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A New Look for the Campus

by Nina Willis
Staff Writer

The plans to turn our school from antiquated to contemporary have finally come to fruition. The changes being made around campus are fairly eye-catching. Several students shared how excited and content they were with how money and the projects being pursued by said money has been utilized so far.

Some projects, such as the makeover for the cafeteria, were completed over the summer.

Other developments are going to take a little more time, such as the additions to Boshamer Gym. To list a few other reformations around campus are the brand new call boxes, redecoration of the McLarty-Goodson

Lounge, and the brand new computers now available in the McLarty-Goodson computer room. A student referred to the funds that went towards the computer room in MG as "...money that was well invested back into the students."

Most of the projects were welcomed with open arms, but long overdue. The Emergency Call boxes around campus had been neglected to the point past broken down. For a safer campus as well, there have been a couple of call boxes added. The new call boxes are taller, painted white, the call box is bigger, and the distinctive blue light shines brighter. Ashton Sheen, a freshman girl in Beam, says 'I think that [the additional call boxes are] a good idea, and easier to use and access.'

Not only have renovations been made outside, but there have been major changes inside. The dining hall has changed dramatically since July. There are now booths for a more private atmosphere. The

chairs and tables, similar to what you would see in an internet-friendly eatery, make using laptops more comfortable with the Wi-Fi provided.

Another option for sitting arrangements is the new picnic style tables outside on the right side of the dining hall. Once the weather permits, this area should be an appealing place to sit. Lauren Wise, a transfer from the very large university Iowa State, feels that the new cafeteria definitely measures up to the dining hall back home.

A freshman male in Beam, Mike Harwood says "When I first walked in the cafeteria before renovations, at the summer orientation, it didn't feel inviting. Now it feels like an actual college cafeteria."

However, there have been some concerns expressed with how space savvy the cafeteria may be now. "I think the café looks great, but I don't know how everyone can fit in there during rush hour eating times, such as dinner," says Josh Thompson, a sophomore Resident Advisor. Theseating does seem like it would not fit as many as before, but in fact there are actually the same amounts of chairs.

Other attention-grabbing renovations are the ones being made to Boshamer Gym. There are new bleachers in the main basketball court, as well a new weight room on its way for the football team. The only disappointment so far, is the fact that it has not yet been put to use, or actually built.

It is only the beginning for our ever progressing school. While flawlessly preserving our past, it is now assured that we are moving forward without forgetting what's important, evolving.



Photo by S. Galloway