

## Building boom hits Bastrop

5/4/2009 1:44 PM

By: Jenna Hiller

It's been two years since voters approved more than \$97 million in bonds for [Bastrop Independent School District](#), and the construction is well on its way.

The walls are going up at Cedar Creek High School, bringing down a long-standing tradition in the community of having only one high school, the director of operations for Bastrop ISD said.

"One of the most difficult things in Texas whenever a school district grows is adding that second high school," Henry Gideon said. "You've been a one horse town for a long time -- Bastrop High School's been the historic high school of our community."

Not everyone is happy about footing the bill of the new campus.

"I don't understand how they justify it. Even though they're making schools, they're building schools for people coming in, it's just real hard," Bobby Cervantez, a property owner in Bastrop, said.

But most agree that the expansion is needed.

"It's a necessity. The kids need it," Bastrop property owner Linda McPhaul-Edwards said. "We need it. We're not little anymore."

While the high school won't be ready until 2010, two other projects will be ready for the next school year.

The performing arts center will be the first performing arts center in the county and the tallest building in Bastrop County. Bastrop ISD had to get city approval for the building's 65-foot height.

The district is already excited about the first performances at the center, to be called the Jerry Fay Wilhelm Performing Arts Center.

Another exciting project ready for fall of 2009 is Bastrop ISD Memorial Stadium. The goals are already up, but the field is still covered in rocks.

Students will be phased in to Cedar Creek High School starting with freshmen in 2010.



*The extent of construction is a visual representation of the growth in Bastrop.*



*The performing arts center will be the only such center in the county.*



*The Bastrop ISD Memorial Stadium will be ready for games this coming school year.*