

## Layer by layer the Roosevelt Modernization progresses (April 2016)



Construction is completed in layers: the masonry walls must be topped off so structural steel can be attached, once walls are weatherproofed the windows can be installed, and the roof must be complete, the interior work can occur. [Each week, a new layer is applied somewhere on the building.](#) To keep as many trades working at once, Lease Crutcher Lewis has engaged in a staggering strategy between the two new wings. Work begins on the gymnasium wing and steadily progresses around to the auditorium wing: as one trade progresses, another follows behind them. This accounts for the different stages of progression between the two buildings throughout the project

With the structural steel now complete on the gymnasium wing, rough-in work has been occurring for the last several weeks. Fireproofing was applied on the interior structure which allowed for the new classroom walls to be framed in. Soon, windows will be installed and the exterior finish surface--metal cladding in most areas—will be applied. With the walls dividing the interior of the building, it is beginning to take the distinct shape of the finished school.



The auditorium wing is now in the structural steel phase to prepare for roofing and fireproofing. Steelworkers have been using a crane to fly in structural members 3-4 pieces at a time to be secured to the cinderblock walls. Once this work is complete, the framing work will begin in this area as well.



The renovation of the old auditorium building has also been progressing steadily. The slope of the old floor has now been leveled for the new library/media center. Structural improvements, such as new footings and shear walls, have been completed to support the unreinforced masonry during a seismic event. Soon, framing will take place to shape the new clinic under the mezzanine and the classrooms above it.

The new cafeteria / “Commons” is a unique area as it will be split between Phase I and Phase II. The first half, which includes the new kitchen, is currently under construction; additional seating capacity will be added in Phase II as the interior Courtyard of the school is filled in. This area is also slightly different than the rest of the school as the walls will be largely formed by storefront windows. To support this system, concrete columns are being completed.

Roosevelt High School’s Construction Class came out for their third tour of the site. With one more tour before the end of the school year, these students have seen the building grow from an excavated pit to a framed in room. By next tour, finish work should be visible including drywall and light. [Photos from that tour can be viewed here.](#)

## Exterior Work Rapidly Progressing & Students Return To The Site (Feb. 2016)



[The new gym and classroom wing continues to come into focus every day.](#) With the cinderblock walls nearly complete around the perimeter, the construction team has begun installing the steel beams that form the roof's structure. On the south side classroom corridor, elevated concrete decks are being poured to form the floor on the first and second levels. Once the building's structure is fully in place and the walls are enclosed, interior walls and finishing work can begin. [The masons have now moved their focus over the new auditorium wing, where the walls have begun to climb.](#) The concrete slab foundations are now in place, which was no easy task given the intricacy of formwork necessary to shape the theater's orchestra pit. With openings in the walls left for installing doors and windows, the interior classrooms such as the Black Box and Industrial Arts Lab are beginning to take shape.

[Interior progress has been rapid on the renovation of the old Auditorium building. Shear walls are now almost fully in place, which will strengthen the building during a seismic event.](#)

Contractors have even begun work on raising the floor up to the stage level in the Theatre-Library conversion. Even more impressively, interior walls have been framed in the Art classrooms underneath and will be ready for drywall imminently.



Two weeks ago, Mr. Duckworth's Intro to Construction class returned to observe the progress made in the two months since their last site visit. With a number of trades on-site, they were able to see masons, electricians, steelworkers, and others at work. It also provided some in field observation opportunities for what they are currently studying in the classroom.