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Press Release

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TOPIC: Champaign Schools to Open Renovated Westview Elementary School

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The newly renovated Westview Elementary School will open its doors to students August 19 for the first day of the 2013-2014 school year.

Westview, which was originally built in 1950, underwent a \$7.6 million expansion and renovation during the 2012-2013 school year. During construction, Westview faculty and students were housed at the former Carrie Busey Elementary School on Kirby Avenue in Champaign. Features of the renovated school include a secured front entrance and new security system, separate gym/cafeteria, updated technology, improved ADA accessibility, and updated classrooms.

“We are so excited to welcome our students and teachers back to the renovated Westview,” said Westview Principal Sean Morrison. “The renovated school will be a great place for students to learn and a great place for our teachers to work. Our updated facility will help us to accomplish our goal to provide students with a safe and structured learning environment that fosters positive educational experiences.”

Over the summer, the first of two renovation phases were also completed at Robeson Elementary School. Robeson, which was originally built in 1967, will cost \$2.1 million to renovate and will not require the school to relocate. The first phase of updates includes a secure front entrance and administrative spaces. The second phase, which will be completed next summer, will include renovated classroom spaces, a renovated library, and updated thermal windows.

Bottenfield Elementary School will be housed this school year at the former Carrie Busey Elementary School, located at 1605 W. Kirby Avenue, while their building undergoes a \$6.3 million renovation. Kenwood Elementary School is next in line for renovation; construction will begin next summer.

The construction projects taking place at Champaign’s elementary schools are funded through the county-wide 1% sales tax. The Promises Made, Promises Kept Committee, which is comprised of community members and District employees, ensures that the District uses the funds on school facilities as promised to the taxpayers.

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