



July 1, 2010

Middle school construction progresses

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FREMONT -- Plans are moving along at the new middle school site.

The Fremont City Schools Board of Education recently approved an easement and right-of-way with Ohio Power Company at the site to allow access to install electrical service and to maintain service.

School board member Marc Glotzbecker said, "There is a lot of activity out there."

The groundbreaking ceremony took place at the end of April, and construction began shortly after.

The \$27 million school is scheduled to open for the 2011-12 school year.

The school will be about 126,000 square feet and will house students in grades six through eight. The North Street wing will have three stories, one floor for each grade.

Each floor will house three core teaching teams of students and teachers. Each team will have its own classrooms, restrooms, lockers and extended learning area.

The new school is ranked as a Platinum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design building by the Ohio Schools Facilities Commission. Superintendent Traci McCaudy previously said project architects from Fanning-Howey told her there aren't any other schools in the state with that designation.

The gym will seat 650 people.

The cafeteria will seat 450 and include a 1,800-square-foot stage. The size of the average classroom will be 810 square feet. Other key items include new interactive white boards, a security system with cameras and buzz-in entrance controls, and a cost-efficient, low-maintenance temperature control system.



Construction has begun at the site of the new Fremont Middle School. (Dusty Zeitz | News-Messenger correspondent)



Heavy equipment is seen through a fence June 23 as crews prepare the area next to the Fremont Ross High School for construction of the new middle school. (Jonathon Bird | News-Messenger)