Students have already started to move into City College's new Science Building, which have spacious, well-equipped labs for the physical and life sciences. *SDCCD*

The four-story science building will provide City College with modern laboratories and classrooms for the physical and life sciences, as well as a planetarium that will be used for classes and public shows.
"With the high demand for classes in the sciences, the expanded capacity will provide additional opportunities for students to complete their degree and transfer requirements on schedule," said Lynn Neault, interim president of City College, which is part of the San Diego Community College District.

"With its spaciousness and abundance of natural indoor lighting, the building creates an inspirational learning environment, including a hands-on outdoor teaching garden. I'm not sure who was more thrilled on opening day, the students or the faculty."

Wednesday's opening will begin at 10 a.m. with speeches from executives, who will talk about how the district raised public money to build the center at the corner of B and 16th streets.

City College is in the midst of adding seven major buildings and renovating nine others, expansion that's expected to enable the college to increase its attendance from 16,900 to 25,000 by 2024. The $475 million make-over and expansion was launched because the college has cramped, aging buildings, many which lack modern equipment, especially the chemistry and biology labs, and the campus television studio. The science building is opening next to a soon-to-be completed Business Technology center that will, with other space, position the college to better train students for jobs in science, technology, health care and engineering.

Lisa Will, an astrophysics professor, said, "We are very happy to be in our new building. The faculty and staff of the Physical Sciences and Biology departments were deeply involved in the design of the classrooms and laboratories, and we spent countless hours picking the best equipment for the students of City College. It's been exciting to see the response of our students."

The boom extends to other campuses. The district is preparing to open a $110 million, 206,000 square foot Math-Science Building at Mesa College. The building is the largest and most expensive building the district has ever built.

"When our District put Proposition N before the voters, one of the top priorities was an investment in science education," said district Chancellor Constance M. Carroll. "I am proud to see this new state-of-the-art science building at City College with the very best equipment for student instruction."