



One dozen more schools open in next 3 years

As thousands more families continue to pour into Northside ISD, one dozen more schools are expected to open in the next three years. "The growth rate is unprecedented," says Jim Martin, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Operations, who manages the expansive school construction program that is unmatched anywhere in Texas. "What we are very conscience about is that we have to have classrooms for the students," he adds.

The following is a brief summary of current construction and major additions/renovations projects. More information available at www.nisd.net/bond.

Four new schools will open next summer

Construction continues on Mead ES, Fisher ES, Wanke ES and Murnin ES. Each school will house 800 students and all are expected to open by summer 2006.

Additions are on schedule

Major additions and renovation projects

BUILDING Northside Together BOND 2004

are on schedule at Lewis ES, Warren HS, Glenn ES, The Reddix Center, and Holmes HS/Excel Academy.

New athletic facilities also move forward

The Northside Natatorium is scheduled for completion by the end of this year and will be operational after the

New "Leslie Road area" school

NISD will build a new elementary school on Leslie Road behind the Bill Miller's Restaurant and next to O'Connor HS. T Construction of the school will be funded out of the Bond 2007 proposal. This school is expected to relieve overcrowding at Helotes ES, Beard ES and Krueger ES. ■

Winter Holidays.

In addition, the new softball and baseball stadium is about 70% complete and is also expected to be completed by January. Renovations to Gustafson Stadium begin this Fall.

Elementary schools air conditioning project

See this issue's front page photo.

10 more projects due in spring

Ten other major construction projects will come on line in the spring. These include Northside's next new high school, the "O'Connor-Clark" reliever high school, the "Potranco North area" middle school, the "Shaenfield Road area" middle school, the "Boerne Stage Road area" ES, and the Grissom Road area" elementary school.

Major renovation/addition projects include the Leon Valley ES addition, the Jones MS addition, the Sul Ross MS addition, the Rudder MS library addition, the Jay HS science classrooms renovation, and the Hobby MS renovation project. ■

Over 4,000 more students enroll

Largest ever increase in history of Northside ISD

NISD continues to implement strategies to manage a surging enrollment that has shattered projections. **Over 4,000 more students, the most ever annual increase in NISD history, have enrolled in NISD schools surpassing the projected 3,000 students expected.** The current enrollment in Northside is 78,104 students. At this rate, NISD will surpass Fort Worth ISD probably next year to become the 5th largest public school system in Texas.

As a point of reference, these 4,000 new students are equivalent to around 5 new elementary schools, 3 new middle schools or 1½ new high schools.

In spite of a dozen new schools in various stages of construction or bidding, the need for additional classrooms continues to be a major challenge. Strategies to deal with this spiraling enrollment growth include enrollment caps on schools, rezoning attendance boundaries for individual schools, building additions to current schools, and the use of portable classroom buildings. ■

Northside Parent Connection up and running: Parents encouraged to view children's data

Parents of Northside ISD secondary students can now have a better understanding of their child's school progress and closer partnership and dialogues with their child's teachers, thanks to the District's new world wide web initiative.

The "Northside Parent Connection" gives parents of **middle and high school students** real-time online access to their student's daily grades and attendance records.

The website will be available through May 19, 2006. "We really hope all parents take advantage of the Parent Connection," Asst. Superintendent Kelly Smith says. "School librarians and Campus Instructional Technologists are reaching out to parents that do not have Internet access at home in a variety of ways. These include extended



library hours, parent training classes, and communicating with the San Antonio Public Library about this exciting new tool that parents may wish to use in the public library."

Parents have access to only their students' information via a password system. More information will be available as new modules

are added. Eventually, parents of elementary students will also be able to view students' information. For example, Phase II of the Northside Parent Connection is to add the curriculum management system "outreach" module, which will allow parents to view test data, benchmark assessment data, demographic data, teacher web pages, and class calendars for their own student. This is expected to be launched in Spring 2006. ■

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