



Proposed New Eastern Elementary School

Presented to:
Icard Elementary School Community
Tuesday, September 30, 2025



AGENDA

- Introduction/How we got to where we are today/Overview of Grant funding- Dr. Bob Acord
- Due Diligence and Land Purchase- Dr. Bob Acord
- Needs Assessment for schools- Dr. Dillon Sain, Hamilton Cort
- Proposed School Concept/Pictures/Architectural Information- Hamilton Cort
- Questions

Overview / Historical Timeline

- Burke County Public Schools opened Mountain View Elementary School in August 2018
- In 2021, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction offered grant opportunities through the Needs Based Public School Capital Funds for construction of new school buildings

Overview / Historical Timeline

- Burke County Public Schools applied for the grant funding in 2021, 2022, and 2023
- In February 2024, State Superintendent Catherine Truitt visited Burke County Public Schools to deliver the news that BCPS had been awarded \$42,000,000 for construction of a new eastern elementary school
- One of the stipulations on the grant was that recipients had two years to break ground on new construction from the time of award

Overview / Historical Timeline

- Burke County Public Schools started the search for property for a new eastern elementary school.
- A tract of land was identified beside Hildebran Elementary School. Environmental tests were conducted and the property was deemed as a viable property for a new school
- In September 2024, Hurricane Helene ravaged western North Carolina. NC DPI awarded grant recipients an extra year to break ground due to damages throughout the western part of the state
- Burke County Public Schools closed on the property beside Hildebran Elementary School on July 8, 2025.

Critical Areas of the Grant Submission-NC DPI

- Needed updates throughout the school
- School Safety
- Operational cost of older buildings
- Traffic and Infrastructure
- ADA compliance

Property Purchase-July 8, 2025



School Needs Assessments

Safety Concerns from Safety Audit

- School is on open main road where there is frequent traffic
- There is no fencing around school or fields
- Auxiliary building has its doors facing away from main school and could be cut off from main school building. Students must walk outside/open to the public view to get to gym/lunchroom/library/etc.



Front view of building – no fencing or gates to get to front door



Main road in front of school – Traffic has access



Opposite view showing main road access



View of rear of school – no fencing



Playground open to public – not fenced



Wooded area not fenced off very close to school



Field and play area up beside houses – no fence



Driveway of pickup line directly beside activity field with no barrier/fence



View from annex building – very open from front doors of each classroom



Open view of classroom doors from public

School Needs Assessments

















Recently Constructed Examples

- **Drayton Mills**
- Foxbank Elementary





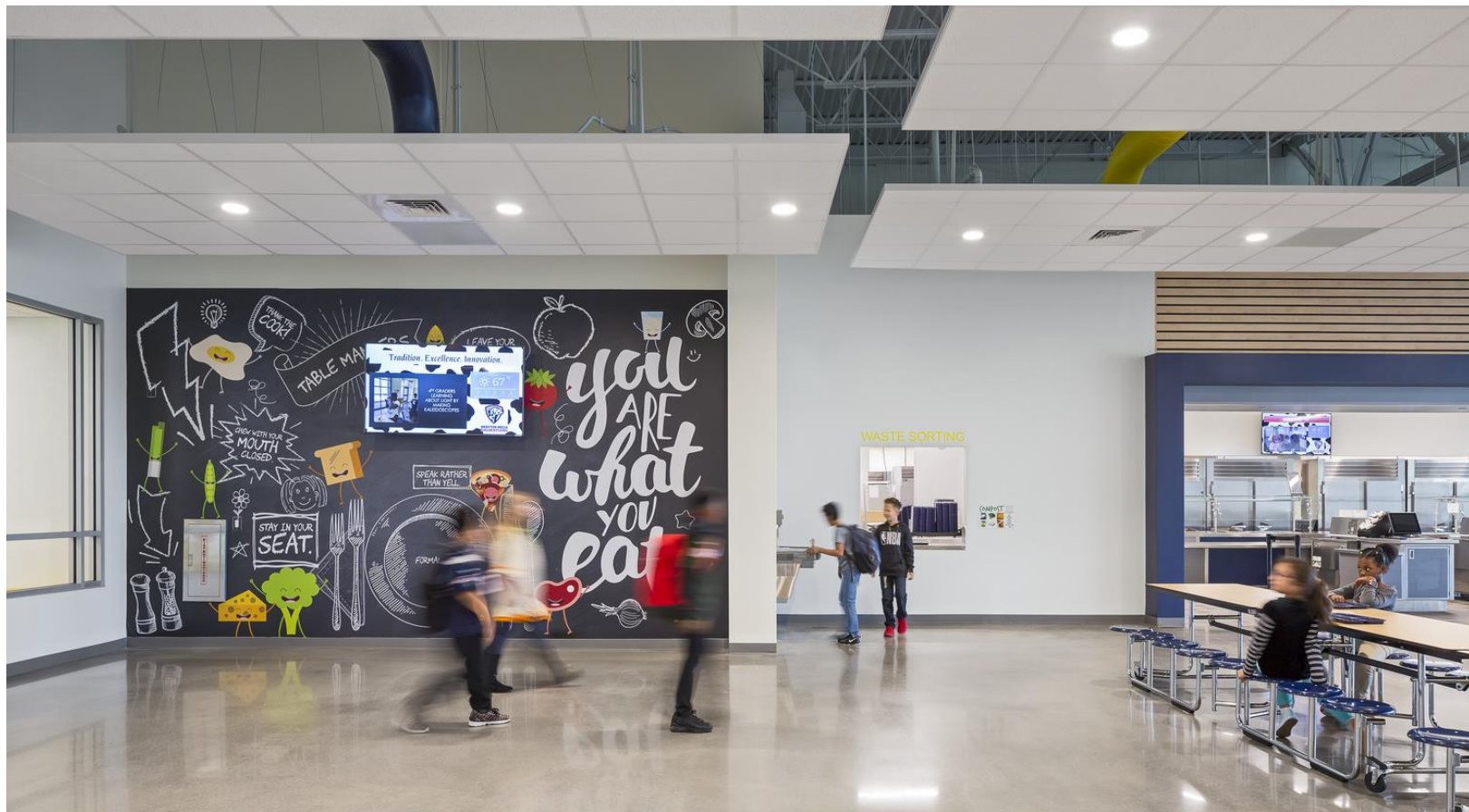














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Estimated Timeline for Construction

- 2025- Community Meetings with the Icard and Hildebran communities
- 2025- Conceptual/Schematic Design Phase/ Construction Manager selection
- 2025-2026- Detailed Construction Drawings Completed
- 2026-2027- Construction of the new eastern elementary school
- 2027-2028- Construction continues on the new eastern elementary school
- August 2028- New Eastern Elementary opens for the new school year



Questions