

Press Release:

October 16, 2018

Bartlett Yancey High School was built in the late 1950's. It has served Caswell County students for approximately 60 years. In the 1950's Bartlett Yancey High School (BYHS) was a state-of-the-art building, one that students and teachers were proud to attend. It was an educational building that taxpayers of that era supported knowing its importance to the students and community it would serve. It was an investment in the children of Caswell County. It was an investment in the community. The open campus concept of BYHS has proudly welcomed visitors from every corner of the campus over time....all 34 entrances. BYHS reflects the learning environment of the 1900's that the students of the past century needed to be successful. Students learned how to type on a typewriter, learned from the teacher at the chalk board, and, if needed, waited in the office to use the telephone. Students were fortunate to have educational opportunities and a high school that was prevalent and necessary for their success...at that time. Time does make a difference. Why?

Time doesn't stand still for innovation and the expectations for our students to be successful in today's society. Technology, virtual learning, learning spaces, collaborative research, and the list continues, are the tools of trade for our current students. Time doesn't stand still for our students to be prepared to meet those needs and be competitive with other students throughout North Carolina and the world. High school is where students are exposed to innovation and learning opportunities that spark interest and motivation. It is their final step before entering the "real world" whether it is college, military or the workforce.

Caswell County Schools has spent the last ten to twenty years placing band-aids on BYHS. Leaks in the roof, wiring that is outdated, ceilings that cannot be raised so there is exposed wiring to accommodate as much technology as it can house...which isn't enough. Walls patched to turn an agriculture shop into a media center. Windows and doors that no longer meet the energy conservation of today's standards. Lack of insulation that creates higher utility bills. Caswell County Schools' maintenance crew works tirelessly to keep the band-aids on BYHS. Our teachers and administrators work tirelessly to spark enthusiasm and excitement for innovation in a facility that is beyond repair to its former glory.

As time ticks by, our students sit in the small classrooms that don't meet the minimum state requirements for classroom size, see the same small media center, work around the same small, now outdated/non-functional, science labs as their parents, uncles, aunts and even grandparents once stood. Nostalgic? Yes. Innovative? No.

Teaching and learning has changed over the past century. Students need to be exposed to so many more opportunities in high school than in past decades. The size of labs does matter. The size of classrooms does matter. The size of a media center does matter. Technology does matter. Virtual learning does matter. The wireless infrastructure does matter. The lighting does matter. Safety does matter. Providing for a learning style environment that meets today's academic expectations for all students does matter. Preparing students for fields of study that weren't even around in the last era does matter.

Over the past few weeks, there has been a lot of information shared in media. Some accurate, some not.

FACT: The Caswell Board of Education has put forth a \$36.5 million proposal for Caswell County Schools. The Commissioners voted to include it in the Nov. 6th bond referendum. It includes addressing the outdated BYHS facility and creating a building that meets students' educational needs, creating a safer campus for students and staff at BYHS. The bond also

includes increasing the safety needs in all CCS schools by building vestibules at the entrances, installing keyless entrances, increasing security cameras and building an enclosed corridor at Stoney Creek to name a few.

FACT: In August, Caswell County Schools submitted a grant request to North Carolina Public Schools for \$15 million, written specifically for the purpose of constructing a new two story high school for BYHS. We are excited to be a recipient of the entire \$15 million grant...for the limited purpose of constructing a new two-story high school.

FACT: The \$15M Capital Needs Grant funding is ONLY for the purpose of constructing a new two-story high school. The grant was written and funding is only for this purpose.

FACT: The Board of Education has committed to using \$3 million of lottery funds to reduce the bond amount.

FACT: With the \$15 million grant and \$3 million in lottery funding sources, the \$36.5 million bond has been significantly reduced to \$18.5 million.

FACT: \$18.5 million will now cover everything included in the originally requested \$36.5 million bond referendum. (The bond ballot will state \$36.5 Million due to printing prior to the grant receipt of \$15 million.)

FACT: An estimated 0.0273 property tax increase based on 4% interest over 30 years is the current estimated cost to taxpayers to build a new two-story high school that is equipped with the technology, infrastructure, class size, learning environment, efficiency and safety necessary for BYHS students and staff. (This rate was calculated and estimated by CCS, but final determination of rate will be calculated by the County Commissioners.) In addition it will include safety at ALL Caswell County Schools.

FACT: The following chart provides estimates of potential property tax increases on \$18.5 Million based on various interest percentage rates. The current interest rate is 4.00%.

Interest Rate Percent	Estimated Property Tax Increase (based on 30 years)*	Estimated Property Tax Increase to \$100,000 property*	Estimated Property Tax Increase to \$200,000 property*
4.00% (current)	0.0273	\$27.30	\$54.60
4.25%	0.0296	\$29.60	\$59.20
4.50%	0.0317	\$31.70	\$63.40
4.75%	0.0338	\$33.80	\$67.60
5.00%	0.036	\$36.00	\$72.00

*Estimated amounts based on calculations by CCS.

FACT: The Board of Education has also committed to using any remaining lottery/ADM funds to pay off the remainder of the N.L. Dillard Middle School debt, approximately \$845,000, which is currently using Local Sales Tax dollars to cover the debt service.

FACT: One high school, one county, one opportunity. It does matter.