EXCEPTIONAL

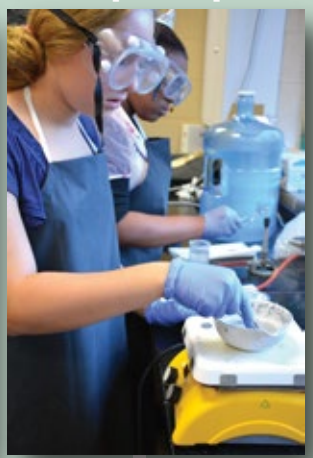
A capital campaign to expand excellence.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
EST. 1957
KATHERINE JOHNSON CAMPUS

Future building site - campus expansion





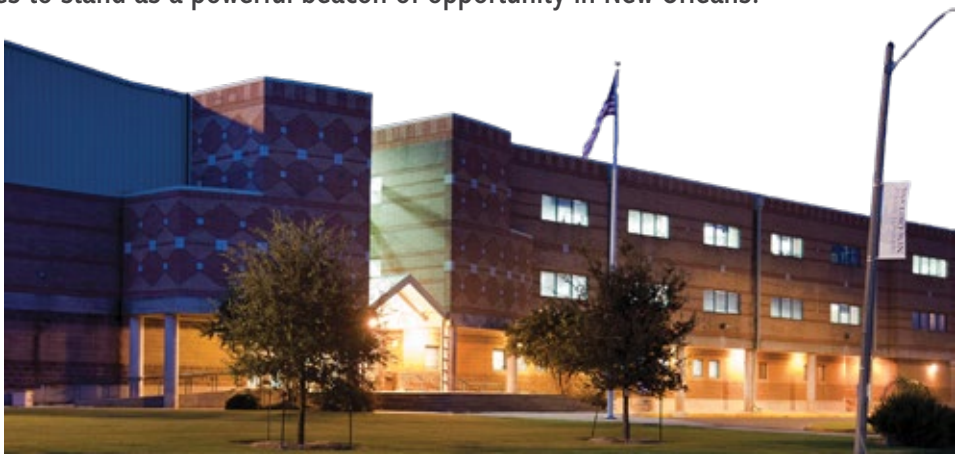




AN EXCELLENT PAST...

For nearly 70 years, Benjamin Franklin High School has defined excellence in public education. Consistently ranked among the top public schools in the city, state, and nation, Franklin enrolls more than 1,100 of the city's best and brightest young scholars each year, welcoming every Orleans Parish student who meets its rigorous academic standards. **Franklin has transformed the lives of more than 10,500 alumni** since its founding and continues to stand as a powerful beacon of opportunity in New Orleans.





Today, Franklin faces a challenge born from its own success.



"Franklin delivers a world-class education in facilities that no longer match the excellence of our students or teachers. As our enrollment continues to grow, investing in our campus is essential to securing Franklin's future."

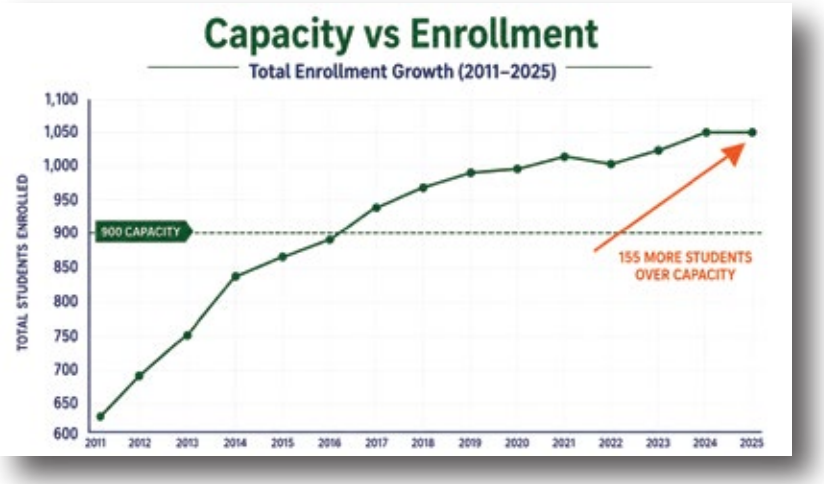
- Alex Jarrell, Ben Franklin CEO



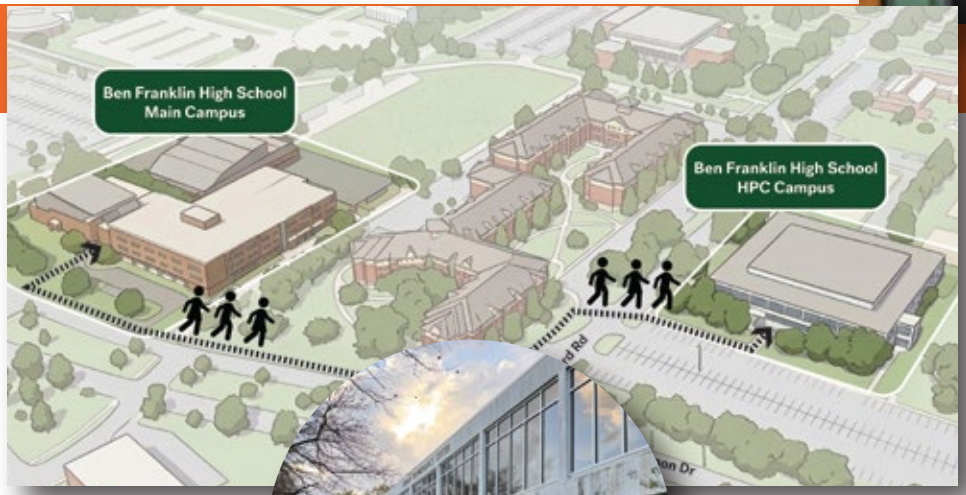
From 1957 to 1990, Franklin flourished on the historic Carrollton Courthouse campus before enrollment growth and evolving academic needs necessitated a move to its current Gentilly campus. Since 1990, the school has continued to expand its impact, attracting increasing numbers of high-achieving students from across New Orleans.

Today, however, Franklin has once again outgrown its home. Enrollment demand continues to rise, and the existing campus can no longer adequately support the needs of its flourishing student population.

To accommodate growth, classroom space is leased nearly a half mile from the main building, creating a fragmented campus that forces students and teachers to spend instructional time traveling between locations. This separation limits opportunities for collaboration, connection, and the vibrant sense of community that defines the Franklin experience. A capital campaign is critical so Franklin can quickly provide modern learning environments, collaborative spaces, and expanded capacity to serve today's students while positioning the school to thrive for generations.









The Human Performance Center (HPC)

Ben Franklin High School is embarking on a $10.5 million capital campaign to renovate the Human Performance Center building that is a 3-4 minute walk from the main campus. We are seeking philanthropic support from our alumni, parents, and the local community to create a campus where students and faculty can learn, collaborate, compete, gather, and thrive. We invite you to invest in the next generation of scholars, leaders, innovators, and engaged citizens by supporting the expansion of Ben Franklin today.

EXCEPTIONAL



EXPANDING EXCELLENCE

94% OF AP STUDENTS SCORE COLLEGE-READY (3+) ON ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EXAMS

STUDENTS HAILING FROM **EVERY ZIP CODE** IN ORLEANS PARISH

60% OF CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS IDENTIFY AS PEOPLE OF COLOR

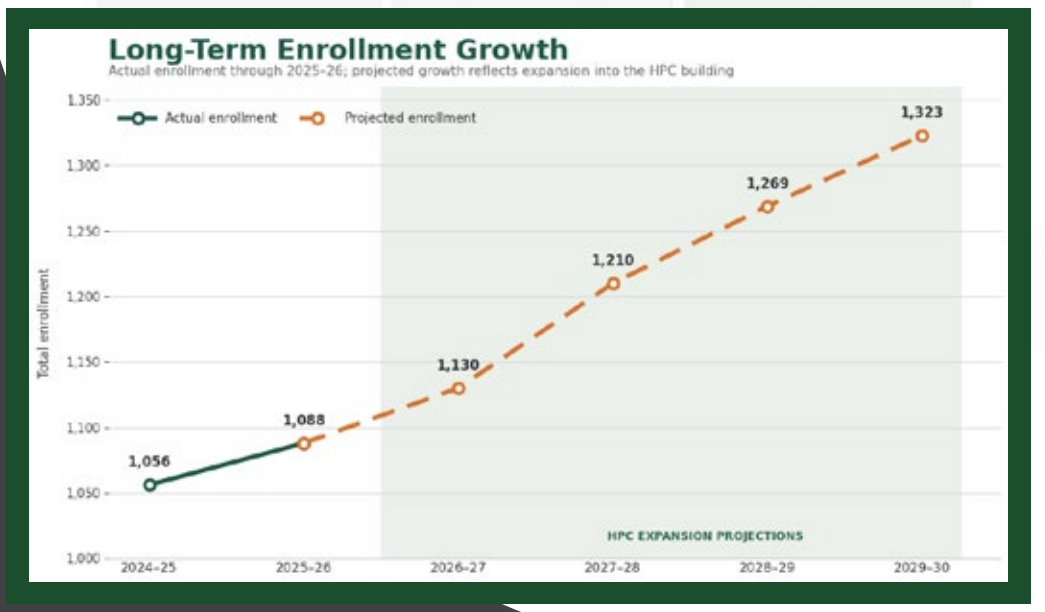
FACULTY AVERAGES **17** YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

99% COLLEGE ENROLLMENT UPON GRADUATION

100 EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Impressive results

While Franklin leads in academic excellence and student achievement, its facilities lag behind. **The current building cannot accommodate its students, let alone future growth.** The commitment to accept every qualified student is the bedrock of the school's identity. However, enrollment has risen 26% in the past decade, even as other high schools have experienced reductions. Franklin serves over 1,100 students in a building designed for 900. To meet classroom needs, space is leased in a building several blocks away. The common areas, including the auditorium and gym, are severely overcrowded, limiting students' ability to socialize and collaborate.



PAST

Initially established in 1957 to cultivate New Orleans' next generation of leaders, Benjamin Franklin quickly earned a reputation as one of the nation's top educational institutions. In 2006, Franklin was reconstituted as a public charter school and is governed by a nonprofit board composed of community and civic leaders.

1957

Benjamin Franklin High School opens in the former Carrollton Courthouse



1960

The first class graduates



1963

First high school in the city to desegregate by request of the students and faculty



1971

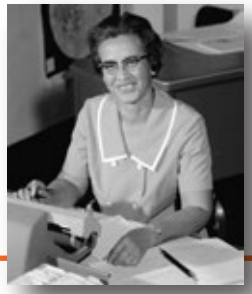
BFHS adds a ninth grade



1990

BFHS moves across town to its current location on the lakefront





2005

Hurricane Katrina devastates the campus



2006

BFHS becomes a charter school and is the first to reopen after the storm



2021

The campus is named in honor of NASA trailblazer Katherine Johnson



2025

The STEAM Center opens, adding new Engineering, Media Arts and Computer Science classrooms to campus

2026

The Rose Field project brings a state of the art sports field



FUTURES

A reimagined space

The Human Performance Center on the LSU New Orleans campus represents a transformational opportunity for Franklin's current and future students. Originally an athletic facility, it sits just steps away from our main campus and offers the space and flexibility we need to serve a growing student body.











Supporting the whole student

The renovated facility will include a dedicated mental health and wellness suite, providing students with welcoming, confidential spaces to meet with counselors and access essential support. By bringing these services together in a calm, **student-centered environment,** Franklin will strengthen its commitment to students' emotional well-being, resilience, and academic success.

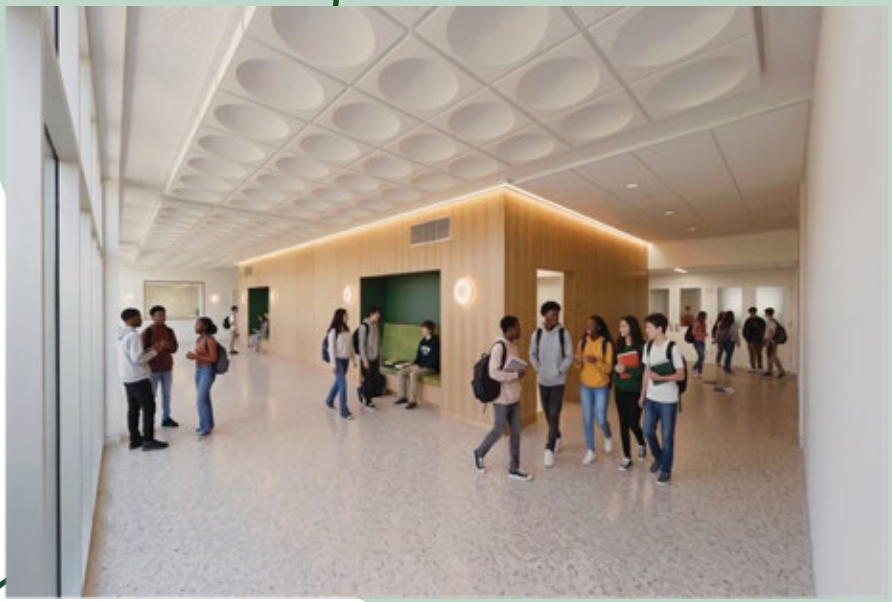




To meet growing demand and match its academic excellence, Franklin must expand.







A CAMPUS WORTHY OF OUR STUDENTS



BFHS has achieved extraordinary results, enrollment has grown, and the public funding system does not provide the capital resources necessary to create the learning environment students need and deserve. After carefully evaluating numerous options, Franklin has identified a long-term solution that will allow the school to meet current needs while supporting future generations of students. Through a 30-year lease agreement with LSU New Orleans, Franklin will renovate an existing university building located just steps from the school's main facility. The renovated building will create a cohesive campus experience and provide the space necessary for Franklin to continue delivering an exceptional education.



The new building will increase square footage by 50%:

- 16 new classrooms
- 10 offices and student support spaces
- A gymnasium large enough to accommodate the entire student body
- Dedicated gathering and collaboration areas
- Multiple study nooks and informal learning spaces
- Convenient access just 3-4 minutes from Franklin's main building

Why Philanthropy Matters

As a public charter school, Franklin receives public funding for educational programs and operations. Yet as costs have risen, per-pupil MFP (local and state) funding has remained flat, leaving public funding insufficient to address major facility needs. Across Louisiana and the nation, public schools face significant challenges securing capital funding for renovations and improvements. The resources required to modernize learning environments often exceed available public support.

Franklin is committed to responsible stewardship of public and private resources. The school will use institutional funds and available public sources to reduce the amount that must be raised through philanthropy. Even with these investments, a funding gap remains. **To complete this transformational $10.5 million project, Franklin launched a capital campaign to raise philanthropic support from the community.**



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BEST HIGH SCHOOLS
U.S.News & WORLD REPORT
NATIONAL
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An Investment in the EXCEPTIONAL

Every gift will help create a campus where students can learn, collaborate, compete, gather, and thrive.

Donors are often asked to invest in potential. This campaign offers an opportunity to invest in proven results. Franklin has demonstrated what is possible when students are provided with high expectations, outstanding educators, and a culture of achievement. Franklin's record of academic success makes it the most sought-after public school in Louisiana.

This project ensures that Franklin's facilities match the excellence already taking place inside its classrooms.



Join us in shaping the next chapter of Franklin's story.

Franklin's achievements belong to the entire community. The school's success supports today's students and the city's economic future. By investing in this campaign, donors will help preserve and expand one of Louisiana's most successful educational institutions while creating a learning environment worthy of its students.

Together, we can ensure that Benjamin Franklin High School continues to provide an exceptional education for generations to come.

For more information regarding giving and naming opportunities, please contact:

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bfhsla.org/exceptional

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Current building

