

Hollis Schools Thermal Electric Project (HSTEP)  
Community Update #4  
August 18, 2017

Lots of visible activity on the Hollis Schools Thermal Electrical Project (**HSTEP**), as the beginning of the school year approaches!

This week the **new propane boilers were installed at HUES (see photos)**. The ugly old chimney is gone! Four 1,000 gallon propane tanks have been installed and the old underground oil tank is gone. A new retaining wall will be built next week.

The gym roof at HUES has been replaced so that the **100 kW solar installation can begin next week, and our local contractor, KW Management is busy moving hundreds of solar panels on site**. The solar installation will then move to HPS. There is some exciting discussion taking place involving faculty about how to incorporate the diverse energy improvements into teaching curricula! **Sealing leaking walls and ceilings will also start next week**. This will vastly improve the energy efficiency of the building, helping to keep it warm in the winter and cool in the summer at much lower cost.

**At HPS, the much needed upgrade of electrical infrastructure is progressing rapidly**. A new transformer will soon be installed to provide greater capacity for the solar PV installation. This is in preparation for new lighting, installation of air source heat pumps and other electrical needs at the Primary School.

Also beginning soon: **new LED lighting in both schools** that will allow each teacher to easily control lighting in each classroom, with much lower costs. This work will likely be done in the evening during the school year as the lights will take 4-6 weeks to arrive once the final order is placed by the end of the month.

Most of this work will be completed before school begins in late August. The solar installation may continue into the early fall months. Additional project work, mostly at HPS, will be undertaken during the summer of 2018.

The HSTEP Committee welcomes comments or questions as work progresses. Please direct questions to: committee chair Tammy Fareed at [tfareed@sau41.org](mailto:tfareed@sau41.org).

These updates will be published biweekly. Follow our progress on the Hollis School Board website at <http://sau41.org/hollis-school-board> and on our Facebook page at HSTEP - Hollis Schools Thermal Electrical Project at <https://www.facebook.com/hollisschoolboardHSTEP/>.