



PRICE'S FORK SCHOOL LAND PURCHASE IS COMPLETED

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Montgomery County, Virginia – Montgomery County recently completed the purchase of property for the new Price's Fork Elementary School, clearing the way for moving ahead on construction.

“We are very happy that the schools can move ahead with the new elementary school and appreciative of Virginia Tech's work with us on the land purchase,” said Board Chairman Annette Perkins. “The 20 acre site is in an ideal location in Price's Fork Village, with access off Price's Fork Road.”

“Selling or divesting our land was not in our long range plans, but it provided an excellent solution for the county school system,” said Larry Hincker, university spokesman. “Virginia Tech is pleased to have been part of the process to assist county leadership expand educational opportunities for students in our region.”

The County paid \$1 million to buy the land from Virginia Tech in a purchase approved by the County's Board of Supervisors, Tech's Board of Visitors and Gov. Timothy Kaine.

The new school's design will be essentially identical to the new Eastern Montgomery Elementary School, which will open in fall 2010. Teachers, parents and students offered input on the designs of both elementary schools. The 106,000-square-foot schools are being financed as part of a \$77 million bond package for County capital projects.

The school system plans to advertise the construction contract this month for Price's Fork, with a bid opening in mid December, according to Dan Berenato, the schools facilities director. Branch & Associates, Inc. is building the \$18.6 million Eastern Montgomery School. The schools are designed by Spectrum Design, PC.

The land purchase is the culmination of an extensive search for a site to build the new school, which will replace the 1950s-era Price's Fork Elementary School. The Price's Fork school will open sometime during fall 2011.

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