Albemarle Graded School, which later became Central Elementary school, was built in 1900 and boasted of...

Twenty classrooms

Modern library & cafeteria

500-seat auditorium
• In 1920, a $200,000 school bond was passed to construct a new and larger high school.
• Charles Christian Hook was hired to design the new school.
• Work began that August on the largest and most imposing unit of the city school system.
Albemarle High School opened in 1924 and Central Elementary then spread into the remaining space of the 1900 high school building.
In 1936, plans were made to build two additions and a larger gymnasium.
The northwest view of Albemarle High School, ca. 1940
• 2001. Local organizations receive grant funding from the National Trust of Historic Preservation. Coupled with private donations, a study was conducted to find new uses for the building.

• Summer 2002. Through a feasibility study including a structural analysis, it was determined that the building sound and suitable to be rehabbed as a modern school.
• The building undergoing renovation in 2005
• 2005 Work stops due to lead and asbestos concerns and structural concern in the new addition.

• 2006. Contractor declares bankruptcy and the work comes to a standstill.
• September, 2006. New structure passes load test and new contractor arrives to finish project.
A Bright Future

- November 9, 2007. Students and staff vacate the 1900 and 1940s buildings and move into the new Central Elementary School.
Our new school boasts of...

- 90,433 square feet, the third largest campus in Stanly County
- Two playgrounds with $40,000 of playground equipment
- Gymnasium
- Cafeteria
- 70 Toilets
- 3 Computer labs
- Restored auditorium with balcony
- 30 Classrooms
- 15 Resource and Special Education rooms
- 4 Teacher workrooms
• Music room
• Art room with a kiln room and outside patio
• Office space
• Boardroom
• Sick room

• The greatest staff AND students anywhere in the country!!
Central Elementary School
November 9, 2007