

## INSIDER BUSINESS

TRAVERSE CITY

# Mission Accomplished

*Team Elmer's completes West Middle School project*

**W**hen the Traverse City Area Public Schools (TCAPS) faced a complicated parking and traffic issue and a very tight deadline at one of its middle schools, the first call went to Team Elmer's.

For years, Traverse City West Middle School had encountered issues in and around its parking and entry/exit areas. The flow was confusing, crosswalks seemed to be amidst heavy car traffic, and buses backed up onto a nearby road – all while the region's traffic and student population continued to increase.

An improvement project was eventually funded through a TCAPS' millage renewal approved by the community in 2007, and officials got the final go-ahead earlier this year, leaving just seven weeks to complete the compli-

cated project before school was back in session.

The initial priority was to study and design the ideal site development plan, which was completed in concert with TCAPS and Gosling Czubak (engineers).

Once awarded the job through the public competitive bid process, Team Elmer's quickly deployed a large team of operators and heavy equipment to tackle the project.

Team Elmer's then cleared the site and prepared it for rebuilding, an effort that eventually included replacement of the main driveway, new roads to the sports area, a repaved bus drive, all-new parking areas, a stormwater retention system, a crosswalk, improved storm sewers and electrical, and a new traffic signal at the main entrance.

All told, Team Elmer's moved more than 40,000 cubic yards of dirt, installed over two miles of curbs and gutters, restored five acres of property – and finished the job with time to spare before the September school bell rang.

Administrators were pleased with the result.

"Team Elmer's did an amazing job," said TCAPS Director of Capital Projects Paul Mahon. "They utilized the right equipment every step of the way, hit the ground running, brought their A-game, and met every single deadline, no matter how unrealistic. We couldn't have done it without Elmer's."

Team Elmer's, a family owned company since 1966, specializes in site development, including excavation, earth moving, underground utility



Courtesy photo

**With a goal of providing a new traffic flow pattern and improved pedestrian walkways, Elmer's recently completed a major project at TC West Middle School.**

installation, retaining wall construction, directional boring, manhole rehabilitation, aggregate production, concrete ready-mix, asphalt installation (commercial and residential), milling and crane/rigging, among other spe-

cialties. Currently, the firm has grown to include over 300 skilled personnel.

For additional information about the project or Team Elmer's, call 231-943-3443 or e-mail [info@teamelmers.com](mailto:info@teamelmers.com).