The continual updating of our facilities ensures that all Richland School District students will learn in high quality educational environments.”

- Superintendent Rick Schulte
In February 2013, Richland School District residents approved a $98 million bond issue to address nine specific facility improvement projects.

We are pleased to report that seven of these projects are complete:

- The new HVAC system at Chief Joseph Middle School
- The Fran Rish Stadium visitors side
- The new Lewis & Clark Elementary School
- The new Marcus Whitman Elementary School
- The new Sacajawea Elementary School
- The new Orchard Elementary School
- The new Three Rivers HomeLink

Here is the status of the other two projects:

- Construction of the new middle school in West Richland is underway; the school will open in August 2017.
- Architects are designing the new Jefferson Elementary School; the school will open in August 2018.
Automatic locking doors and controlled entries have improved security and safety.

When all projects are complete, the Richland School District will have added 130 new classrooms and replaced 72 classrooms. The average elementary class size is now four students less than three years ago.
Modular, factory-built schools are cost effective and provide student-friendly environments.

New bleachers and restrooms meet handicap access codes and earthquake safety standards.
All new heating and cooling systems are rated at 95% efficiency, replacing units rated at only 65% efficiency. All new schools are built to conserve energy and use sustainable “green” design features.

“We’ve been good stewards of the community’s tax dollars and that will continue.”

- Rick Jansons, President of the Richland School Board
The District’s fourth middle school is currently being built near the intersection of Keene Road and Belmont Boulevard in West Richland. The new school will be 108,000 square feet in size and house 800 students. Every classroom will have full access to instructional technology. The school will open in August 2017.

RSD enrollment has increased 2,080 FTE students since 2012. By 2020, enrollment is projected to increase another 2,000 students.

Community members will be invited to submit names for the new school later this fall.
The new Jefferson Elementary School will be 65,000 square feet in size and house 630 students. The school will open in 2018.

Larger elementary schools with more classrooms allowed the Richland School District to offer full day kindergarten serving 900 students in 41 classrooms.

Tour the New Marcus Whitman Elementary School

The Richland School District invites community members to tour Marcus Whitman Elementary School on Wednesday, September 28, between 6:30 - 7:30 pm. The school is located at 1704 Gray Street.

“We encourage everyone to see first-hand how their tax dollars have been invested,” says Superintendent Rick Schulte.
GOOD NEWS
FOR RSD TAXPAYERS

There is positive financial news to report regarding the 2013 bond issue.

“Our voters approved a $98 million bond issue, but we'll end up with $160 million worth of new facilities by the time all nine projects are done,” states Superintendent Rick Schulte.

• The District expected to receive $32 million in state matching money; instead, the District will receive $62 million.

• The additional state dollars enabled the District to add significant square footage at Lewis & Clark, Marcus Whitman, Orchard, Sacajawea, HomeLink, and the upcoming new middle school in West Richland.

• The District will use some of these additional dollars to build an entirely new Jefferson Elementary instead of just the 1952 wing as originally planned.