

**Spoken on 12/6/11 at WCPSS Board Meeting by**

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My name is Shannon Flynn and I have 3 children at Carpenter Elementary. I, like Maria and Patty am speaking out **against** the feeder pattern of **Carpenter – East Cary – Panther Creek**.

**We don't like our feeder pattern and you now know why-** but you say we still have the **"choice"** of getting on another one. The reality is a school is only a **"choice"** if there are **seats available**. We can **choose** to move to Green Hope which would feed us into Davis Middle. However - page 11 of your Facilities Utilization Report shows Green Hope at **106.1%** capacity. Or we may try for Cedar Fork which feed us into West Cary Middle but page 10 shows them at **120%** capacity. Throw in the fact that most of us live **slightly over 1.5 miles** from those schools and we have **another school closer (Carpenter)** so we qualify for **zero** of your 8 priority levels. The math is simple - **over capacity + no priority = no choice**.

**School utilization in west Cary is a huge problem.** It started the summer of 2010 when **some of you** voted to change Mills Park Middle to **traditional** when it was **planned as a year round**. That left west Cary with **no year round middle school**. Perhaps that explains why 3 of it's year round elementary schools are **way under capacity** – Carpenter is at **82.3%** according to page 10 of the report and Highcroft and Alston Ridge are **so under capacity** they are operating on a **single track**. There is **no proximate year round middle school** for these schools to feed into so **parents are opting for traditional**. And that is why the **traditional** elementary schools are all at **over 100% capacity**. Year round schools were created to **solve capacity issues** - yet the area that **needs it most, West Cary**, has **no year round middle school**.

Please take another look at our situation and **work with us** on a solution. The **539 Carpenter families** deserve a **fair chance** for a seat in a **proximate neighborhood school at every level**.

