Maintenance projects to start next month at Antioch schools
Antioch School District 34 is planning to do more than just clean the classrooms this summer.

Projects that include paving a parking lot and partially replacing a roof will begin when school concludes June 2, District 34 Superintendent Jay Marino said. The work is expected to be finished a week or two before school resumes on Aug. 24.

Although the bidding process for many of the projects has not yet been completed, Marino estimated the cost for all of the scheduled work at $1.113 million.

A project at the district's largest campus will prevent further wear and tear to the schools' 55 buses by paving the gravel area where the vehicles are housed, Marino said.
At W.C. Petty Elementary, administrative offices and main entryways will get new carpet and a fresh coat of paint. Painting will also take place at Oakland Elementary, where a parking lot will be repaired and the main electrical equipment will get an upgrade, the superintendent said.

"Over time, we like to make upgrades to our infrastructure because of the ever-increasing use of technology," Marino said.

At Hillcrest Elementary, shingles with an expected life span of 15 years will be replaced after 11 years because of leaks, he said. Repairs on the roof will also be done above offices and the library at Antioch Upper Grade School.

At Antioch Elementary, the district's oldest building, steps at a parent drop-off area will be repaired and some hallways and classrooms will be painted, Marino said.

The superintendent said the work is typical to the annual maintenance the schools undergo each summer.

"That's maintenance that continues. We do things in phases," Marino said.

Yadira Sanchez Olson is a freelancer for the News-Sun