

Camden County Bond Referendum for a new high school

Facts prepared by the Board of Education

The History of our plans since the 1990s



Many studies have been done since 1991 for a new high school. It's been talked about for years.

The Camden County Commissioners wisely purchased land in 2008 for the purpose of a new high school.

In 2019, the Commissioners funded a study to determine the cost of a new high school.

One result of the study found the current high school is much too small for the number of students (it's estimated at 81,500 sq ft. but needs to be 119,346 sq. ft.) based on the NC Department of Instruction standards.

Thanks to the County's approval, an application for a state grant of \$12.3 million was awarded with the requirement that it be used ONLY for a new high school.

Interest rates are at historic lows. This will benefit taxpayers with cost savings.

Positive Impacts

- By converting the current high school to a future middle school, **all schools will have more room.**
- Over 100 new construction jobs are anticipated with constructing a new high school.
- We will have even more Camden County pride in better facilities and economic development.
- A new school brings workforce development and opportunities to retain our kids' talents HERE!
- We finally have the opportunity to have separate baseball and football fields.
- **The new high school can be used as a storm shelter in severe weather.**



ALL students in the District will benefit with more room at each and every school.

We will be able to offer students more courses and better, cleaner facilities.

This year only, we have the chance to use FREE money in state grants! \$12,300,000!

Reasons why the current high school cannot be used or added on to:

1. The cost to renovate is not cost efficient.
2. The school is land-locked by the mill and road. Not enough acreage.
3. The school size is too small for the number of students.
4. The Early College is forced to use temporary trailers with no restrooms.
5. The school does not have enough space for modern career education.

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The last day to register to vote is **October 9, 2020**

Early in-person voting is **October 15 - 31, 2020**

Election day is **Tuesday, November 3, 2020**



CAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL
CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN



An architect has provided a rendering of how the school could fit on the property. These drawings are preliminary, and we will seek more input from teachers, principals, and the community.

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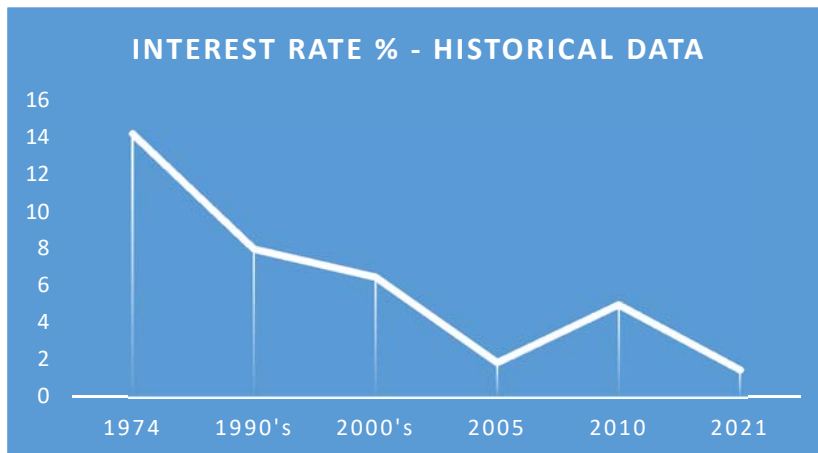
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The School District looked at ALL options including renovations and additions. The grant funds could not be used for renovations, only a new school. The current site of the high school is land-locked by the road and mill.

A great time to borrow . . .

Interest rates are at historic lows with rates of 1.25% to 1.75%



Combined with the \$12.3 million in state grants awarded to Camden County, that will only be available this year, we can offer taxpayers a great investment and COST SAVINGS.

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The total cost needed after the grant is up to \$33 million.

The tax impact would not begin until the year 2022 or after.

Passing a bond referendum will not have any tax impacts this year or next year!

The cost impact for the new school, **not beginning until the year 2022**, would be less than 10 cents per \$100 of assessed value according to the estimate provided by the County's financial advisor. For a home valued at \$200,000 this equals about \$3.84 per week or about the cost of a Hardee's chicken biscuit.

If the referendum does not pass, the impacts would be losing the grant money, gaining the higher cost to build later, which means a burden of up to \$55+ million. Also, if the referendum fails, students would remain in crowded schools and more portables as the County continues to grow.