UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
CENTRAL DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT
A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP
Project Update: FALL 2016

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Construction Fun at the Hilltop Child Development Center

With an enrollment of more than 200 children, ranging from toddler to school-age, the Hilltop Child Development Center sits directly in the middle of the new construction of the Central District. The Project team is very cognizant and sensitive to impacting the communities where we develop and build. The team wanted to make sure that the children who attend Hilltop, along with parents and staff, view the nearby construction in a positive light.

On a sunny morning in May, members of the Clark Construction/McCownGordon construction team spent the day teaching the children at Hilltop about the construction happening in their own backyard.

The day began with the children decorating personalized yellow hard hats and vests with their teachers and members of the construction team. After putting on their new safety gear, the children were taken outside to learn about the different types of construction equipment they see every day. As a fun bonus, the kids were able to touch and even sit in some of the equipment!

As a special “thank you,” from the Project Team, all the children were given a copy of the book “Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site.”

After the event, one of the parents noted that now many of the kids wave and say goodnight to the construction equipment at the end of the day, just like in the book.

Turf No More: Real Grass on New Athletic Practice Field

“As an NCAA Division I university, student-athlete practice surfaces are of the utmost importance to our athletic teams. This project is no exception, and our football and soccer team’s are thrilled with the end result.”

- Brad Nachtigal, Associate Athletic Director, University of Kansas

The first piece of the 55-acre Central District project to be completed is the new 118,000 square-foot Natural Grass Athletic Practice Field, which was officially turned over to the University on July 1, 2016.

KU Athletics desired a Bermuda Grass Sod multipurpose field to help reduce the risk of injury, lower the playing surface temperature, and add to its inventory of fields for better field management.

The multipurpose field can be shared by various teams. So far, football and women’s soccer, as well as the men’s club soccer team, have practiced on the field.

Q: What are you most looking forward to as the Central District project progresses and what building(s) are you most excited about?

Jim: The project as a whole is fulfilling so many needs for the university, so it’s hard to pick one “favorite” component. Having lived through 20 years waiting for new science facilities, the new Integrated Science Building (ISB) will launch KU into modern day science classrooms, class labs, and research facilities. The new Central Utility Plant will provide the opportunity for experiential learning as the classroom looks over a modern machine room floor. The new Student Union will provide conference space that will fill the needs for student and other university functions. The speed in which the project is developing, the transformation of the site and the spaces will become reality almost overnight. Starting with the vision and the need and seeing the goals be accomplished is as gratifying as it gets.
The new practice field for KU Athletics has been turned over and was used for practices starting in July. The new surface parking lot near the McCollum Residence Hall site is complete, as is the new Ousdahl Road, which provides access to the Hilltop Child Development Center. The steel structure for the Integrated Science Building (ISB) is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016 with the exterior facade scheduled to start this fall.

Framing is nearly complete for the new Residence Hall and framing for the Dining Hall also is well underway. The Student Apartments broke ground in early August.

Project Stats
- 17,000 cubic yards of concrete being placed
- 3,000 tons of steel being erected
- 11,000 tons of precast concrete being erected

Check Out Our Progress
Visit the project webcams at:
- oxblue.com/open/clarkconstruction/kucddp
- oxblue.com/open/cbgbc/kup3housing

Need more information?
Email us at: kup3@edgemoor.com