

ONECAMPUS: Celebrating the Grand Opening of new Instructional Space

After 13 months of construction, the new instructional spaces at Essex High School and the Center for Technology, Essex will officially open during a ribbon cutting ceremony on August 28, 2007.

These new spaces are part of ONECAMPUS, a \$12.5 million construction project approved by voters on April 11, 2006. The ONECAMPUS project consolidates all instruction under the direction and stewardship of the Union #46 School District, with the exception of its Alternative Center for Education (ACE), on the campus of the Essex Community Educational Center.

“After three years of discussion and planning, it is exciting to see the ONECAMPUS project become a reality,” U#46 School Board Chair Jeff Culkin said.

The project adds approximately 28,500 square feet to the Educational Center through fit-up of the first floor of the library and new construction associated with renovations of the Essex Skating Facility.

“ONECAMPUS will allow us to phase out temporary trailers, currently being used as classrooms, and create a positive learning environment for our students,” Culkin said. “It will allow the Center for Technology, Essex to meet the regional demand for popular programs like Dental Assisting and Health Information Management.”

Culkin went on to explain that, “At Essex High School, the project will provide additional space for science labs and performing arts.” It also converts the under-gym storage room to athletic locker room space; provides a new weight room, Physical Education classroom and tennis court; and adds space for storage.

Members of the community are invited to the Grand Opening on August 28. The ceremony will begin at 6:00 p.m. outside the new skating facility addition. At that time, there will be an official ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by an Open House, with the new instructional space located in the skating facility and in the ground level of the library.

In a few months, the skating facility portion of the ONECAMPUS project will be completed. Look forward to more information regarding this grand opening ceremony.