. Penzel started work on the \$2.3 million, approximately 11,000-square-foot project on July 5th, with an early Spring 2008 completion anticipated.

Because schools must continue normal operations during construction work, adept supervision is essential for all of these projects. Penzel's structured approach to project management, with an innovative use of technologies, helps ensure that daily job site activities remain on target. We produce quality construction projects that complete on time and within budget.

A school can have a profound impact on a community's growth and prosperity. New and renovated school projects help ensure that exceptional programs continue to remain available to our youth. The Penzel Construction Company family receives great satisfaction from having the opportunity to help provide quality and enduring educational facilities.

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