

Item Title: Wake County Public School System's 2015-16 Facility Needs Survey

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners certifies reviewing the Wake County Public School System's Facility Needs Survey for submittal to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.

Item Summary:

North Carolina General Statute 115C-521(a) requires local boards of education to submit their long-range plans for meeting school facility needs to the State Board of Education every five years. This serves as a uniform reporting system that allows the State to assess unfunded facility needs for the next ten years. In the past, it has been used to determine the scope of a State bond referendum. As part of the submittal, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requires the signature of the Chair and Secretary Ex-officio of the Board of Education stating:

“...that the needs identified herein are a true representation of our situation. Alternatives were considered and this plan provides the best balance between cost and benefit to our students. We understand that costs have been standardized to statewide averages to provide uniform comparison.”

The official transmittal also requires the signature of the Chair of the County Board of Commissioners and the County Manager or Clerk stating:

"The Wake County Board of Commissioners has received and reviewed a copy of this survey prior to submission to the State Board of Education. This does not necessarily constitute endorsement of or commitment to fund the Facility Needs Survey."

WCPSS staff completed their listing of facility needs on December 10, 2015 and the Board of Education reviewed and certified the results for submittal to DPI in their regular meeting on December 15, 2015. Pending review and certification of the results by the Board of Commissioners, WCPSS will submit the results to DPI by January 8, 2016.

Survey Scope and Assumptions

The survey covers needs for new schools, renovations, and life cycle projects over the next ten years. The results, included as attachments to this item, show the projected costs of funding the needs identified in the survey. The survey is based on a set of assumptions required by DPI and therefore does not necessarily reflect WCPSS's capacity or cost projections. The assumptions used to develop the listing are detailed in an attachment to this item and are summarized below:

- Priorities shown for major projects may or may not correspond to the priorities the Board of Education will approve for the next building program

- The entire student population will be in permanent seats, with no year-round, by the 2024-25 school year
- The survey uses DPI's calculation of K-3 capacity at 18 per class. WCPSS uses 21 per class for K-3
- WCPSS student capacity accommodated in mobile/modular units is not reflected in the attached reports nor are any schools with year-round capacities
- The costs shown in the survey are limited to new construction, renovations, and life cycle projects. They do not include other costs associated with major building programs such as startup designs, property acquisitions, mobile relocations and technology
- All costs shown in the results are in today's dollars and do not account for any escalation, despite the ten-year time frame
- Costs are standardized to statewide averages and may not reflect WCPSS costs

Attachments

1. Board of Education/Board of Commissioner Certification
2. Facility Needs Assessment Assumptions
3. Capacity Summary 0-5 Years
4. Capacity Summary 6-10 Years
5. Cost Summary 0-5 Years
6. Cost Summary 6-10 Years
7. WCPSS Facility Capacity Summary
8. PowerPoint