

I keep hearing that the blue plan will deal with growth better than the green plan. I'm not sure I believe this and need some help understanding this piece.

Theoretically, as schools within a choice zone get filled, the choice zones will be adjusted so families will always have an acceptable range of schools. When a new school opens, it will be placed into enough people's zones and lists of choices that it will fill quickly. Is this the flexibility that is key to the blue plan accommodating growth?

How will this theory play out in reality? I predict that people who don't get into their top 2 choices will be very dissatisfied especially if they live close by to their school of choice. These parents will then lobby for a base assignment component. If the school board does as it has done many times over the past year and a half, they will accommodate those families and we will have zones with bases and a very segregated school system.

When Charlotte first moved away from their commitment to diversity, they included base schools in their choice plan. Schools rapidly resegregated and we see the long term effects of this today – school underutilization, closures, massive crowding in the suburbs and more parents choosing to leave the public school.

We don't want this for Wake County! Please remember all of the things that have worked to build our strong school system and keep them in place in any new plan. Too much confusion, too much uncertainty and a lack of commitment to avoiding high poverty schools may help us with the growth problem, but only because folks will opt out of WCPSS or will not move to Wake County at all.