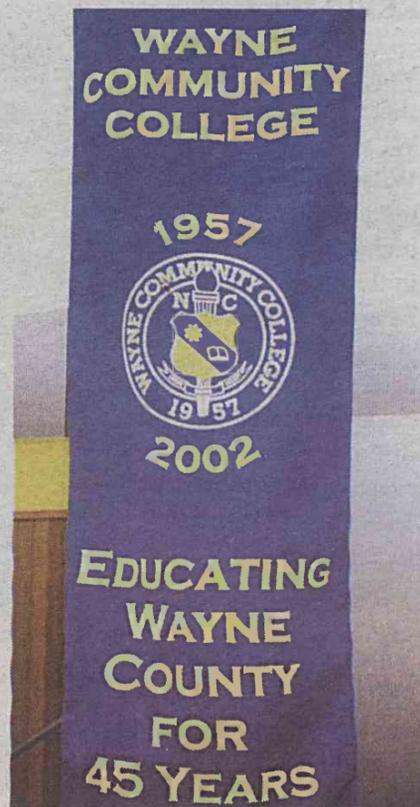




Happy 45th Anniversary, WCC!

Historial highlights

- 1957.....established as Goldsboro Industrial Education Center
- 1962-63.....first full-time courses offered
- 1964.....name changed to Wayne Technical Institute
- 1967.....name changed to Wayne Community College
- 1996.....move to new campus



Bonds assure growth, change despite state budget woes

By BETH JONES and CHRISTOPHER POPE

Groundbreaking day for Wayne Community College's new day care and preschool is expected for June 1, said Kenneth Ritt, Vice President for Educational Support Services.

Construction is expected to take 8-10 months. State bond money along with \$200,000 from Wayne County will fund this project.

The estimated budget will be about \$700,000 for the 5,000 square foot building.

This money will cover a circular driveway and parking lot, landscaping, and utilities.

Space has been an issue for the current day care situated on Cox Boulevard.

A new day care center will solve inadequacies such as space, no kitchen, and other barriers to having a star rating from the state of 5. The star rating is now a 4.

The current center is a modular home with all open space and 24 children ranging from age 2-5.

The designers/architects of the new center are Hayes-Howell from Southern Pines.

It will be designed with 4 individual classes with infants and toddlers sharing 1 room, and the two's, three's, and four's with their own rooms.

The staff of the new facility will be Barbara Lofton, interim director, who works with the 3 and 4 year olds; Kim Jones, who works with the 4 and 5 year olds; and Donna Flowers, who works with the 2 year olds.

Work-study students who also help with the children include Reeshema Woods, Brenda Johnson, April Ramsey, and Emily Bolar.

Other students could be involved in the center, Ritt said.

Students in WCC's Early Childhood Development and nursing programs will use the center for their labs and hands on work with the children.

Sherry Granberry, instruction in the Early Childhood program, said, "We want to be a model for infant/toddler care in the community, and the new facility will help us achieve that goal."

Ritt said that parents would be more confident about the care of their children in an improved facility.

It will feature a catered kitchen, a work/conference room, and cameras in every class so that parents can log onto the Internet to watch their children during the day.

Ritt said that much of the equipment at the current daycare would be moved to the new site.

With better equipment and not sharing one open space, the children will experience a lowered noise level.

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Groundbreaking slated for June 1



Day care children currently enrolled pose with their adult caretakers and Vice President Ken Ritt on what will be the circular driveway of the new day care center. PHOTOS: VOICE STAFF