



**Jan 6, 2023**

I hope that each of you enjoyed a happy and relaxing holiday season! We are very excited to have students and staff back for the start of the second semester. Prior to students returning, USD 289 teachers and staff participated in meaningful professional development sessions, which included the following topics: Researched Based Instructional Practices, Supporting All Students' Learning Needs, and Career and Technical Education Competencies and Alignment. The sessions were differentiated, and teachers were provided sessions in an area that was most meaningful to them based on their content and grade level.

### **Facilities Update**

The USD 289 bond project continues to move forward. Below are updated pictures of our project and status updates.

- New furniture was installed in the newly renovated middle school classroom over the break.
- The HS English classrooms, collab areas, Social Studies classrooms, and maker space are scheduled for completion in January.
- The new Wrestling Room / Weight Room has had a couple of minor delays due to circumstances involving HVAC materials and is now scheduled for completion in February.
- The remodeling of the HS office is scheduled to begin in January.

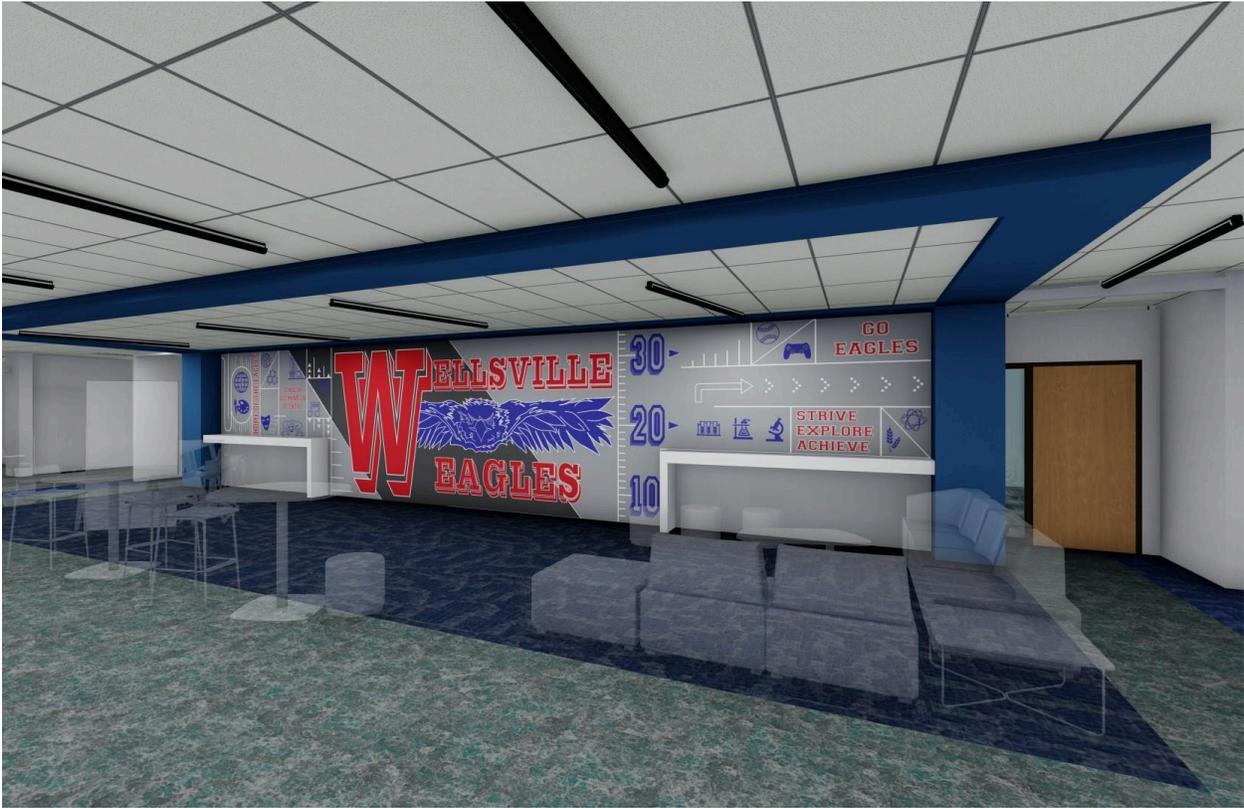
**New HS English Classrooms / Colab Area**



**New HS Social Studies Classrooms / Maker Space / Student Loung  
(This area was the old HS Library)**



## Graphic Rendering



## New MS Furniture



## **New MS Office Entrance**



## **Exciting Opportunity**

USD 289 is excited to announce that we have received a grant through the National Education Foundation. The grant is over \$180,000 and will allow USD 289 to increase the areas and offerings for students related to industry-recognized certifications and soft skills courses. This opportunity will include access to courses and learning content through SkillSoft, which is the same platform as 70% of Fortune 100 companies currently utilize. We are just at the beginning of the process and will be working on the best way to provide students access to these new and exciting resources over the next couple of months. These same resources can be used to support our staff as well. When we were initially notified about the opportunity, we were the first district in the state of Kansas to receive it! The grant is renewable for up to three years.

## **USD 289 Calendar**

The 2022-2023 calendar can be accessed at the link below. It is also available on the district website or school app. [USD 289 2022-2023 Calendar](#)

## **News and Announcements**

USD 289 news and announcements are posted on a variety of platforms. These begin with the district website and school app. You can download the district app by going to the district website and going to the bottom of the page, and clicking on the App Store or Google Play link. On both the website and app, the live feed section is a running tab of all the announcements, updates, etc. You can also contact the office in the building your child attends to be notified by text, email, phone, etc.

***It's A Great Day to Be An Eagle!***

