

Joint Meeting with the Board of Education
Monday, March 1, 2004
11:30am at the Walker Technology Center

Lunch was provided by the College of the Albemarle Culinary Department.

Board of Education Chairman Gene Jordan called the meeting to order and welcomed the Commissioners.

Dr. Allan Smith presented information from the State Board of Education Construction Department and possible designs provided by architect Larry Decker, for the renovation or new construction of John A Holmes High School. The Long Range Facility Plan provided 3 options - a new school on a new site; a new school on the same site; a renovated school at the same site, asking the question, is it feasible to renovate and expand at the present location. Architectural concepts to address the needs of space for a media center, auditorium, classrooms, upgraded kitchen and dining areas and a gym were presented. Ideas include the present gym being converted to a media center and a new gym constructed, construct an auditorium lobby area, updates in the auditorium for an enlarged stage and updated lighting, a liberal arts area to include the bandroom, choral and art classrooms and a student services area.

There are presently 775 students enrolled at Holmes High School, with a current capacity of 650 students in a facility of 95,000 sf. Reduced class sizes and expanded courses also require additional space.

Costs are estimated as follows:

- a new school at a new site for 800 students = \$18 million

- a new school at a new site for 1000 students = \$21 million

- a new school at present site increases costs because of required phases of construction

 - renovation for 1000 students (165,800 sf = \$15-16 million

The Board of Education plans to hold public information meetings in the coming months for citizen input.

The meeting was adjourned.

Nancy B. Morgan, County Clerk