

Case History: Plattsburgh Middle School, Plattsburgh, NY

Old “Slant Style” bleachers had to be discarded -- New Evergreen Bleachers™ took their place

Situation: Plattsburgh Middle School had very old “slant-style” bleachers. This type of bleacher is no longer manufactured and cannot be made code-compliant, because its open deck design has openings that a child could fall through.

However, this old fashioned type of bleacher did have a sturdy “four-horse” understructure (i.e., four vertical support columns for each section of bleachers).

The owner wanted the new replacement bleachers to be equally as strong and long-lasting-- he wanted another four-horse system, along with recycling of the existing



Fir boards and any steel parts that could be recycled.

The bleachers were removed and replaced with new Evergreen Bleachers™, with a four-horse system and closed deck. The existing Fir boards from the original bleachers were reused, after they were planed, edged, sanded and sealed for an “as-new” look.

Self-storing end safety rails, aisles with P-rails, ADA rails and the patented Century Design® “no-sag” system were installed to make the bleachers safe and meet applicable safety codes.

The new Evergreen Bleachers™ were also upgraded to full power operation. Removable pendant controls are used to open and close the bleachers.



The original “slant-style” bleachers in the Plattsburgh Middle School gym. This old-fashioned design is sturdy, but its open-deck design has large gaps when opened.



Original Fir boards showed decades of wear-and-tear, yet were of good quality and thick enough to be refinished to like-new condition.

Same bleachers at a different school



Photo of the same kind of “slant-style” bleachers shows the open deck system. Large gaps on each side of footboard have been described as “an accident waiting to happen.” This outmoded type of bleachers does not meet safety codes and must be replaced with a closed deck system.



After the Fir lumber was removed for refinishing, the original understructure was dismantled.



Removal down to bare walls is complete.



Evergreen Bleachers™ understructure being installed. Owner wanted to continue with a “four-horse” system for durability and longevity.



After the understructure was anchored to the wall, new footboards (painted gray) are installed.



After footboards are attached, heelboards are installed. The new bleachers will have a “closed deck” design, with no gaps that can present a safety hazard.



Bleacherman crew member installing newly refinished risers and seats. All the original Fir lumber was reused, for a fraction of the cost of new lumber.



New motorized drive with ballast blocks on each side is attached at row one. New bleachers will open at the touch of a button, instead of being manually operated.



Two motorized drives can be seen on this bank of bleachers. The nosebeam and first row seats will be attached later.



P-rails and ADA rails are installed. First row seat boards and noseboards are yet to be installed in this photo.



Removable pendant controls for motorized drive are a safety feature -- only authorized maintenance personnel can open and close the bleachers.



Photo shows seat-level aisles with demountable first row step. In addition to providing better ingress/egress, these aisles provide support for the Century Design® system that is installed at the aisles.



Patented Century Design® "no-sag" system uses seat-level runners at the ends of the bleachers, and intermediate steps at the aisleways.



Showing end safety rails and Century Design® system at end of bleachers.



End safety rails and P-rails are self-storing -- they remain mounted in place when the bleachers are in the closed position.



Photo shows one bank in open position. Note demountable first row step at aisleway. All intermediate steps have non-skid tape.



Pads for ADA safety rails. Logo artwork imprint of school mascot insignia is provided courtesy of the Bleacherman.



Removable padding for both ADA rails and P-rails is seen in this photo.

To see another case history of a similar situation -- where the Bleacherman replaced old "slant-style" bleachers with new Evergreen™ Bleachers -- go to the case history for Pickering Middle School, in the case history section of Bleacherman.com.