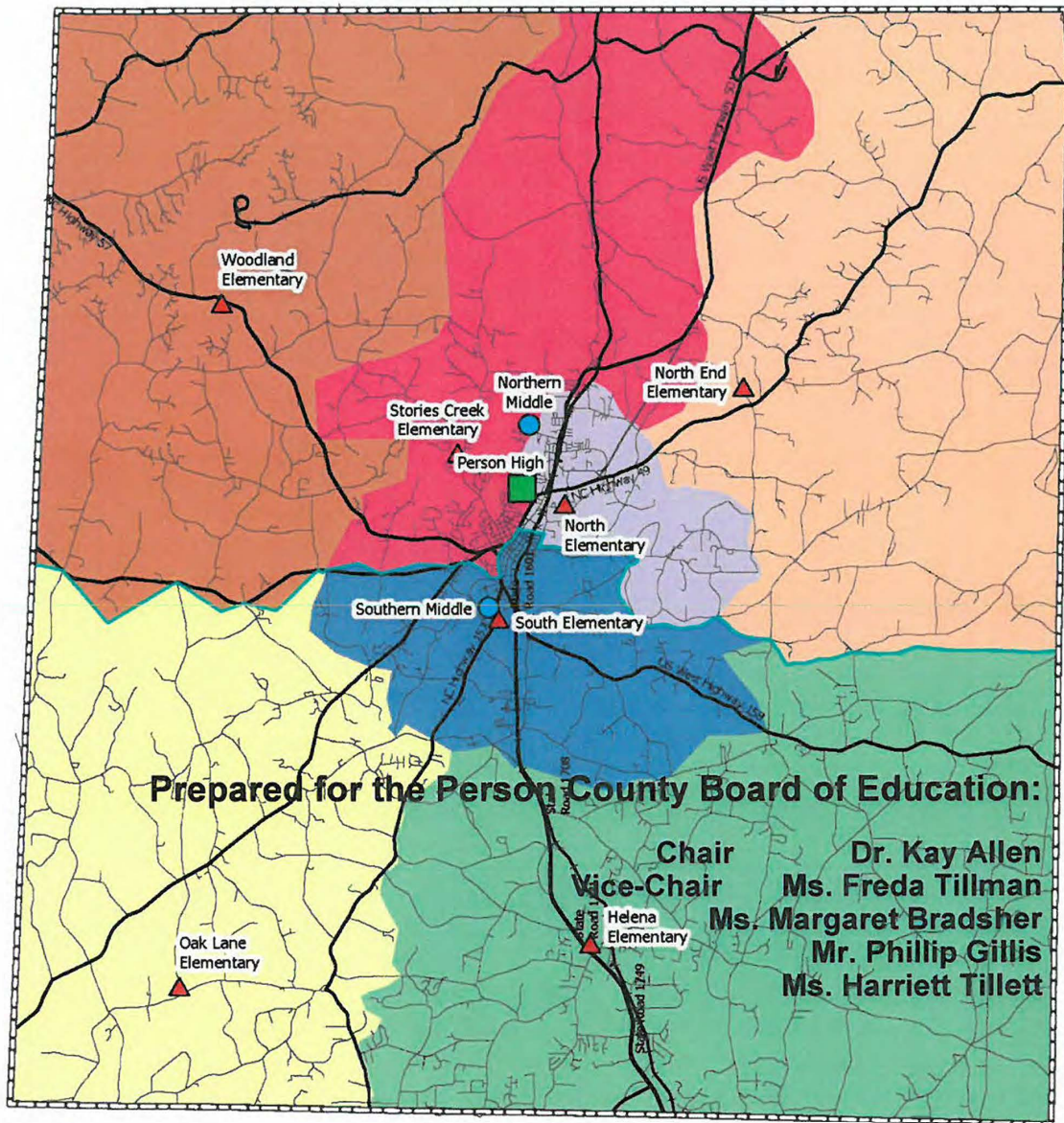


# Person County Schools

## Long Range Facility Needs Assessment 2018



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Person County Schools

# Introduction

## Introduction

Every year, on the first day of school, a new group of students appears in Kindergarten with parents in tow wanting the best for their children. They are filled with expectations, aspiration and optimism about the future and what an education can do for them. Each group of students is unique and comes with different abilities, needs, and passions that must be addressed by the school system.

Principals, teachers, and staff have all dedicated their lives to doing what they can to help these students realize their dreams. Person County School staff can, does, and will continue to do the very best they can to bring the communities vision to fruition, but there are numerous challenges. The work contained herein is intended as a documentation of the strengths, weaknesses, and challenges faced by the school system with respect to the buildings in which instruction is delivered. Next year, a different group of students will arrive. Some years there will be more and some less, but they will continue to come. It is with this notion in mind that it is important to understand the assets already present as well as the limitations of each.

Like many school systems in the nation, Person County Schools (PCS) acknowledges the need for transparency and accountability for the state of facilities operated by the school system. This document is intended to identify portions of the schools physical environment that need improvement or modification to serve as effective tools to support education. While there are many things working well and are many good points that can be and potentially should be noted, they are not identified or listed herein. By highlighting potential im-

provements, PCS will be able to focus limited funding to the most critical issues. In doing this, PCS can shoulder the responsibility of maintaining the investments the community has already made in the buildings and grounds that serve the entire community.

This document does not constitute a plan or determine a direction for addressing capacity overages, nor does it indicate the investments that must be made to each facility. It is a collection of data based on the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Minimum Facility Standards as appropriate for Person County. It constitutes the base data on which a responsible plan can be developed. Although total dollar figures are calculated here, they do not represent a request for funding, nor is this a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). It is simply data that should be used to determine what, if any, additions, renovations, and investments should be made to individual facilities.

This document describes the existing conditions of each campus and building within the system as of the 2017-18 school year. It includes measurable physical data for each school in the system relating to items such as campus acreage, building age and square footage. Furthermore, it includes data on the current student population as well as a population forecast for the next ten (10) years. These are aligned with the existing capacities at each campus along with each facility's ability to expand and support additional students.

A large portion of this report is a comparative analysis in which each school is evaluated against a set of standards to determine potential need. These standards are based on a combination of The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Minimum Facility Standards and local decisions based on local curriculum and needs in Person County.

The population forecasting used in this document is developed by Mike Miller of Numerix Solutions out of South Carolina. He uses cutting edge global positioning data and mathematical algorithms to forecast population changes and their implications. In creating the forecast, Numerix geocodes each existing student and tracks where they attend school throughout their primary and secondary schooling. Armed with this knowledge and with the birth and migration rates within the county, they run their algorithms to determine the most probable growth at each campus in the system.

This report addresses several main concerns directly related to public education facilities. The first is to ensure the appropriate number of students are assigned to each facility in order to maximize efficiency while avoiding overcrowding. The second is to ensure equity for all students to have a quality learning environment.

Students change on a daily basis, education philosophies and techniques change every few years, but buildings last a lifetime.