



## Construction Timeline Update

September 21, 2018

The construction timeline for the Southwest Licking building project was adjusted at last night's special meeting (September 20, 2018). Although the design of the two new buildings will continue on schedule, obtaining the required approvals from local, state and federal entities to actually build the school buildings will need some additional time to complete. As a result, the pre-site work originally scheduled for this fall has been moved to the spring of 2019. You can check out the new timeline at: <http://www.swl.k12.oh.us/Downloads/New%20Construction%20Timeline.pdf>.

**Additional information: One of the issues the District is addressing at this time includes the securing of a Nationwide Permit (NWP).** A NWP is needed when a project is to be built on an area that infringes upon a wetland area – like ours. The NWP is issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and requires various entity approvals prior to being issued. One such entity needing to support the permit is the State Historic Preservation Office for Ohio (<https://www.ohiohistory.org/preserve/state-historic-preservation-office>). When our SWL team reached out to the State Historic Preservation Office, we were told that a Phase I Cultural Study would need to be completed because their past records showed that a few cultural resources had been previously found in the study area and they wanted to see if there were any additional items of interest present. After completing the requested Phase I study, the District was informed that over 390 artifacts were found on the property, ranging from arrowheads to flint pieces possibly dating back 9,000 to 11,000 years. As a result of this investigation, the State Historic Preservation Office is now requiring the District to perform a Phase II Cultural Study on the “areas of interest” defined in the Phase I study to determine their significance. When the Phase II study is finished, the findings will then be shared with the District and the State Historic Preservation Office for review. Based on what is discovered, the State Historic Preservation Officer will make a decision on whether a Phase III Cultural Study will be needed or if they will support the issuing of the NWP. Needless to say, the Phase II study will take time to complete and with the approaching winter season not too far away, the team felt it best to move the construction to the spring of 2019.