

## Orange County Public Schools' \$224M in projects to create 5,556 construction jobs

Orlando Business Journal by Abraham Aboraya, Reporter

Date: Tuesday, January 8, 2013, 5:42pm EST

[Orange County Public Schools](#) is in the process of doing 12 renovation or new construction projects valued at \$224 million, the school announced Jan. 8, and those projects will create 9,776 direct and indirect jobs.

The projects — including two brand new relief elementary schools in Lake Nona and Ocoee — will create direct work for a total of 5,566 construction jobs. Additionally, the ripple effect, or multiplier, will add another 4,210 jobs.

OCPS is the second-largest employer in Central Florida, with more than 22,000 employees, 184,000 students and 184 schools.

“As educators, we’re excited about providing 21st century schools with the updated technology our students need to compete in today’s global economy,” said OCPS Superintendent [Barbara Jenkins](#) in a prepared statement. “As members of this community, we’re very pleased our building program is generating jobs for working families, business for our private sector, and growing our economy.”

The projects are:

- Arbor Ridge, a kindergarten-to-8th-grade school, will be renovated, which will create 425 construction jobs and 321 indirect jobs.
- Brookshire Elementary School will be renovated, which will create 250 construction jobs and 189 indirect jobs.
- Construction of an as-yet-unnamed new school, tentatively referred to as Dowden Road, which will create 225 construction jobs and 170 indirect jobs.
- Dr. Phillips High School will be renovated, which will create 950 construction jobs and 719 indirect jobs.
- Construction of Eccleston Elementary School, a replacement project, which will create 300 construction jobs and 227 indirect jobs.

- Construction of an as-yet-unnamed new school, tentatively referred to as Hackney Prairie, which will create 600 construction jobs and 454 indirect jobs.
- Lancaster Elementary School will be renovated, which will create 350 construction jobs and 265 indirect jobs.
- Construction of Oak Ridge High School, a replacement project, which will create 1,100 construction jobs and 832 indirect jobs.
- Construction of Rock Springs Elementary School, a replacement project, which will create 300 construction jobs and 227 indirect jobs.
- Westridge Middle School will be renovated, which will create 580 construction jobs and 439 indirect jobs.
- Winegard Elementary School will be renovated, which will create 250 construction jobs and 189 indirect jobs.
- Zellwood Elementary School will be renovated, which will create 236 construction jobs and 178 indirect jobs.

“The whole community benefits from the OCPS building program,” said school board Chairman [Bill Sublette](#) in a prepared statement. “It improves our students’ learning environment and our area’s jobless rate. We have Orange County voters to thank for that.”