

How OCPS Builds Schools

Since 2003, Orange County Public Schools has sited, built and opened **50 new schools to accommodate growth and relieve overcrowding**. Through the 2018-19 school year, an additional 118 existing schools have been replaced or renovated.

When a new school is built, the planning begins many years in advance.

Here are the key steps:

- #ž The Office of Student Enrollment and Advance Planning committee analyze birth rates, growth and development to project enrollment.
- \$ž The Advance Planning committee (including OCPS county and city staff) considers the location and capacity of existing schools to determine future needs.
- %ž School locations are targeted and projects defined (school type, size, etc.).
- &ž Projects are prioritized based on competing needs districtwide.
- ' ž > [FW X e U S ^ d W a g d W e, including taxpayer dollars and fees from developers, are allocated to purchase land, hire an architect and construct and furnish new schools.
- (ž New schools open on time and within budget.

- No cutoff rate or formula by itself determines when a school will be relieved. (Please see list at left).
- New schools are scheduled to open when enrollment is sufficient to support an additional school. Schools needing relief may be temporarily overcrowded while new schools are designed and built.
- Some schools relieve multiple schools. Others relieve one. This depends on the location of current schools and where the growth is.
- The Advance Planning committee meets year-round to consider changes to growth and adjust plans accordingly. These plans are laid out in a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan, which is updated annually.

