



# NEWS RELEASE

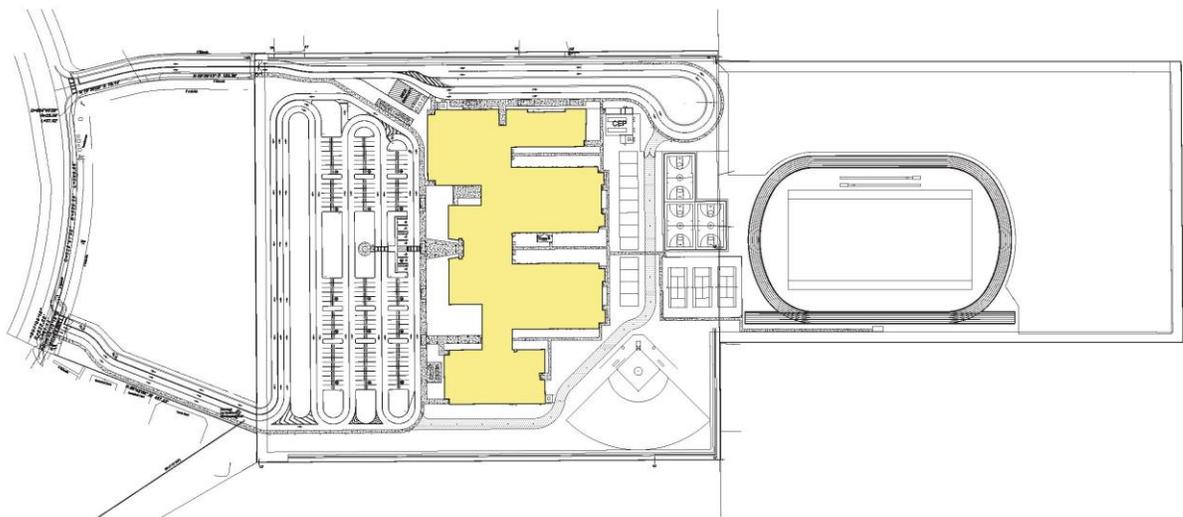
ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## Orange Co. Government approves new Avalon middle school



OCPS - MIDDLE SCHOOL PROTOTYPE

Orlando, Florida  
October 5, 2015



*Orange County Public Schools' revised plans for a middle school on a site in Timber Springs. (HuntonBrady Architects)*

October 6, 2015 – A new middle school in the Avalon Park area is a “go” after the Board of County Commissioners approved revised plans to build a new middle school on just over 28 acres in the Timber Springs neighborhood.

“Now we can look to the future and provide our students with a learning environment with the latest technology and a community atmosphere,” said board member Daryl Flynn, who represents the area. She also thanked Parents United for a Middle School, a group of parents and neighbors who lobbied in favor of the school and attended the commissioners’ meeting to support the project.

In May, the county rejected school district plans to reclassify their property from an elementary to a middle school site. Because the district was allowed to bring back a revised plan to the commissioners on an accelerated schedule, the school is expected to be opened in Fall 2017.

Acquisition of new land increased the site from 16.7 to 28.2 acres.

The 183,860 square-foot school is being designed to serve 1,215 students in grades 6 to 8. Current site plans call for a two-story school with 257 parking spots and stacking capacity for another 304 cars.

More than a dozen supporters attended the meeting and celebrated afterward. "I think it's important for all of the kids in the community," said Diana Heinzman, an Avalon Park parent with two children at the overcrowded Avalon Middle School.

*(For more information, please contact Lauren Roth in Facilities Communications at 407.317.3700 ext. 2023774.)*

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