

PUBLIC EDUCATION



WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FY2004-2010

1. BACKGROUND ISSUES

The Wake County Public School system is projected to grow by about 3000 students a year. By 2020, updated student population projections show an additional 56,000 students in the school system. An aggressive building program, Plan 2000, is currently underway to provide facilities to accommodate projected growth through 2004. The building program also includes funds to repair and renovate existing schools. Currently underway is planning for the next building program phase, Plan 2004. A bond referendum to support this next building phase is scheduled to be voted on by the citizens of Wake County in Fall 2003.

Plan 2000

A 31 member Citizens Advisory Committee for School Facilities Planning and Funding submitted their findings to the County in April 2000. The recommendations of this committee were incorporated into a new building program phase, Plan 2000. The total funding for Plan 2000 is \$550 million, with \$500 million funded through general obligation bonds. In this building program is the construction of 14 new schools to accommodate the 111,465 students expected in our schools by 2004. Plan 2000 includes extensive renovations to 32 schools and provides needed maintenance and repair to 61 other schools. Also included in the building plan is funding for technology infrastructure, deferred maintenance, energy compliance, and code compliance. The plan includes \$20 million for planning and design work for the next phase of the long-range building program.

Plan 2004

The long range financing and debt model for the County includes funding for a \$472 million from pay-as-you go funding and bond proceeds from a planned referendum in Fall 2003. A dedicated funding source has been

planned so that issuing \$450,000 in bonds results in no increase in the property tax rate. However, a decision has not yet been made as to the size and scope of the next phase of the building program. In April 2003, the Board of Education presented the Board of Commissioners a priority list of projects, totaling \$867 million. This listing includes 21 new schools, major renovations to 19 schools, and maintenance and repairs to other campuses. Updated population projections show that from 2004 to 2008 there will be just over 12,000 new students, bringing the total student population to just under 124,000 students. Additionally, a recently completed facility assessment has identified areas for repair and improvements.

2. PROGRAM & FACILITY GOALS

The primary goals shaping the long-range building program are:

- Provide permanent seats for at least 92 percent of students
- Ensure the health and safety of children
- Protect the existing assets and provide life cycle replacements

3. COMPREHENSIVE FACILITY PLAN

Plan 2000

The Citizens Advisory Committee explored feasible and affordable solutions for school over-crowding. The committee identified the following Plan 2000 goals: Meet classroom needs first; reduce use of mobile units from 13 percent of the student population down to nine percent of the student population; use more efficient construction methods and reuse existing building plans; open more year-round schools; and, have no increase in taxes to build and improve schools.

Plan 2004

The Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education are continuing to determine the scope and magnitude of the next phase of the long range building program.

4. SEVEN-YEAR CIP PROGRAM SUMMARY

The seven-year plan includes \$897 million to improve school facilities. Of the \$500 million Plan 2000 bond funds all bonds have been sold. Other Plan 2000 funds include pay-as-you-go funds, including interest earnings, state capital building funds, and capital fund balance. All projects included in this building program are scheduled for completion by 2006. An additional \$450 million in bond funds is planned for in the next building phase with an additional \$28 million coming from other sources through 2009.

5. PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY2003

Project accomplishments through 2003 include:

- Seven of the 14 new schools are complete or nearly complete
- Twenty of the thirty five major renovation projects are complete or nearly complete
- Forty three of the sixty one system wide improvement projects are complete or nearly complete.
- Numerous other smaller projects complete
- Construction on-going for six new schools to open in 2005 (with the net of one additional elementary school, funded by an earlier building program to also open in 2005)
- Major renovations at nine schools to be completed in 2004

The Wake County Public School System uses new facilities to house students from existing schools when the renovations of an existing school is so extensive (or unable to be phased) that it is not feasible for the students to remain at the existing school. For the upcoming school year, new

schools opening will house the student populations of existing schools as follows:

New School Building Completed	School Being Renovated
Cedar Fork Elementary	Kingswood Elementary
Salem Middle	Apex Middle

During 2003, Holly Ridge Middle accommodated the students from Fuquay Varina Middle and Holly Ridge Elementary housed the Apex Elementary school population. Holly Ridge Elementary and Middle will open in August 2003 to its own base student population.

The student population of East Cary Middle School will permanently move to Reedy Creek Middle at the beginning of the 2003-04 school year. The East Cary facility will be renovated during 2003-04 and will open in 2004-05 as a 9th grade center for Cary High School. This school will serve as a ninth grade center for two years until new high school facilities are constructed to relieve crowding at Cary High.

In 2004-05 Carpenter Village Elementary will open as a ninth grade center for Green Hope High School. As is the case for Cary High, this ninth grade center will be in use for two years until new high school space can be constructed. For the 2006-07 school year, Carpenter Village will open as a new year round elementary school.

6. FY2004 PROJECT ACTIVITY SUMMARY

For FY2004 construction activity will continue with the next of seven new schools opening for the 2004-05 school year. Nine major renovations will be completed during 2004. In addition, 18 system wide improvement projects will be complete

7. SUMMARY OF FUTURE PHASES (FY 2005-2010)

A favorable bidding environment along with lower than planned inflation rates has resulted in Plan 2000 project costs lower than originally anticipated. Future projects which would have been funded in a future building program phase may potentially be funded from these savings. The Wake County Public School System continues to evaluate project savings, and when identified, the Board of Education requests the Board of Commissioners to approve the use of these funds for other priority projects identified by the Board of Education.

8. OPERATING IMPACT

The incremental impact on the operating budget is based on facility maintenance housekeeping and utilities at \$4.25 per square foot. Personnel costs associated with increased enrollment are not calculated here since many of these costs occur whether or not the new school is built.

9. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

School sites are coordinated with planning for parks, libraries and other county facilities.

10. ILLUSTRATIONS



Broughton High School (Renovation Project)



Holly Ridge Elementary (New)



Holly Ridge Middle School (New)



Salem Middle School (New)

WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

11. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

PART I. EXPENDITURES	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	TOTAL
WAKE CO. PUBLIC SCHOOLS PLAN 2000	\$19,662,804	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,662,804
WAKE CO. PUBLIC SCHOOLS FUTURE PROJECTS	\$0	\$155,100,000	\$155,300,000	\$160,100,000	\$9,400,000	\$204,200,000	\$193,400,000	\$877,500,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$19,662,804	\$155,100,000	\$155,300,000	\$160,100,000	\$9,400,000	\$204,200,000	\$193,400,000	\$897,162,804
PART II. FUNDING SOURCES	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	TOTAL
GO Bonds Already Approved	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GO Bonds Proposed		\$150,000,000	\$150,000,000	\$150,000,000	\$0	\$175,000,000	\$175,000,000	\$800,000,000
Two-Thirds Bonds								\$0
Pay As You Go	\$6,200,000	\$0	\$0	\$4,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$23,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$49,200,000
Other Funds	\$13,462,804	\$5,100,000	\$5,300,000	\$5,600,000	\$5,900,000	\$6,200,000	\$6,400,000	\$47,962,804
TOTAL	\$19,662,804	\$155,100,000	\$155,300,000	\$160,100,000	\$9,400,000	\$204,200,000	\$193,400,000	\$897,162,804
PART III. OPERATING IMPACT	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	TOTAL
Total Operating Cost	\$4,000,000	\$5,994,000	^*	^*	^*	^*		\$9,994,000