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New Walkertown School Won't Be Ready for First Day of Class

FOX8 Staff Writer

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WALKERTOWN, N.C. (WGHP)

Students will have to wait until after the start of the school year to have their first day of class at the new Walkertown High School.

The \$34.4 million school was supposed to open at the start of the school year, but they were unable to catch up from a rainy spring that delayed construction. The opening is now scheduled for November.

Students will have class in a temporary wing of Atkins High School until the 24,000 square-foot school is ready to open.

The school will house only the 9th and 10th grades to start with, as middle school students will share the rest of the space until a new middle school is built in the coming years. The current middle school grew by 100 students last year alone.

"We'll have the middle school in one wing and the high school in the other wing, so they won't be together. We are even using different schedules, separate cafeteria and separate gyms, so we are really trying to make each group feel it belongs to them," said Piper Hendrix, principal of the new school.

The original Walkertown High School closed down decades ago after a consolidation with other schools in the county. However, the area has seen massive growth due to its popularity as a suburb to both Winston-Salem and Greensboro. The growth led school district officials to build a new Walkertown High, complete with its original school colors and Wolf Pack mascot.

"It's beautiful, and it's not even finished. You can tell it's going to be a grand building for this area," Hendrix said. Many parents in Walkertown said they can't wait for the school to open so they don't have to commute as much, and their children don't have to change schools.