

Auxiliary Adviser

"Providing Services That Power Education"

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Growth Management Proposal Released Dec. 12

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Office of Growth Management will release the 2006-07 growth management proposal to fill the five new year-round elementary schools and two new high schools opening next year. The draft proposal will be posted on the school system's website at www.wcpss.net, and will also be available at the WCPSS Customer Service Center and at each school.

The public will have two weeks to comment:

- Online,
- By e-mail to studentassignment@wcpss.net,
- By writing to the Office of Growth Management, Wake County Public School System, 3600 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh, NC 27609, or
- By leaving a message on the Office of Growth Management hotline at 501-7998.

Growth Management will review the feedback and incorporate input where possible before presenting the plan to the Board of Education in February. Even after the plan is presented to the school board, the public will have additional time for input. The board will hold public hearings and a work session before adopting the final plan in late March or early April.

AUXILIARY SERVICES DIVISION

Vision

Providing Services That Power
Education

Mission Statement

Provide quality facilities and
support services to ensure safe,
healthy, inviting and optimal
learning environments.

Goals

- 1) Recruit, develop and retain a
qualified and high quality
workforce.
- 2) Provide and maintain quality
facilities and support
services that result in a safe
and healthy learning
environment.
- 3) Effectively communicate
successes, challenges and
needs.

Finding The Right Mix: Building New Schools and Designating Schools as Year-Round

The Wake County Public School System is expected to gain 7,000 new students next year, bringing total enrollment to 127,513. WCPSS is projected to add 40,000 students in five years and 72,000 by 2015. This incredible growth, on top of existing overcrowding and rising construction costs, means that Wake County schools are short 15,000 classroom seats today, and will need another 58,000 seats by 2010 and another 91,000 seats by 2015.

How did we get to this point? Let me set the stage.

- Since the current building program (PLAN 2004) was developed a few years ago, the enrollment projection for 2008-09 has gone up 18,800 students and the projection for 2013-14 has increased by 41,000 students.
- This school year, more than 16 percent of our students are in mobile or modular classrooms systemwide. At the elementary school level, one in four students are in mobile/modulars. Mobile and modular classrooms still provide a good learning environment – that's not the issue. The issue is that the overwhelming number of units overtaxes a campus' core spaces, such as the media center, cafeteria and bathrooms.

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WCPSS' goal is to have eight percent of students in mobile or modular classrooms by 2012. (You don't want to completely get rid of the units because they provide the district some flexibility.)

Recognizing that there are only a few places remaining where we could add mobile/modulars, school system staff looked at providing classroom seats through various combinations of new construction and increasing capacity at existing schools by designating them as year-round.

Although converting schools to the year-round calendar alone won't solve our crowding problems, they can house approximately 20 to 30 percent more students than schools on a traditional schedule because three of four groups of students are in session and one group is on break at any given time. Also, the more year-round schools we designate, the fewer new schools we'll need to build.

Construction costs have risen dramatically since PLAN 2004 was created. This is a volatile time in the construction business. With the reconstruction effort in the Gulf Coast, there's an increased demand for labor and supplies. In late 2002/early 2003, a new elementary school cost approximately \$12.3 million, a middle school cost \$22.1 million, and a high school cost \$36.2 million. Now, those costs have risen 60 to 90 percent.

The sample scenarios cover 2007-2015 – meaning multiple bond cycles – and include money for renovations to Wake's 139 existing schools. In January or February, school board members and county commissioners will determine the amount of the next school construction bond, planned for November 2006.

There are an infinite number of combinations, but the five examples below give the school board and county commissioners a starting point for finding the right mix.

Scenario 1

The first scenario involves designating the maximum number of elementary and middle schools to the year-round calendar, including magnets, at a cost of \$4.2 billion. WCPSS could designate 91 schools as year-round; 10 schools are not large enough to offer multi-track year-round. Even designating the maximum number, WCPSS would still need to build 50 new schools.

Scenario 2

Under scenario 2, WCPSS would maintain the current percentage of year-round elementary and middle schools (12 percent) by adding groupings of two to three elementary schools with a middle school. At \$5.6 billion, Wake would designate one middle school as year-round and build 91 schools, with a significant number of those on the year-round calendar.

Scenario 3

Scenario 3 would designate a sufficient number of elementary and middle schools to year-round to relieve crowding in 2007-2009. For approximately \$5 billion, WCPSS would designate 73 year-round schools and build 78 schools on the traditional calendar.

Scenario 4

Scenario 4 is similar to scenario 3 with the exception that the new schools would open on the year-round calendar. For \$4.3 billion, WCPSS would designate 73 year-round schools and build 52 new, mainly year-round, schools.

Scenario 5

Scenario 5 is an iteration of the first scenario, designating the maximum number of year-round elementary and middle schools, but reserving approximately 10 schools for traditional calendar options. For \$4.2 billion, WCPSS would designate 79 multi-track year-round schools and build 52 schools.

There is now an ATM at Rock Quarry! The machine is located in the Facilities Building, near Child Nutrition Services' offices.

Charlie Tart Retires After Almost 20 Years With WCPSS

Charlie Tart retired from the school system November 30 after almost 20 years with the county. He was a multi-tasked employee (MTE) for the Broughton Cluster, which is in the Central Region. Tart's friends in the Broughton Cluster threw him a retirement luncheon at the Golden Corral last month to tell him he'd be missed and to wish him luck on his future endeavors.

"Charlie was a great asset to our program," said Les Ellis, Tart's supervisor for the last two years. "I really enjoyed working with him."

Tart lives in Garner and hopes to do some fishing and traveling during his retirement.

October Employee Excellence Awards

Ten Wake County Public School System employees were recognized by the Board of Education with Employee Excellence Awards at the board's Oct. 18 meeting. Three of the 10 employees are from the Auxiliary Services Division: Henry Ward, Head Custodian at Pleasant Union Elementary; Valerie Matthews, Cafeteria Manager at Dillard Drive Middle; and Lalonna J. Griffin, Senior Administrator with Facilities Planning & Construction.

The Employee Excellence Awards were created to recognize Wake County school employees for their hard work and providing one of the country's top-performing school districts. Employees are nominated for the honor and selected by a committee.

Apprenticeship Program

The Auxiliary Services' Apprenticeship Program was officially registered as a certified apprenticeship program by the N.C. Department of Labor, Nov. 22. This means WCPSS' program and graduates can be recognized as certified apprentices.

"We are particularly proud of this accomplishment because no other organization of which we are aware – including no other school system – is certified to offer apprenticeship credentials to candidates with job descriptions that compare to our multi-tasked employees and area facility managers," said Beth Ann Williams, training specialist with WCPSS Organizational Development. "Once again, the Wake County Public School System proves itself to be a national leader!"

WCPSS has more than 60 active area facility managers and multi-tasked employees enrolled in the program. The hope is that earning nationally recognized credentials will lead to pay increases in the future.

Architectural Firm Wins National Award for Heritage Middle Design

The architectural firm that designed Heritage Middle School was selected first place winner of the 2005 Exemplary Sustainable Building Awards by the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council. Innovative Design in Raleigh won the national award for the energy- and water-efficient, environmentally sound school.

Heritage Middle incorporates a rainwater collection system to save water, extensive daylighting to reduce lighting needs, a wetlands area to minimize runoff from entering nearby streams, a solar thermal system that heats water for the cafeteria, schoolwide recycling, and utilizes green products and materials.

Three WCPSS Board of Education Members Retire

After devoting more than 25 years of combined service to the Wake County Board of Education, board members Bill Fletcher, Kathryn Watson Quigg and Amy White were honored at the Dec. 6 board meeting.

For the full article, go to: http://www.wcpss.net/news/2005_board-members_leave/.

CNS and EnergySavers in the News

The November 15 Newspapers in Education insert in the News & Observer dedicated two pages to WCPSS Child Nutrition Services' and EnergySavers' conservation and recycling efforts. Last school year, CNS paid \$340,000 to recycle 94,000 pounds of aluminum cans and plastic bottles, and 257,347 pounds of #6 polystyrene in Wake schools. EnergySavers' mascot, Power Dude, also shared tips for conserving energy.

For more information on NIE, go to www.newsobserver.com/nie.

Celebrate Support Conference Appreciated

Dear Support Advisory Committee:

Thank you so much for the wonderful conference yesterday! This was my first time to attend, and I must say that I enjoyed every bit of the program. Lunch was a treat, the vendors were informative, the speakers were excellent, the video outstanding, the collegiality affirming, and the entire afternoon was a great boost! It is reassuring to know that Wake County is supporting its support staff. I returned to my school today energized and excited knowing that my efforts and those efforts of others like myself are appreciated on many levels.

Thank you again for all your hard work and making my day a great one!

Sincerely yours,

Cindy Bazemore
Media Assistant, Ligon GT Magnet Middle School

Warding Off Winter's Chill

Christina Larkins, Resource Management Administrator, Organizational Development

When cold winds blow this winter, consumers are going to have to pay more to keep their homes warm. This is true for the Wake County Public School System, too. That makes energy conservation an important goal.

Crude oil prices have climbed to more than \$57 a barrel, making heating oil, natural gas and propane more expensive this year.

The only way to combat the higher prices is to try to use fuel as efficiently as possible. The WCPSS community has to start thinking differently than it has been.

The EnergySavers staff members are urging you to take steps now to prepare your facilities for winter so WCPSS doesn't suffer price shocks in January and February, when the highest bills come in.

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The first step is to do everything possible to keep heat from escaping from your facility. This alone can save 10 percent or more on the energy bill. Keeping ALL doors and windows closed, including those in the mobile units, is the best way to tackle this issue.

The following tips will save energy and help your school's utility budget too!

- Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms.
- Turn off computers, printers and other equipment at the end of each day.
- Implement an energy awareness program to encourage your facility's staff, faculty and students to change their energy behavior and adopt permanent energy-saving habits for school and home.
- Don't block your sensors, radiators or heating vents with posters, furniture or draperies. Keep your radiators, registers and baseboard heaters dirt- and dust-free.
- Keep shades and curtains open during the day to allow solar heating. Close your curtains and shades at night to retain heat.

Source for oil price: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/5612507/>.

Mark Your Calendar

WCPSS Winter Break
Dec. 23 – Jan. 1

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
Jan. 16

Upcoming Training

Mazie Smith, Director, Organizational Development

In our training program, we focus on keeping you **safe** as you perform your work duties. In the coming year, our focus is going to shift a bit to keeping you **healthy** as well. Coming up in February, the Risk Management Committee will conduct a month-long program of activities focusing on healthy hearts. Also on tap is the creation of a Crisis Management Team here at Rock Quarry, which we hope to customize to deal with many different types of issues and areas of risk. The EnergySavers team is also going to kick off a program in February called IAQ (Indoor Air Quality) "Tools for Schools," which is an educational program aimed at keeping our indoor air quality clean and safe. More information about all of these programs is forthcoming.

At this sometimes stressful, sometimes depressing time of year, it is important that we keep both our bodies and our **minds** safe and healthy. Medical research shows that people who are suffering from stress tend to have higher incidents of heart disease, more accidents, and catch more colds and viruses. This month's training issue in N.C. State University's *Hot Links* Newsletter is about how to handle stress before it handles you. Below are some tips from Gregory P. Smith, the article's author and CEO of Chart Your Course International.

- Realize that it is impossible to get everything done.
- Remember that you have a life outside of the job.
- Take care of your body.
- Stagger your tasks.
- Take time to be efficient.
- Take a day off.
- Know how you work best.
- Do something.
- Deal with frustrations one piece at a time.
- Determine the source of your stress.

Training Schedule

Computers/Technical/American Red Cross

Supervisors' OSHA Workshop:

Dollar Side of Safety

Dec. 13

8 a.m. – 12 noon

Garner Training Center

SRN: 259001601

IR Security and Safety Exit Device

And Door Closer Class

Dec. 14

8 – 11 a.m.

Garner Training Center

SRN: 259013103

IR Security and Safety Exit Device

And Door Closer Class

Dec. 14

1 – 4 p.m.

Garner Training Center

SRN: 259013104

CPD: Back Injury Prevention

Dec. 15

10 a.m. – 12 noon

Crossroads II

SRN:259016601

CPD: Back Injury Prevention

Dec. 15

1 – 3 p.m.

Crossroads II

SRN: 259016602

IR Security and Safety Exit Device

And Door Closer Class

Dec. 15

8 – 11 a.m.

Garner Training Center

SRN: 259013105

IR Security and Safety Exit Device

And Door Closer Class

Dec. 15

1 – 4 p.m.

Garner Training Center

SRN: 259013106

MAXIMO

MAXIMO Equipment Training

(for M&O staff)

Dec. 14

1 – 4 p.m. (AS90062)

Rock Quarry Road Training Center

MAXIMO Handheld Training

(for M&O staff)

Dec. 15

Starts at 8:30 a.m. (all-day)

(AS90145)

Rock Quarry Road Training Center

MAXIMO Everywhere Training

(for school-users only)

Jan. 11

10 – 11 a.m. (AS90063)

Rock Quarry Road Training Center

CPD stands for Custodial Professional Development.

To sign up for MAXIMO classes, contact Petra Harris (pharris2@wcpss.net or 856-8128) or register through eSchools. To register for all other classes, go to <https://ero3.eschoolsolutions.com/user/login.taf?orgID=42358&userID=&PIN=&function>. Enter your user ID=SS# and Pin=last four digits of your SS#. If you have questions, please contact Beth Ann Williams (bwilliams2@wcpss.net or 856-8018).

Stay Informed

The *Auxiliary Adviser* is e-mailed to subscribers in the school system and posted on the Internet. A hard copy of the *Adviser* is sent to the head custodian and child nutrition staff at each school. To have the newsletter e-mailed to you directly, simply send an e-mail with "subscribe" in the subject line, to kflenniken@wcpss.net.

