For most, 2020 was a very challenging year, and for the Burbank Unified School District, it was no different. With pandemic shutdowns, stay-at-home orders, and an almost complete shutdown of the economy, school bond projects were the last thing on anyone’s mind. Yet, Burbank Unified School District, through innovative ideas, meetings using WebEx or Zoom platforms, and other ways to communicate, the last remaining major bond project, the Disney Two-Story Modular Project, continued to progress, even if at a more limited pace.

Through the efforts of many - our Architect team Cannon Design, Silver Creek Industries, the two-story modular building provider, Lundgren Management, our project management firm, and the Division of State Architects (DSA) - we received DSA approval on November 20, 2020. A fantastic effort during a pandemic shutdown.

In December 2020, the Walt Disney Elementary School Project reached another milestone: The Two-Story Modular Building Project went out to public bid. Finally, this project was officially underway!

A little history...on March 5, 2013, the Burbank Unified School District passed Measure S, a $110 million General Obligation Bond. This support and approval from the community of Burbank made it possible to perform much-needed repairs, upgrades, and modernization efforts for the District.

Eight years later, with more than 230 projects completed, we have completed our 6th annual audit of the bond expenditures, and again for this year, there are no findings.

This past year’s actions are a testament to how dedicated and responsible the Burbank Unified School District has been with Measure S. Since the passage of Measure S in 2013, the District has leveraged other funding to support bond projects so the District could accomplish more than what bond dollars could pay for.

The original goals of this bond were:

- To improve the quality and safety of Burbank school facilities
- To upgrade classrooms, computers, and technology
- To replace aging portable classrooms, electrical systems, plumbing, sewer lines, roofs, and play areas
- To improve student safety and security, including upgraded fire protection, increase energy efficiency, and provide accessibility for students with disabilities, starting with our oldest and most outdated campuses

To ensure we stayed on track with the District goals and projects scheduled to be done, an accountability safeguard was established for Measure S through our independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee. The Committee’s charge is to ensure bond proceeds are expended only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The Citizens’ Oversight Committee consists of at least seven members who are active in the community, have a vested interest in the District, or are local business owners. No employee or official of the District, vendor, contractor, or consultant of the District can be appointed to the Committee.
Completed Information Technology Projects in 2020

Equipment and cabling in the old server room were removed and merged into the data center, improving network reliability in the District Service Center. The picture on the left is the old server room which has now been cleared out, and the photo on the right shows existing and new data runs throughout the building.

- **Nimble Storage Array** (photo right) – District-wide increased capacity for virtual servers, security cameras, and storage for staff and students
- **District-Wide Router Cart Project** – Installation of FXO router cards allowing all fax lines to be converted to digital and placed on the VoIP network. Cost savings with the elimination of monthly analog telephone lines
- **21st Century Retrofit Project** – Updating 21st Century Classroom installations across the District to align with new design which includes relocating equipment to TV cabinet for better accessibility, networking all equipment, and adding Bogen override
- **Entrance Camera Intercom Systems** – Community Day School, District Office, and District Service Center
- **Security Camera Installations** – Dolores Huerta, Luther, the Adult School, District Office, and District Service Center
- **VoIP Speaker installations** – Updated systems at the District Office and District Service Center for intercom emergency needs

Additional 2020-2021 School Year Planned Projects

**Facilities Bond Projects 2020**
- Disney Elementary School - Excavation and grading underway for the modular two-story building project
- Roosevelt Elementary School - Teddy Bear Park improvements completed include a new playground and parking lot expansion. Bathroom upgrades are coming soon; waiting for DSA approval of Construction change Document (CCD)
- Stevenson Elementary School - HVAC contract was awarded to Western Allied Corporation. Work to begin the first week of May

**Technology Projects 2020**
- New District Firewall - Utilizing E-Rate Funding to leverage bond funds
- New District Core Switches -Utilizing E-Rate Funding to leverage bond funds
- Disney Modular Classrooms - New 21st Century Classroom, Data Cabling, and Network Electronics
In addition to the Measure S $110 million bond, the District has been utilizing other resources to modernize our schools. As you can see from the chart above, the District leveraged an additional $36,448,487 using financing,
Burbank Unified School District has enjoyed a very successful Bond program known as Measure S, and 2020 was no exception. Since its approval by the community of Burbank in 2013, most of the projects earmarked for this bond are complete. There is one major remaining project - the Disney Elementary Two-Story Modular Building Project. This new building has eight new classrooms and restrooms and will open the campus up by providing more usable space.

The Roosevelt Project, which is now about 50% complete, will continue into the summer of 2022 with playground updates, updated ADA restrooms, and new access to those restrooms.

One of the last remaining projects is at Stevenson Elementary, which includes retrofitting the auditorium with air conditioning.

Burbank Unified School District has completed over 230 Measure S bond projects, managing and prioritizing its project list, resulting in almost all sites receiving some, if not most, of their planned site improvements. There is still more work to be done.

As this bond winds down, the District is evaluating the next phase in continued classroom modernizations, technology advancements, facility improvements, and continued replacement of aging infrastructure. These projects, in part, will consist of:

- Additional security and safety upgrades
- Technology upgrades
- HVAC improvements
- Expanded use of energy management software
- Door and lock hardware upgrades District-wide
- Asphalt replacement at several sites
- Extra fencing to enhance security.