

# The School Bond Debate

## Black group says yes to \$94 million school bond issue

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"That project was put on the back burner," he said. "But now we are spending \$9 million on those renovations. We are spending twice as much money on Atkins as we would have if we had done that project in 1989."

Marshall also reaffirmed his support for the bond issue.

"I'm for the bond because I can't be against children," he said. "My children are gone from the school system, but somebody paid for them."

The equity committee approved last week by the school board will guarantee that the money raised from the bond issue will be properly spent, Newell said.

"I favor the bonds because the schools are in such disrepair," she said. "They have to be kept up."

Newell says school officials must guarantee that every child in

Forsyth County receives a solid education.

"We need our schools to prepare the children for the world's work," she said. "It's not easy."

Joseph Williams Sr., a former teacher, said that he would vote for the bond referendum and influence others to do so.

"Education is the most important thing in America," he said.

However, he asked why school officials had not maintained the schools over the years.

"We did not put enough money in the budget for maintenance of buildings," Brown said. "We really didn't have anyone checking these buildings for repairs until 1994."

Marshall said the neglect of the schools' maintenance in past budgets was a mistake.

"The school board will include funding for school maintenance every year," he said.

Many residents asked about the

status of the renovations at Atkins.

Martin said that the school officials will spend \$9 million on the renovations of the school.

"We have enough money to finish Atkins," he said. "It will be a complete job. Atkins will be a building that everyone in the community will be proud of."

Dr. C.B. Hauser, a former state representative, said he was concerned about the local chapter of the NAACP's lack of support for the bond issue. Many African Americans may vote against the referendum because of its position, Hauser said.

Another resident, Pauline Johnson, said that too few people attended Tuesday night's meeting at First Baptist.

"Where are those people with children in the schools?" she asked. "We are divided as blacks. What will happen if this bond fails?"

Marshall said the Forsyth

County Commissioners will likely raise taxes to pay for new schools if the bond fails or the school board may consider year-round schools to accommodate the growing student population.

"I hate to think what will happen if the bond fails," he said. "But education will continue to take place."

Some residents asked where the new middle schools will be located.

Martin would not reveal the exact locations of the four new middle schools. The new sites are in a 10-mile radius within downtown Winston-Salem, he said.

East Ward Alderman Joycelyn Johnson said that voters must make sure that funds raised in the bond issue are properly spent. Residents of the East Ward have attended every meeting in the black community regarding the bond referendum, Brown said. "Where are the people from the other wards?" she asked.

Joseph Williams Sr. voices strong support for school bonds during meeting at First Baptist Church.

### Forsyth County School Bond Projects: Elementary Schools

<b>Ashley</b> ..... \$250,000 Conversion from Middle to Elementary School	<b>Lewisville</b> ..... \$2,486,000 Renovation of 1947 and 51 Buildings \$2,141,000 Heat Pipe Replacements \$345,000
<b>Bolton</b> ..... \$1,603,873 Fourteen Classroom Addition \$1,566,873 Cooling Tower Replacement \$37,000	<b>Mineral Springs</b> ..... \$352,000 Structural Repairs
<b>Brunson</b> ..... \$164,000 Boiler Replacements	<b>Moore</b> ..... \$82,000 Chiller Replacement
<b>Cash</b> ..... \$82,000 Energy Management System Installation	<b>Old Richmond</b> ..... \$81,000 Boiler Replacement - Gymnasium \$44,000 Cooling Tower Replacement \$37,000
<b>Cook</b> ..... \$307,000 Conversion from Middle to Elementary School \$250,000 Roof Replacement - Annex and Main Entrance \$57,000	<b>Old Town</b> ..... \$7,816,600 Replacement of Existing Building
<b>Diggs</b> ..... \$885,000 Roof Replacement - Cafeteria and Upper Building \$285,000 Heat Pipe Replacement \$250,000 Air Conditioning \$350,000	<b>Rural Hall</b> ..... \$126,000 Boiler Replacement - Gymnasium \$44,000 Chiller Replacement \$82,000
<b>Easton</b> ..... \$824,517 Six Classroom Addition \$671,517 Boiler Replacements \$153,000	<b>Sedge Garden</b> ..... \$114,000 Roof Replacement - 1955 Classroom Building \$77,000 Cooling Tower Replacement \$37,000
<b>Griffith</b> ..... \$82,000 Energy Management System Installation	<b>Sherwood Forest</b> ..... \$436,000 Boiler Replacement \$164,000 Heat Pipe Replacement \$272,000
<b>Hall-Woodward</b> ..... \$145,000 Chiller Replacement \$63,000 Energy Management System Installation \$82,000	<b>South Fork</b> ..... \$2,133,551 Replacement of 1925 and 1952 Buildings \$2,014,551 Cooling Tower Replacement \$37,000 Energy Management System Installation \$82,000
<b>Ibrahim</b> ..... \$1,343,034 Twelve Classroom Addition	<b>Southwest</b> ..... \$153,000 Boiler Replacement
<b>Kennedy</b> ..... \$345,000 Conversion from Middle to Elementary School Roof Replacement - West and Middle Wings \$95,000	<b>Vienna</b> ..... \$102,000 Roof Replacement - Cafeteria
<b>Kernersville</b> ..... \$278,000 Roof Replacement 1951, 1956, 1958 Buildings \$117,000 Boiler Replacements \$161,000	<b>Walkertown</b> ..... \$162,500 Waste Water System Modifications
<b>Kimberley Park</b> ..... \$119,000 Cooling Tower Replacement \$37,000 Energy Management System Installation \$82,000	<b>New Elementary Schools</b>
<b>Konnoak</b> ..... \$419,000 Boiler Replacements \$153,000 Heat Pipe Replacement \$266,000	<b>New Jefferson</b> ..... \$6,616,647
<b>Latham</b> ..... \$343,000 Roof Replacement-1957 Building Except Cafeteria \$190,000 Boiler Replacements \$153,000	<b>New Northwest</b> ..... \$7,176,244
	<b>New West</b> ..... \$7,176,244

### SCHOOLS NOT INCLUDED IN \$94,000,000 BOND

#### Elementary Schools

#### Reason

Children's Center	Renovated 1993 - Not a Board of Education Building
Clemmons	Building opened 1981-82
Downtown	Opened 1992 not a Board of Education owned building-Leased-New Facility-completed 1990-91
Forest Park	New Facility-completed 1990-91
Piney Grove	New Facility-completed 1990-91
Speas	Partially reroofed 1993 Air Conditioned 1988
Union Cross	New Facility-Completed 1991-92
Whitaker	Air Conditioned 1989 Boilers 1990

#### Middle Schools

#### Reason

Wiley	Renovated 1995-96
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#### High Schools

#### Reason

Independence	Air Conditioned 1994 Boilers Replaced 1991
North Forsyth	Air Conditioned 1994 Structural Repairs 1992

### Angelou Discusses Issues with Frost

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and former civil rights activist demurred when Frost asked how her presence may have lifted the fortunes of Farrakhan.

"I did not promote Minister Farrakhan," she said. "I appreciate Minister Farrakhan for having the courage and the insight to call the march. He wasn't the cause of the march. The cause of the march is the rampant racism in our country."

Angelou voiced her disagreement with Farrakhan's separatist views, and on the subject of his anti-Semitic slurs - such as calling Jews "bloodsuckers" and the Jewish faith "a gutter religion" - she stated, "I definitely know that those are not true statements."

"I'm not going to support him just because he's black," she said of Farrakhan. "But calling the march for black men was so positive - I'd have loved it if Andy Young

had called it. I would have adored it if Jesse Jackson had called it."

Turning to presidential politics, Frost asked whether a Colin Powell presidency would be good for African Americans.

"I don't know," replied Angelou. "I'd have to see what Mr. Powell is espousing. First, he hasn't even said he will run. But I'd like to hear his platform. I mean being black is not enough. . . . Now, if General Powell, takes a position that is positive, then he has my vote. But if he doesn't, then he doesn't."

In the event of a Powell presidency, she added with a laugh, she does not expect to write another inaugural poem, she did for President Bill Clinton in 1993. "Been there, done that," she said.

Talking about Powell, Frost pointed out that the retired general had declined to join the Million Man March, fearing that his presence on the stage could give Farrakhan

"a level of credibility" that he didn't deserve.

Nonetheless, Angelou emphasized her belief that the rally held particular significance in terms of the relationship between black men and black women.

"The history of black men and black women is so fraught with guilt and embarrassment. So black men, who have the same trials and triumphs as all other men, found themselves, from the very first, unable to protect their woman on the slave posts, on the slave ships, and after on the auction block and after in slavery. "Those who did try were often killed, so a man feel embarrassed in front of a woman if he can't protect her, if he doesn't stand up for her. And over the hundreds of years this embarrassment has grown to not only guilt but a kind of displeasure. You know . . . you have seen me at my lowest. You have seen me not able to stand up for you."



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### SEE GOD'S POWER IN BLACK HISTORY

