



## FIELD OBSERVATION REPORT

West Hardin Middle School, 202280 -CA8

Date: 12/9/2025 Time: 10:00 AM

Weather: Warming/35°

Observed by: Joseph Jones, AIA

Report No: 25

Trades Observed on Site: General Trades, Masons, Erectors, Plumbers, Mechanical, Electricians

Austin Bailey and Michael Warren conducted an above ceiling review in the band and vocal music rooms so that wallboard could be hung to receive the sprayed, acoustic insulation.

We also reviewed the above ceiling work in the art room.

### 1. Work observed in Progress

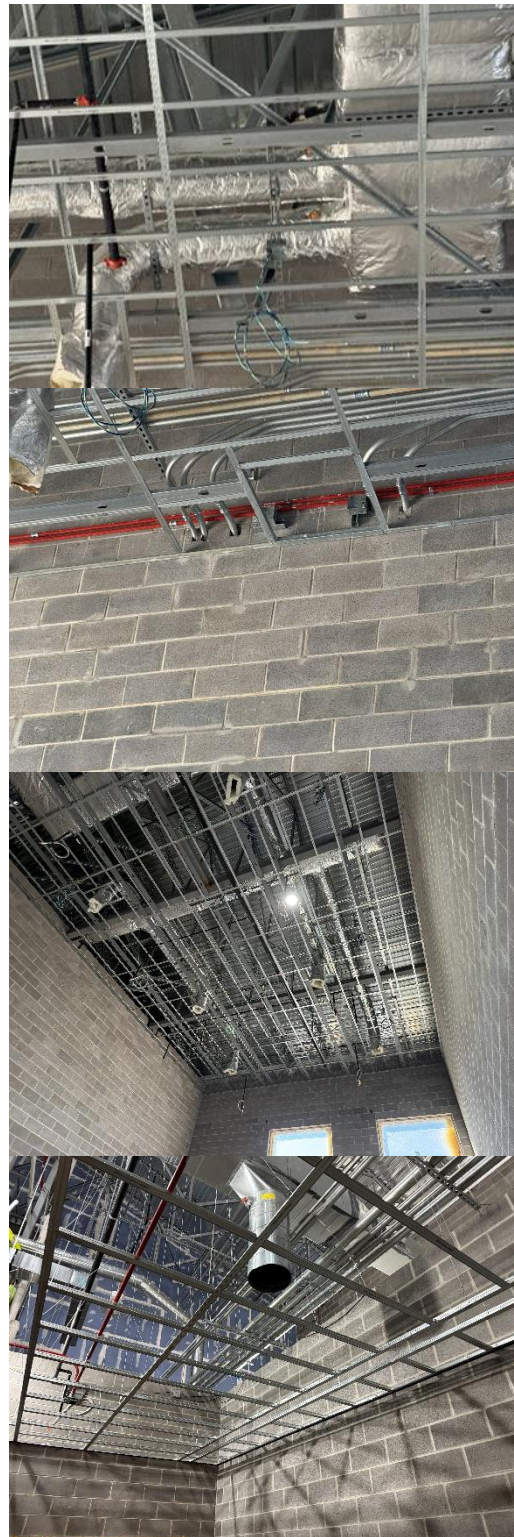
- a) Work was ongoing in all parts of the building despite the cold weather. Workers were removing snow from the slabs to make the work areas passable. Wehr had installed some temporary heating units and planned to install more to elevate the temperatures in the enclosed areas to about 45°F.
- b) Erectors were installing the framing for the interior roof area at the west side of the cafeteria.
- c) Masons were laying block on the second floor.
- d) Plumbers were roughing in piping.
- e) Mechanical ductwork was being hung.
- f) Electrical rough-ins.

### 2. General Observations

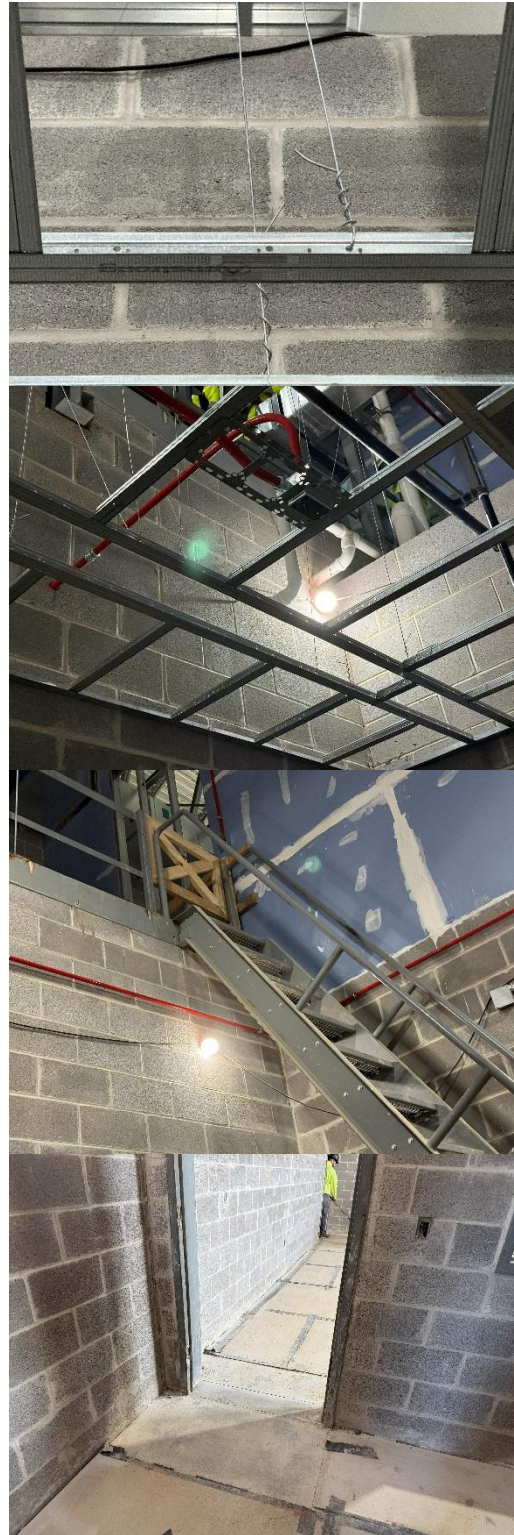
- a) The band room ceiling will have wallboard on the metal framing covered with black spray acoustic insulation. Lay in ceiling clouds and acoustic panels will be under that.



- b) The ductwork installed above the wallboard ceiling was installed with manual dampers. These will not be accessible after the wallboard ceiling is installed. It was decided that the dampers will be secured in a fully open position and the air will be balanced with adjustable dampers in the ceiling mounted diffusers.
- c) The wallboard ceiling will need to have access panels to reach electrical boxes above the ceiling. These will be on the edges of the room and outside the lay in ceiling clouds.
- d) The ceiling in the vocal music room will be like the ceiling in the band room. The comments about the access panels and dampers also applies to this room.
- e) The metal framing for the wallboard ceiling over the student toilets in Area D were in place. We discussed moving the drivers for the LED light fixture to the platform for maintenance and replacement.



- f) Where accessible lay in ceiling grids are supported by hanger wires either cut the loose end off or bend the wire back to the vertical. This will allow access without the possibility of a worker cutting their hands on the sharp ends of the wires.
- g) The slot in the framing is for the linear light fixtures in the student toilets.
- h) Wehr has placed a wood gate at the top of the ships ladder to comply with OSHA requirements.
- i) Jeremy noted that the door frame to the music office was reinstalled with the bottom out of line. This will need to be repaired.





- j) The frame for the window into the practice room had been properly reinstalled.



- k) Entry and exit doors will typically have electronic controls and security. It is important to run wiring to the proper location to connect the specified devices.



- l) Temporary heat was being applied to the gym which is being used for storage and assembling building components.



- m) The additional angle bracing for the top of the gym wall was in place.



- n) The electrical room for the storm shelter was being fit up with electrical panels and conduits.



- o) Small pipes and conduits can pass through the perimeter walls of the storm shelter. If these are grouped together, shielding may be required to meet storm shelter requirements.



- p) Tubular framing was being installed at the cafeteria corridor wall. This will support the sloped "roof" like was installed at EHMS.



- q) The kitchen was relatively clean and dry. Temporary heat had been applied to the room.





- r) Steel tube columns occur in block walls in the building. A bullnose was installed in the block and the column has radii on the corners. The caulk joint needs to be recessed past the radiuses.

The vinyl base may not adhere to the radius. The base can be extended into the joint between the column and the block and the caulk joint continued to the floor to hold the base in place.



- s) Face brick and stone trim were being laid on Area D.

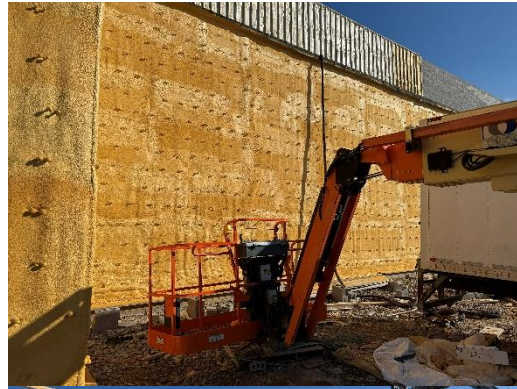
The walls appeared to be in plane, the joints were uniform and the walls were relatively clean.



- t) The wall cavity between the back of the brick and the spray insulation was relatively open for ventilation and drying of the brick.



- u) The spray foam insulation installer was continuing to spray additional walls if the air temperature is above 10<sup>0</sup> F.



- v) Concrete block on the southernmost classroom wing was being laid up to eave height.



- w) Concrete block was close to being topped on all three classroom wings.

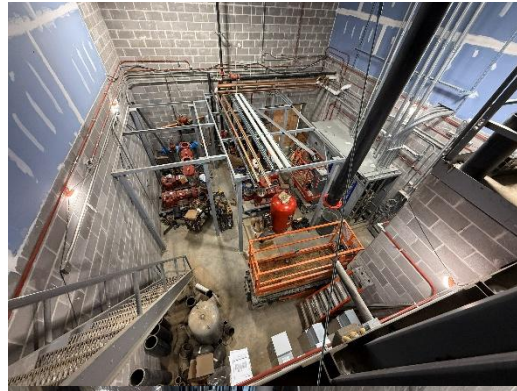


- x) The concrete block walls between the classroom wings were being laid to eave height.

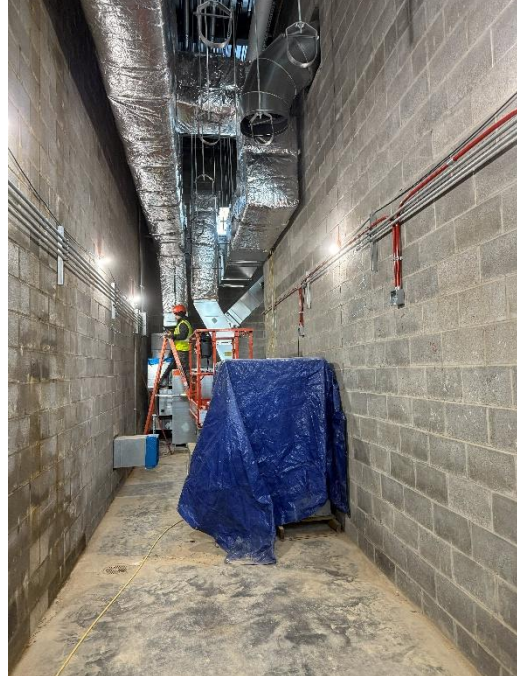




y) With the support framing in place in the main mechanical room, equipment was filling up the room.



z) The mechanical platform around the gym, is filling up with ductwork and heat pump units. The floor was being cleaned by the mechanical crew while I was there.



aa) Hydronic piping carrying water from the geothermal wells was being extended around the gym in the mechanical platform.





- bb) Interior block walls were laid in the middle classroom wing.



- cc) Masons were preparing to lay concrete block in the southernmost classroom wing.



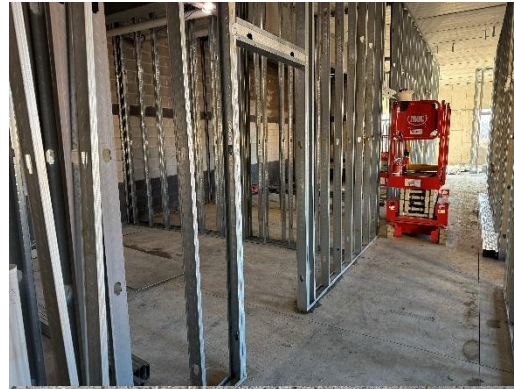
- dd) Metal wall framing had been installed in the administration area.



- ee) Slotted ceiling track was used at the tops of walls as specified.



- ff) Double studs and boxed headers were being installed around door openings as detailed.



- gg) We noted that the mason was doing a good job of cutting blocks to fit around the electrical switch and outlet back boxes.



### 3. Stored Material Observed:

- a) Concrete accessories.
- b) CMUs (concrete block) and accessories.
- c) Steel roof joist and framing.
- d) Storm piping and structures.
- e) Hollow metal frames.
- f) Sanitary piping and fittings.
- g) Electrical conduits and fittings.
- h) Skudo Board.

### 4. Follow up items:

- a) Special inspection reports with emphasis on the storm shelter area.
- b) Keep as-builts up to date.

Follow up by:

☐ Architect, ☐ Owner, ☐ MEP Engineer, ☐ Structural Engineer,  
☐ Civil Engineer ☒ Construction Manager, Other

Respectfully submitted,

JRA Architects

Joseph Jones, AIA, Construction Contract Administrator

Cc: 202280, CA8, HCS, Wehr, Icon, STW, EDG, JRA