



Wake County Public Schools 2026/27 CIP

Planning for the future

December 2025

Enrollment - Historical Context

1980's-2019 (Pre-Covid)- WCPSS historically had enrollment growth that forced us to utilize mobile classrooms (MCRs, trailers) and an aggressive “new school build” program to accommodate the large number of new students enrolling each year.

2020-current- As enrollment begins to level out, more focus can now be placed on renovating existing buildings and reducing the use of mobile classrooms on campuses.

Areas of Focus

- Less focus on new school builds (as much as possible)
- More focus on renovations of existing schools
- Reduce mobile classroom inventory
- Explore efficiency opportunities for current Facilities and Programs

Less Focus on New School Builds

How we can accomplish this:

- Pursue small scale student reassignments to utilize available capacity at proximate schools
- Pursue calendar conversions to multi-track year-round in areas with high growth or lack of available existing capacity
- Recommend opening all new elementary and middle schools on multi-track year-round calendar

More Focus on Renovations

How we can accomplish this:

- Utilize funding from reduction of new school builds
- Increase swing space options to be more equitably distributed across the district
- Utilize funding from Program Requirements
- Strategically plan projects in accordance with Life Cycle, Primp or Snap projects to maximize funding sources

Reduce Mobile Classrooms

How we can accomplish this:

- Identify schools with ample capacity in low/no growth areas
- Identify opportunities for schools to be more efficient with brick and mortar space
- When appropriate and cost efficient, add flexible capacity to buildings during renovation projects
- Explore opportunities to relocate services operating out of mobile units to other district facilities

Explore efficiency opportunities for current Facilities and Programs

How we can accomplish this:

- Working within Policy 4150, identify proximate schools that have available capacity
- Explore opportunities to create available proximate capacity by introducing more efficient uses of our existing facilities
- Continue seeking non-traditional real-estate opportunities in areas that no longer meet our current program standards

New School Building Options

School or Program Item	Scheduled Completion										
		FY 25	Year 0 FY 26	Year 1 FY 27	Year 2 FY 28	Year 3 FY 29	Year 4 FY 30	Year 5 FY 31	Year 6 FY 32	Year 7 FY 33	
Calendar Year		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	
New Schools											
Morrisville HS (Davis Dr./ Little Dr.)	2027		30,379,000								
Parkside MS/ WECIB (Paramount Parkway)	2029		76,221,000	55,122,344							
Marshburn Road ES	2029	5,500,000			70,326,227						
Poole Rd ES (E-28)	2030			5,500,000		65,876,944	10,000,000				
New ES (TBD-1) *Will need to name	2032					7,000,000		81,104,026			
New ES (TBD-2)	2033						7,000,000		85,104,026		
New MS (TBD-3)	2035								9,100,000	60,100,000	
New HS (TBD-4)	2037									16,440,000	
New Schools Subtotal		5,500,000	106,600,000	60,622,344	70,326,227	72,876,944	17,000,000	81,104,026	94,204,026	76,540,000	

- The future Morrisville HS will first open as a swing space for WECIB HS this January
- Parkside MS/WECIB is in the design phase
- Marshburn ES is in the design phase
- Poole Rd ES is in the consultant RFQ phase
- New TBD-1 is the only new school we will need to name in this CIP effort

Renovation Options

School or Program Item	Scheduled Completion	Calendar Year									
		FY 25	Year 0 FY 26	Year 1 FY 27	Year 2 FY 28	Year 3 FY 29	Year 4 FY 30	Year 5 FY 31	Year 6 FY 32	Year 7 FY 33	
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	
Existing Schools											
North Garner MS	2027	51,719,364	56,275,913								
Lockhart ES	2027		51,500,000	17,602,243							
Brentwood ES	2027		42,700,000	25,047,485							
Athens Drive HS	2028			74,798,947	2,000,000						
Briarcliff ES	2028	5,555,000		66,000,000	4,535,522						
East Garner MS	2029	5,500,000			74,400,000	2,352,573					
Ligon MS	2029	7,293,468			69,500,000	63,900,111					
Cary HS	2030			6,300,000		92,000,000	21,000,000				
Wendell ES	2031				6,500,000		81,091,906				
Existing School TBD 1	*Will need to name	2032				6,300,000		53,918,842			
Existing School TBD 2	*Will need to name	2032			14,400,000		100,407,000	100,407,000			
Existing School TBD 3		2033					6,300,000		53,000,000	23,800,000	
Existing School TBD 4		2033					8,850,000		58,797,500	58,797,500	
Existing School TBD 5		2035							6,300,000		
Existing School TBD 6		2035							6,300,000		
Existing School TBD 7		2035							6,500,000		
Existing School TBD 8		2037								6,500,000	
Existing School TBD 9		2037									
Existing School TBD 10		2037									
Existing Schools Subtotal		70,067,832	150,475,913	189,748,675	171,335,522	164,552,684	217,648,906	154,325,842	130,897,500	89,097,500	

Renovation Options

Schools in Bid/Award Phase

Lockhart ES
Brentwood ES

Schools in Design Phase

North Garner MS
Athens Drive HS
Briarcliff ES
East Garner MS
Ligon MS

Schools in Consultant RFQ Phase

Cary HS

Existing Schools and Swing Space:

- Off-site swings: We currently utilize Garner 9th Grade Center & Spring Forest
- On-site swings: One swing is ideal, but multiple construction phases (multiple swings) are disruptive and costly
- Additional off-site swing locations are needed

Program Requirements

School or Program Item	Scheduled Completion	Year									
		FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 30	FY 31	FY 32	FY 33	
Calendar Year		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	
Program Requirements- Debt Funded											
Life Cycle Building Components		39,970,000	45,900,000	46,800,000	48,700,000	50,000,000	50,700,000	52,200,000	53,661,600	55,164,125	
Life Cycle Furniture		2,200,000	2,300,000	2,400,000	2,500,000	2,600,000	2,600,000	2,700,000	2,775,600	2,853,317	
Educational Equipment		3,931,818	4,000,000	4,200,000	4,300,000	4,400,000	4,600,000	4,700,000	4,831,600	4,966,885	
Envirnomenta/ ADA		1,200,000	1,200,000	1,300,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,500,000	1,542,000	1,585,176	
Temporary Classrooms/ Mobiles		2,913,161	3,000,000	3,100,000	3,200,000	3,300,000	3,300,000	3,400,000	3,495,200	3,593,066	
Partial Renovation Improvement Projects- PRIMP		17,980,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	25,100,000	35,800,000	36,900,000	37,900,000	38,961,200	40,052,114	
Program Contingency		9,516,351	10,900,000	10,100,000	10,900,000	11,100,000	12,100,000	12,500,000	12,850,000	13,209,800	
Program Management		9,516,351	10,900,000	10,100,000	10,900,000	11,100,000	12,100,000	12,500,000	12,850,000	13,209,800	
Program Requirements- Cash Funded											
Technology Devices		26,500,000	27,300,000	28,100,000	29,000,000	29,800,000	30,700,000	31,700,000	32,587,600	33,500,053	
Technology Infrastructure		7,100,000	7,400,000	7,600,000	7,800,000	8,100,000	8,300,000	8,600,000	8,840,800	9,088,342	
Security		5,000,000	5,200,000	5,400,000	5,500,000	5,700,000	5,900,000	6,000,000	6,168,000	6,340,704	
Assessments		600,000	600,000	600,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	719,600	739,749	
Land/ Property Acquisition		12,200,000	0	13,000,000	13,400,000	13,800,000	14,300,000	14,700,000	15,111,600	15,534,725	
Space Needs Analysis & Prioritization -SNAP		16,400,000	17,000,000	17,500,000	18,500,000	19,000,000	19,500,000	20,000,000	20,560,000	21,135,680	
Program Requirements Subtotal		155,027,681	155,700,000	170,200,000	181,900,000	196,800,000	203,100,000	209,100,000	214,954,800	220,973,534	

- Large PRIMP and SNAP projects are needed and will tie up funding for several years
- We will continue to look at Cash funded sources, and others, to help with other needs

Reduce Mobile Classrooms

This topic was to have been presented at the Board Retreat on December 9th

- Removing units from campuses where the additional capacity is no longer needed
- Adding “flexible capacity” to schools as part of existing or planned renovation projects

Explore efficiency opportunities for current Facilities and Programs

- One goal of Magnet schools: reduce high concentrations of poverty. We will continue to utilize these schools to incentivize students from overcrowded, more affluent areas
- Pursue opportunities to reduce building square footage needing to be maintained
- May provide some relief to Transportation, Maintenance and Operations
- Continue to explore existing buildings to be converted to educational spaces or opportunities for other facility needs



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Questions??