



BLUEPRINT FOR EXCELLENCE 2006

On Nov. 7, Wake County voters will decide whether to invest in a \$970 million school bond that will ease crowding in schools and provide classrooms for thousands of additional children moving into Wake County by 2010.

The bond is critical because:

- WCPSS gained 7,568 new students for 2006-07, for a total enrollment of 128,072 (official 20th day numbers). This is more than every man, woman and child in the Town of Knightdale.
- Estimates show WCPSS gaining 40,000 students by the year 2010, bringing total enrollment to more than 160,000.
- Relative to goals established by the school board, WCPSS is short 15,000 classroom seats today, and will need 58,000 seats by 2010.
- WCPSS's older schools need renovation to ensure they are quality places for children to learn.

Why are people moving here?

- In 2005 alone, Wake County, Raleigh or the school system were included in 27 "Best of" lists across the United States.
- WCPSS outperforms all of the other major school systems on virtually every indicator in North Carolina, at a local cost per student below most other urban and neighboring districts.

The bond will help:

- Build 17 new schools (11 elementary, 4 middle and 2 high) to open in 2008-2011
- Transition 19 elementary schools to the multi-track year-round calendar to gain 3,000 seats in 2007-08
- Transition 3 middle schools to the multi-track year-round calendar and add mobile/modular classrooms to gain 2,000 seats in 2007-08
- Acquire land and proceed with design startup for 13 future schools to open in 2011-2013
- Cover major renovations at 13 schools (8 elementary, 2 middle and 3 high)
- Address repair and maintenance projects (roofs, air conditioning systems, boilers, etc.) at nearly 100 campuses
- Replace old, outdated computers in schools

\$1.056 B Capital Program financed through:

- \$970 M in general obligation school construction bonds
- \$86 M in cash (pay-as-you-go) funding

Innovative measures for providing classrooms already in place:

- Adaptive re-use (Lufkin Road Middle in American Sterilizer Co. Plant, River Oaks Middle in Hedingham Office Complex, new elementary school in Bepak facility, and Wakefield 9th-grade center in old Winn Dixie)
- Ninth-grade centers (2 in place in 2004-05 and another or 6 will open between 2006 and 2008)
- Mobile/modular units (WCPSS had more than 1,000 mobile/modular classrooms in 2005-06 and is adding another 100 for 2006-07)
- "Early start" campuses (3 modular schools opened in 2005-06, 1 elementary school began in an unused wing of a new high school for 2006-07)
- Public-private partnerships (WCPSS is considering this measure that the N.C. General Assembly approved in July 2006)