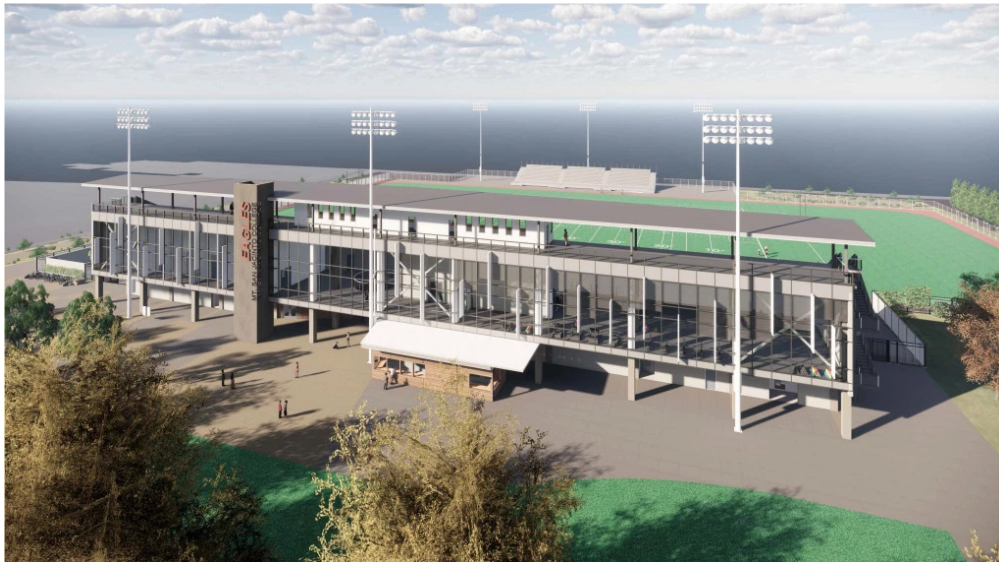


LOCAL NEWS

Mt. San Jacinto College constructing new buildings, stadium in Menifee and a full Temecula campus

The new and renovated buildings are scheduled to open between fall 2020 and 2024



Scheduled to open in 2023, Mt. San Jacinto College's Menifee Valley Campus is getting a new 5,000-seat stadium, seen in an artist's rendering. (Photo courtesy of Mt. San Jacinto College)

Over the next three and a half years, new and remodeled buildings will rise at Mt. San Jacinto College's San Jacinto and Menifee sites, while a full Temecula campus will open.

Nearly half a million feet of new construction or renovations will be coming, including the new Temecula Valley campus, STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Math) buildings at the San Jacinto and Menifee Valley campuses, a student center at the Menifee Valley campus and a new 5,000-seat stadium in Menifee.

"When you start to see drawings and conceptual layouts, that's when it starts to get real," Roger Schultz, MSJC's Superintendent and President said. "There's a lot going on simultaneously with all of the projects."

College officials unveiled the plans earlier this month.

In 2016, the college purchased a pair of five-story office buildings in Temecula. The buildings are now being renovated and scheduled to open for fall 2020 classes.

When completed, the Temecula Valley campus will include a learning resource center, bookstore, cafeteria, health center, veterans center, administrative and faculty offices and 22 classrooms, six laboratories and five computer classrooms.

The cost, including purchase and renovations, is expected to be \$100 million.

The San Jacinto and Menifee Valley campuses will get STEM buildings.

The \$49-million, 36,922 square foot, three-story building in San Jacinto is set to open in fall 2023. It will include classrooms and labs for anatomy and physiology, astronomy, biology, chemistry, geology math, microbiology, physics as well as faculty offices.

The \$53-million, 41,865-square-foot building in Menifee is expected to open in 2024. It will include laboratory and multi-use, computer-based instructional areas.

The two STEM buildings will be paid for, in part, from state Proposition 51 funds.

“Our faculty are excited to finally get facilities that reflect their needs in the classrooms,” Schultz said. “It’s not just the enhancement of a better classroom, it’s the enhancement of a better campus environment than we think will lead to better student success.”

The childcare center at the Menifee Valley campus is receiving a \$5 million renovation in spring to turn it into a student center. Expected to be completed by December 2020, the center will include a cafe, bookstore, multicultural center, student life facilities, a career and transfer center, a CalWORKS welfare office and facilities for international students.

And MSJC’s Eagles will have their own 5,000-seat stadium to play in at the Menifee campus in coming years. Construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2021 on the \$40-million venue, which should be completed in summer 2022. In addition to games and training, the stadium will host graduations and community events.

“It’s not just a high school football stadium,” Schultz said. “We wanted to make sure it had multi-use dimensions.”

Construction is being done with an eye toward disrupting students and staff as little as possible, according to Beth Gomez, the college’s vice president of business services. Officials plan to minimize the number of parking spaces and fences that are removed.

“When we flip the switch and open these buildings, it’s going to transform this campus,” Gomez said. “We haven’t had a new building on this campus for several decades.”
