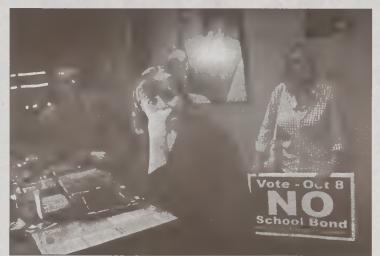
## News

## Bonded and Sealed: The Verdict on the October School Bond Vote



via newsobserver.com

Marlena Brown, staff writer

Programs and Benefits Subject to Change

On Tuesday, Oct. 8, many Wake County residents headed to the polls to cast their vote on a much discussed issue: whether or not to implement a school bond. According to WRAL, the bond was an \$810 million construction proposal to have 11 elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools built. The funding would also contribute to major renovations for school buildings in need of repair, give other schools the opportunity to fund smaller upgrades and have available funds for future land purchases if additional educational infrastructure is necessary. Though many voters opposed the bond, the proposal

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passed in the polls with a margin of 58 percent in favor of the bond and 42 percent opposed to it. Those most in favor of the bond were voters from the Raleigh and western Wake County areas, while those opposed to the bill were residents of northern, eastern and southeastern Wake County.

Since the bond's passing, the implications it may have upon Wake county residents are now a serious concern for those in the community. WRAL reports that the bond will add 5 percent to the property tax rate in the county, and for those who own a home in the Wake County area that is valued at least at \$150,000, an additional \$75 will be paid for property taxes. Many opponents of the school bond view this as a misappropriation of funds and incorrect handling of state finances. Republicans have spoken out against these claims, wanting to reassure citizens that the passing of the school bond is in the best interest of the county and its residents. Keith Sutton, chairman of the school board, spoke in favor of the school bond and explained his reasoning for why it will be a beneficial asset to the community: "This was the absolute best way, the smartest way, the most inexpensive way to pay for these new schools and the renovations we need to keep pace with this growth". Not everyone in the community views the recent vote on the school bond as a positive, and the long-term benefits have yet to be understood. How the school bond will affect students and parents in the Wake County area will be most telling in the implementation of strategically trying to offset student population growth in the area.



## Debt Ceiling Deadline Approaches

Monique Kreisman, news editor

The federal government shutdown has now lasted sixteen days, and the Senate and House versions of the spending bill are close to being reconciled. CNN reports that there are still a few unresolved points of debate regarding the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, specifically regarding a tax on medical devices and the healthcare plan for members of Congress. As Congress works to negotiate an end to the shutdown, the government approaches the debt ceiling, or the limit on the amount of money the federal government can borrow. On October 17, the government is expected to reach that margin, and it may default on loans or be unable to make other payments. The government shutdown has already cost billions of dollars in lost GDP, and if the government is unable to borrow more money, the economy would be even more negatively affected.

## Academic and Career Planning's Financial Literacy Week Events

**Oct 16** - Academic Planning Drop-In Day, 9am, Location: ACP

**Oct 17** - Major Matchmaker, Part 1 of 2, 2pm, Location: ACP

**Oct 17** - LinkedIn Photo Booth - Head Shots, 5pm, Location: SMB

Oct 17 - My Major Meet Ups, 5:00pm to 7:00pm, Location: SMB