

PRESS RELEASE

Manhattan Beach Unified School District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Manhattan Beach USD

Celebrates Groundbreaking of New Athletic Complex

Manhattan Beach, CA, February 14, 2019

The Manhattan Beach Unified School District is pleased to invite the public to a ground-breaking ceremony to mark the beginning of the construction of Mira Costa High School's new athletic complex on Friday, February 15, 2019, at 12:30 pm. The MBUSD Board of Trustees will be joined by District Superintendent Dr. Mike Matthews, staff, students, and dignitaries as they celebrate the official commencement of construction on the new gymnasium that is expected to be finished in fall 2020.

Mira Costa High School has a long tradition of academic and athletic excellence. The Mustangs enjoy a celebrated history of league, CIF, state, and national championships. Yet the gymnasium, which was built shortly after the school opened its doors in 1950, became aged and outdated over the years. Students, alumni, coaches, teachers, board members, and the citizens of Manhattan Beach decided it was time for a change. We are celebrating this groundbreaking because of the 12,661 citizens of Manhattan Beach who voted to pass Measure EE in 2016.

When the project is complete, Mira Costa High School will have a transformed athletic complex that is commensurate with the extraordinary caliber of athleticism and wellness that is the hallmark of

MBUSD faculty and students. The spectacular new Mira Costa High School athletic complex will provide our community with an outstanding resource for our students and the citizens of Manhattan Beach for years to come.

Plan highlights include a 20,000 square-foot three-court gym, a naturally lit Community Pavilion gym, 1,500 square feet of sport medicine space, 4,500 square feet of strength & development space, a 60-person classroom, a dance room, PE locker rooms and team rooms, and a terrace overlooking the track and Waller Stadium.

Architectural plans were developed by Gensler and the contractor is Balfour Beatty.

Superintendent Matthews commented, “The MBUSD Board of Trustees approved the plans for this beautiful facility on May 3, 2017. I am grateful for the hard work of Dr. Murakawa-Leopard and our staff, the teams from Gensler and Balfour Beatty, our Bond Oversight Committee, and all of the people who have helped this project to get to this takeoff point.”

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ABOUT THE MANHATTAN BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MBUSD serves approximately 6,800 students from preschool to twelfth grade at eight school campuses—one preschool, five elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. Robinson Elementary School and Grand View Elementary School were recently recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2013. Six MBUSD schools have been honored as California Gold Ribbon Schools since 2015. In 2012, Grand View Elementary was named a National Green Ribbon School, joining just 77 other schools in the United States so honored that year. In 2016, MBUSD was named as a National Green Ribbon District. MBUSD’s Michael Hayden and Maggie Mabery were the *California* Teachers of the Year in 2015 and 2016. In addition to outstanding students and excellent teachers, MBUSD is extremely fortunate to have a high level of parental involvement in the schools and very strong partnerships with community partners such as the Manhattan Beach Education Foundation, PTAs/PTSAs, MBX—Beyond the Classroom, the City of Manhattan Beach, Chevron, Continental Development, the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce, and other local organizations and businesses. More information about MBUSD is available at www.mbusd.org.