

LOCAL

School Board adopts plan for construction

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

A new wing for Kings Mountain High to possibly house a "Freshman Academy" and several renovations to local schools were adopted Thursday night at Cleveland County's Board of Education Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

The Adequate Facilities Committee, consisting of parents, community members, and current and retired educators, proposed new constructions and renovations for county schools to the board. "The committee felt that each of the four high schools need an additional wing built. The wing could be used to house a Freshman Academy. To prioritize based on

overcrowding, using current enrollment and capacity numbers, Burns High School would be the top priority with Shelby High next, followed by Crest High and KMHS," the report stated.

The committee also suggested renovations to Bethware and Grover elementary schools. According to the report, "The Holland building (at Bethware) was constructed in the 1920s and is basically a wooden structure with brick veneer. The building is heated with steam and cooled by window AC units. Rather than remodel, tearing down this building would allow for the construction of a new building that could connect the Nanny building with the main building. This type of renovation would con-

nect all the instructional areas thus eliminating the need for students to go outside to transition from classroom to classroom."

The committee stated that there are three buildings on Grover's campus which need renovations. These buildings were constructed in the 1940s, according to the report. "Additional study and analysis of these structures is needed before a final recommendation can be made."

The planning committee proposed renovations to the restrooms, concession stands and press boxes at KMHS, Burns and Crest. But the need for a new Shelby Middle School topped the committee's priority list. The new middle school

would free up the old one to house one centralized district office for Cleveland County Schools and one centralized alternative program.

Other improvements adopted by the board, include an intermediate school for the Crest zone; auditoriums for Burns middle and high schools and Crest middle and high; renovations to North Shelby to include additional classroom space, a new cafeteria and relocation of the mechanical room; and, renovations to the second-grade building at Elizabeth Elementary, built in the 1940s.

CCS' Director of Public Information Donna Carpenter said that school improvements will not be immediate. She said that they could take five or even

10 years to complete. Renovations were broken down into a priority list of three phases. Phase one, includes the new Shelby Middle, renovating the old Shelby Middle and renovating North Shelby.

Phase two, includes the additions to Burns High and Shelby High, replacing the Holland building at Bethware and the new Crest Intermediate School. Phase three, without order of priority, includes the auditoriums at Burns and Crest schools; renovations to concession stands, restrooms and press boxes at KMHS, Burns and Crest; additions to Crest High and KMHS; replacing the building at Elizabeth Elementary; and, upgrading Grover Elementary.



Wayne King and GOP Republican nominee John McCain.

Wayne King elected delegate to Republican National Convention

Cleveland County Republican Party Chairman Wayne King was elected recently to serve as a National Delegate to the Republican National Convention to be held in September in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

An overwhelming majority of attendees elected King, which also was the top vote getter at the 10th Congressional District Convention held in Lincolnton. This is the second time King has attended a National Convention. He attended in 2004 as a Delegate in New York.

King currently serves as Chairman of the Cleveland County Republican Party, member- North Carolina Republican Party Executive Committee, member- 10th Congressional District Executive Committee, member- North Carolina Republican Party Chairman's Association and many other political organizations.

King was honored in 2004 by the Cleveland County Board of Commissioners and by the Kings Mountain City Council for being the first Kings Mountain resident to serve as Delegate to a Republican National Convention since the 1970's.

King stated, "I feel privileged to be elected for the second straight time to serve as Delegate. It will be a privilege to serve North Carolina at the Convention."

North Carolina has a total of 67 elected delegates and a total of 2,380 delegates attending the Republican National Convention.

Dennis Davis elected Presidential Elector

Former State Senator Dennis Davis, resident of Cleveland County was elected recently at the 10th Congressional District meeting in Lincolnton to serve as Presidential Elector.

Wayne King, Chairman of the Cleveland County Republican Party stated, "It was an honor to vote for Dennis Davis to serve as Presidential Elector. Dennis has been a friend for many years and a person I admire and a person that will represent Cleveland County well."

Davis is a retired history teacher at Crest High School in Boiling Springs, former Cleveland County Republican Party Chairman and member of the NC Republican Executive Committee.

Congressman Patrick McHenry (R-10) said, "Dennis Davis was the winner between two fine candidates for Presidential Elector. I want to congratulate him on this unique honor - I know he will do a great job representing our Tenth

District constituents in the Electoral College. Dennis has served ably in the past as a State Senator and I know he will fulfill this constitutional duty with honor."

Currently, the Electoral College includes 538 electors, 535 for the total number of congressional members, and three who represent Washington, D.C., as allowed by the 23rd

Amendment. On the Monday following the second Wednesday in December, the electors of each state meet in their respective state capitals to officially cast their votes for president and vice president. These votes are then sealed and sent to the president of the Senate, who on Jan. 6 opens and reads the votes in the presence of both houses of Congress.

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