

Band Together

Despite Cuts, Music Class Restored to Junior High

Boise, Idaho

COMMERCIAL PROJECT OF THE YEAR FINALIST

The foundation of the Boise North Junior High's band classroom was settling, causing it to separate from the rest of the building. An engineering firm made the foundation repair plan and they selected Idaho Concrete Lifting to make the repair using ECP's helical piers.

The foundation had to be excavated to expose the footings so the repair could be made. After the footings were exposed, Idaho Concrete Lifting (ICL) marked the foundation for the specified pier layout and the footing was trimmed flush with the foundation wall where the piers would be placed. The team then installed (13) 2-7/8" light wall helical piers with a 10"/12" helical configuration using large utility brackets to stabilize the foundation. The piers were then load tested and the lifting cylinders were removed after the jam nuts were secured. The area was then back filled and compacted as preparation for the landscape repairs.

After the foundation was excavated, everybody discovered the foundation was much larger than the engineering firm originally anticipated. The footing was 18 inches thick and extended 12 to 14 inches beyond the stem wall. This created an issue for trimming the footing to be flush with said stem wall. They couldn't get the drill close enough chip the footings and the hot saw could only cut 6 inches deep.

After evaluating the foundation, the Idaho Concrete Lifting team decided to plunge cut the foundation using the full 6-inch depth the saw could reach. After the cuts were made they used the SDS max chipping hammer to chisel pieces off. Then, they would come back in with the saw and plunge cut the next 6 inches. They repeated this process until the footing was trimmed. Once they had the footing trimmed up to the stem wall, they used a HEPA grinder with a diamond cup wheel to finish the surface and create a perfect fit for the bracket to connect to the foundation.