

School system's building program in high gear

Construction of new and expanded school facilities reached its highest level in Wake County's history this past year as Phase I of the building program was completed. In just three years, construction spending for school facilities increased from \$5 million in 1985-86 to \$57 million in 1988-89. Five new schools and expansions at six high schools were among the major projects completed for this school year. In addition, seven other existing schools were expanded or renovated through Phase I.

The school system's building program was launched in 1985 when voters overwhelmingly supported the first of two school bond referendums. The second bond referendum, overwhelmingly approved in 1988, includes partial funding for Phase II construction which runs from 1989 to 1994. Eleven new schools, expanded or renovated facilities at 44 existing schools, and the air conditioning of all schools are planned during this second phase.

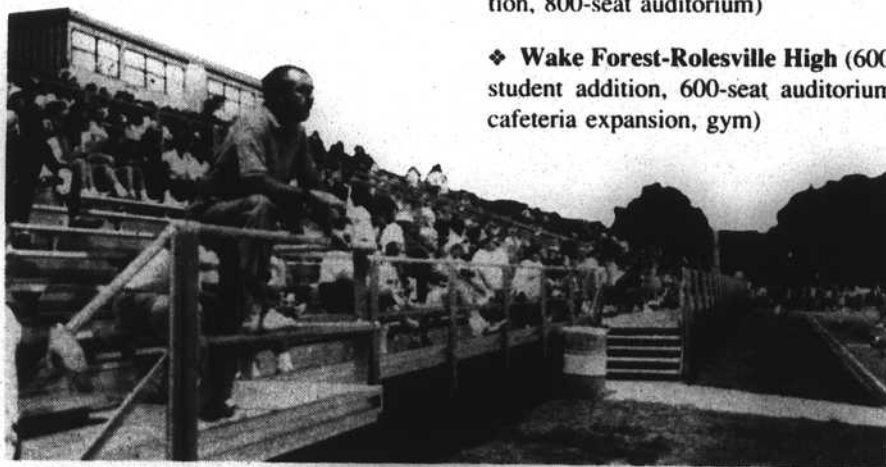
NEW FACILITIES WHICH OPENED THIS FALL ARE:

New Schools

- ◆ Brassfield Road Elementary in northern Wake County
- ◆ East Wake Middle (replacing Whitley Middle which merged with the East Wake High campus)
- ◆ Fox Road Elementary in northeastern Wake County
- ◆ Penny Road Elementary in Cary
- ◆ Wake Forest-Rolesville Middle (replacement campus)

Expansions and Renovations

- ◆ Apex High (600-student addition, cafeteria expansion, auxiliary gym)
- ◆ Broughton High (athletic complex)
- ◆ Cary High (400-student addition, auxiliary gym, media center, cafeteria expansion, renovations)
- ◆ East Wake High (administration building and renovations)
- ◆ Garner High (600-student addition, cafeteria expansion, auxiliary gym, media center)
- ◆ Sanderson High (400-student addition, 800-seat auditorium)
- ◆ Wake Forest-Rolesville High (600-student addition, 600-seat auditorium, cafeteria expansion, gym)



Broughton High was proud to display this outstanding stadium which was completed for the fall football season.

ALL SCHOOLS TO BE AIR-CONDITIONED

While Phase II of the building program will bring air conditioning to every school by the end of 1994, schools included in Phase I began receiving air conditioning this year. Kingswood Elementary is now air-conditioned, and five high schools being expanded should have air conditioning by the end of 1989.



Most instructional spaces will be air-conditioned by the end of 1992. Here a worker installs a system at Garner High.

Most of the instructional spaces systemwide will be air-conditioned by the end of 1992. Priorities, in most cases, depend on other construction planned for the same school. All air-conditioning projects will be completed by the end of 1994.

Providing cool and comfortable

classrooms will not only enhance teaching and learning but will also allow for greater school and community use of the facilities.

PHASE I

Crowded conditions are easing in many schools as a result of the completion of Phase I projects. Also, for the first time since the 1970s, the school system is using fewer trailers to house students. Last year the system used 522 trailers to meet the demand for classrooms. This year at least 75 fewer trailers were required. The older, singlewide trailers, some of which have been in use for over 20 years, were the first to be removed from schools.

Facility improvements are benefiting students at many schools by providing larger classroom spaces, advanced science laboratories, and new media centers with plenty of working space for teachers and media specialists. In addition to improved facilities, expansions at Cary and Garner high schools allowed the system to move to a middle school organization throughout the county. Now sixth through eighth graders are served in middle schools while ninth through 12th graders attend high schools.

PHASE II

By 1992, projections indicate that the system will be gaining close to 3,700 students a year. Recognizing that Phase I would not be enough to cope with this continuing growth, the Wake County Board of Education initiated in 1987 a second phase of planning and construction.

Phase II, a \$200 million construction effort, will provide 11 new schools, expansions/renovations at 44 existing schools, and air conditioning at all schools.

Construction is already under way on Leadmine Road and Rand Road elementary schools. Both are scheduled to open for the fall of 1990. Planning and design are under way on three additional elementary schools, scheduled for opening the fall of 1991. Sites have been purchased for all but three of the 11 new schools planned in Phase II.

