

Operations Department
Shatava/Donahue
February 2026

Autonomous Equipment-

Over the past two months, we have had three types of autonomous equipment on site for testing. We have had three different vacuums and one floor scrubber come on-site. After having all of these on-site, we have decided to purchase a Centebot Autonomous Vacuum. This equipment will be located at Oak View and used at night. This equipment should significantly reduce the time our custodial staff needs to vacuum the carpeted floors at this site. This equipment will free up our custodians' time to focus on other areas of the building and may reduce the overall staff required at that site. As a department, we are not looking to replace our people with equipment, but we need to evaluate whether there is equipment available that can help reduce workload for our staff and improve efficiency and effectiveness across our buildings.

REMI update-

On 2-20-26, our department, along with IT and Michelle, met with our REMI consultant to review the numbers and assess how this program has been working for DCG. This was our second meeting to look at the overall success and challenges of this insurance program. To date, we have the following numbers to look at:

Prorated Policy Premium To Date: \$1,090,058.74

Total Utilization To Date: \$882,065.02

Gross Utilization Rate: 80.92%

Net Utilization Rate: >100%

Wall-To-Wall Claims Paid/Approved:
\$200,822.21

HVAC Corrective Claims Paid/Approved:
\$274,217.81

HVAC PM Claims Paid/Approved:
\$407,025.00

As a department, we are very pleased with these numbers. Overall, we have used this policy to make significant changes to our preventive and corrective maintenance for our HVAC systems. We have had our best year in a long time, with our systems running smoothly. Our HVAC complaint work orders have declined significantly this year. This partnership has also helped us improve the equipment in our buildings. We have used our Wall-to-wall portion of this policy to repair and maintain our building equipment. Overall, this policy has helped the operations department improve the Learning Environment for our students and staff at DCG.

Head Custodian Mid-Year Check-

Over the last Month, we have met with all of our Head Custodians to discuss a few items. We reviewed the year-to-date, discussed building needs, and addressed equipment requirements. We

then looked ahead to what we will need to do this summer in each building. These meetings were productive and helped us better understand what people need in the buildings. This has led the directors to reconsider how we document summer projects and how we prepare for the summer. These conversations have also led our department to examine how we can better structure our people to have the greatest impact on the building from a day-to-day operations standpoint. All of our Head custodians had productive meetings, and it is clear how dedicated they are to improving their buildings. DCG is lucky to have dedicated staff.

Bond Update-

Over the last month, we have begun to see some design work move to the next stage and have started receiving cost estimates for these projects. The three big projects we are prioritizing is the Secure Entry and reorganization of DCE, the Secure Entry and mechanical upgrades at North Ridge, and the Inclusive playgrounds. I will highlight each of these projects individually below:

Dallas Center Elementary-

We will add a secure entry through the vestibule doors on the north side. People will now enter the building and must buzz into the new reception area on the north side of the current vestibule. Behind the reception area, there will be a newly renovated Administrator's office and storage. Across the hallways, where the current reception and office areas are, there will be a renovated guidance office and an Instructional Coaches room. We have reversed the order of these locations, and in doing so, we have improved the overall security of this building. Along with these renovations, we will update the intercom system to integrate the Epic software across the buildings. We will also be updating the fire panel and fire alarm devices. The last part of this project will be updating the HVAC controls for that building. These updates will not be visible, but will bring this building into compliance with the new code and district expectations going forward. This project is scheduled to start in June and be done by the start of the school year.

North Ridge Elementary-

We will add a secure entry through the current vestibule to access the office. The current reception/office area will be updated and reconfigured to accommodate a sitting area and an entrance. We will also replace 38 heat pumps in the building that require an upgrade. Along with the Heat Pump update, we will add new controls to the HVAC system to bring the entire building under a single set of controls, enabling us to balance the building. In this project, we will also be installing the updated Epic intercom system. We will also be updating all fire alarm devices in this building. Another part of this project will be to reroute the grease interceptor line at this building to run around the building rather than through it. We are doing this to eliminate the odor and concerns we have with the current grease interceptor line. Other items still up in the air is tuckpointing and replacement of windows and doors at this location. Again, we are looking to start this project in June, with the goal of having it ready for the first day of school.

Inclusive Playgrounds-

We have accomplished a lot of good work on this project. We have separated some costs from the Bond to be paid from our SAVE funds. We are excited to bring turf and inclusive equipment to all 5 of our buildings this summer. We will add turf at all locations, including preschool, and then add inclusive pieces of equipment at all facilities to work in conjunction with the existing equipment at the three schools in Grimes. In Dallas Center, we will add turf and a new playground structure. At

the middle school, we will improve the 9-square area and add new playground equipment on that site as well. This project has taken some turns, but we are excited for what we will be able to accomplish at all of our facilities this summer.

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