

# WPCC Getting \$500,000 For New Building Project

6/24/74  
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Western Piedmont Community College will receive \$500,000 through action just taken by the Advisory Budget Commission in transferring about \$3 million in the Department of Community Colleges budget from operations to capital.

Gov. James E. Holshouser's office announced that the commission approved the transfer of funds Friday. These are federal vocational education funds in addition to capital funds approved by the state legislature recently.

The transfer of the funds will enable Western Piedmont and nine other educational institutions to move ahead with capital construction programs.

For Western Piedmont it means that the college's board of trustees now can begin making definite plans for a \$1-million project which will include two new facilities. President Gordon C. Blank said the two facilities would include a student services facility and an instructional facility.

Dr. Blank said the \$500,000 would be added to a \$280,000 request made to the Burke County Board of Commissioners for the 1974-75 fiscal year and a similar amount anticipated for 1975-76. The new facilities should be completed with 2½ to 3 years, he said.

Ray Childers is chairman of

the trustees' building and grounds committee, which will be working on the project and make a recommendation to the full board.

"These are much needed facilities," Dr. Blank said. "The

college trustees, faculty and staff are extremely pleased with the action by the governor and the advisory Budget Commission in approving the grant of these funds."

He noted that the State Board of Education at its April meeting had approved the transfer of funds, which then had to be given final approval by the governor and the Advisory Budget Commission. The community colleges and their priorities were listed and the Burke college was included among the 10 with top-ranking priorities to receive the funds.

In another development, approval of a \$35,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission to the college for the second-year continuation of the Unifour dental disease program has been announced by Congressman James T. Broyhill's office.

The program covers Burke, Alexander and Caldwell Counties. Catawba County also participates but is funded from another source. The program is for education in cooperation with elementary school children to show the proper motivation and education to reduce dental disease.

Last year 6,771 children participated in the dental program and this year 20 schools with approximately 4,000 children will be added. The total amount of the program is \$197,200 with local sources providing \$162,200.