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OPELIKA-AUBURN NEWS WEEKEND

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Saturday, January 24, 2026

5 THINGS TO KNOW



BECKY BROWN, OPELIKA CITY SCHOOLS

Fox Run School students gather in the gym for a P.E. class during the first day of school on Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2024. The City of Opelika and the OCS Board of Education are partnering on an estimated \$40 million expansion of Fox Run School.

Opelika's Fox Run School expansion announced

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The City of Opelika and the Opelika City Schools Board of Education announced plans on Tuesday for an expansion of Fox Run School, a sixth-grade school that opened just a few years ago.

The City of Opelika and OCS leadership both cited growth across the city and the school system as reasons for the expansion, which is expected to cost around

\$40 million, the City of Opelika said. OCS Superintendent Kevin Davis said the move gives the school system flexibility and room to grow in the future.

"As enrollment increases, this project and future building projects ensure we can meet academic needs without disruption," Davis said. "We are grateful for the city's support and proud of this shared commitment to students, employees and families."

Here are five things to know about Fox

Run School and the planned expansion:

The school opened less than three years ago

There are currently nine schools in the OCS school system, and the school set for a major expansion is the newest of those schools.

Please see EXPANSION, Page A2

Two Opelika child advocacy groups receive more than \$1M in grants

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Two Opelika organizations that assist child abuse victims were awarded grants from Gov. Kay Ivey, according to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs Wednesday.

Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services,

Inc. and Alabama Court Appointed Special Advocates Network received grants to fund their services and programs.

These organizations are two of a total of eight organizations that received grants, totaling \$2.6 million, to provide professional care to children who have suffered various forms of abuse.

"Children who have been abused need a place where they feel safe to share what happened to them and receive needed assistance," Ivey said in an ADECA news release. "I am pleased to award these funds to groups that are proven champions for children and which play a vital role in bringing offenders to justice."

Twin Cedars was awarded grants of \$115,699 and \$59,525 to fund prevention services, personal advocacy and residential programs for victims of crimes, including child physical and sexual abuse and human trafficking in Lee and Macon counties.

Please see GRANTS, Page A3

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