



Key Facts

We **support** high quality schools for all children in Wake County.

Research shows high poverty schools have higher teacher turnover, higher principal turnover, lower student achievement, and higher costs.

That's why we **advocate for high quality education** for all students.

WCPSS At A Glance

- Enrollment 2010-2011 -- 143,289, students,
- 18th largest school district in the nation, largest in North Carolina
- 163 schools, including 53 year round schools (44 elementary and nine middle)

Growth Drives Assignment: between 2000 and 2010....

- 52 new schools (30 elementary, 11 middle, 10 high and 1 special/optional) in 2010-2011
- 48,000 new seats added, with 46,000 students reassigned
- 50,000 more students in WCPSS

Fast Facts about Wake County

- At 3.47 percent in 2008-09, WCPSS schools had the lowest dropout rate in six years, a rate lower than Charlotte/Mecklenburg and than the state average. The drop out rate declined for students of every race and ethnicity, with the largest improvements among Hispanic, African-American, and multi-racial students.
- The dropout rate for black students is the lowest since 2003-04, and for white and multi-racial students it's the lowest since before 1999-2000.
- Busing is a smokescreen to mask the real issues – bus rides in zones in Charlotte are longer than the bus rides in Wake County, and Mecklenburg is a smaller county.
- Average bus ride in Wake County is 17 minutes.
- Less than 5 percent of our students are bused for diversity.
- The average Wake County student spends less time on a bus than the average North Carolina student.
- If there were no growth there would be no reassignment.

Current direction of the School Board...

- leads to more reassignments, more instability, more chaos
- harms national reputation of Wake County as having a high quality of life
- creates overcrowded schools
- creates high poverty (80 to 90 percent poverty) schools
- denies research that shows student achievement declines in high poverty schools