



Orange County Public Schools Building Program



Construction Begins on Timber Creek/University Relief High School

The site of the former Columbia Elementary School located at 650 Columbia Road in East Orange County, is now a busy construction site for the new Timber Creek/University Relief High School. The facility is scheduled to open when school begins in August 2009 and is being built to relieve overcrowding at Timber Creek and University high schools.

The School Board of Orange County approved an \$80.3 million budget for the project. Three two-story buildings will house classrooms and the facility will have a student capacity of 2,776. The educational complex will consist of 11 buildings, including an existing elementary school structure that will be renovated to accommodate the comprehensive design plan.

“East Orange County is growing at a rapid pace and this relief high school is coming on line not a year too soon,” said School Board Vice-Chairman Joie Cadle (District 1), in whose district the new school is being built.

“Timber Creek and University are outstanding high schools and I’m very excited that soon we’ll have another great place of learning in our community,” said School Board Member Daryl Flynn (District 2).

“Our community should be proud of our capital program as we continue to relieve overcrowding by building new schools,” said Superintendent Ronald Blocker. “We have completed a total of 18 new schools, replacement schools and comprehensive renovation projects in the East

Learning Community since the year 2000.”

Cost savings will be incorporated in the relief school without sacrificing quality. Installing industry standard cabinets in science and music suites will meet educational program requirements and save money at the same time. The Facilities Services staff continues to work along with district architectural and construction partners to optimize value while retaining quality throughout the design and construction process.

“Building new schools is only part of the formula for success,” said Chief Facilities Officer Bob Proie. “We must also construct quality schools while holding the line on costs.”