



ONE YEAR LATER

- One year later, we are more segregated.
- One year later, the Board majority's promise of **stability** has led to **more reassignments**. (*March & April: >1,500 students reassigned, 46 schools affected*)
- One year later, public opinion continues to be ignored; results of a survey mandated by the Board majority show that of 40,000 respondents, **94.5 percent are satisfied** with their student's assignments.
- One year later, reassignments have led to **higher poverty** in schools. (For example, *Adams ES moves from 26 percent to 32.7 percent low income. Dillard Drive ES from 27.7 percent to 36.7 percent low income.*)
- One year later, calendar changes **affected 4,500 students** for the 2010-2011 school year. These students and their families were forced either to change schools or to change calendars, a loss of continuity for these students and their families.
- One year later, we have spent thousands of dollars for extra security for meetings that the full public cannot even attend.
- One year later, the Board majority voted **against insuring the avoidance of creating high poverty schools**, despite decades of research that shows that high poverty schools undermine student achievement
- One year later, **public comment** has been limited to **one meeting per month**, despite the Board majority members' pledge to "listen to parents."
- One year later, **public comment** has been reduced from three to **two minutes**.
- One year later, Board of Education Chair Ron Margiotta has said he would not approve of more public comment "in a million years."
- One year later, Chairman Margiotta invokes a **last minute gag order** to suppress public comment on student reassignment.
- One year later, the Board majority has spent more than **\$100,000** on extra lawyers, including one to conduct an audit of legal services that showed the District was getting a great value for legal services.
- One year later, conversion of schools from year round to traditional calendar causes a **loss of seats and overcrowding**. Despite the fact that 63.34 percent of Leesville Road ES parents indicated their preference for a year round calendar, the school was still converted. The conversion came at a **loss of \$14.1 million** in classroom capacity. It is now estimated that the Northwest region of the county will be at above 110 percent capacity for middle school seats and above 100 percent capacity for elementary school seats in 2013-14. Leesville Middle is now **overcrowded**.
- One year later, the Board majority wasted **\$4.1 million** additional construction costs to make up for capacity lost by converting Leesville Elementary and Leesville Middle School from year-round to traditional calendar.

- One year later, a survey of more than 500 **Wake County teachers** shows:
 1. **72 percent** believe public schools in Wake County are **pretty seriously off on the wrong track.**
 2. Have a **positive/very positive impression of our public schools** (83%)
 3. Have a **positive/very positive impression of the schools where they work** (92%)
 4. Have a **negative/very negative impression of our School Board** (81%)
 5. Believe the diversity policy based on socioeconomic status has had a **positive impact on students' academic achievement** and disagree with the Board majority's move to end this policy. (81%)
- One year later, we are worried about the estimated **\$15,000 apiece** that it will cost to recruit and hire teachers, to replace those who flee from high-poverty schools.
- One year later, decades of progress in reducing racial segregation in our schools has been replaced by a hastily written “voluntary desegregation plan” that has been ignored by Board members who passed it.
- One year later, we are faced with **losing millions in Federal MSAP magnet school grants** because the grants are contingent on promoting diversity.
- One year later, we are faced with **losing millions in Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funds** because the grants are contingent on promoting diversity.
- One year later, we are under a review by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, **risking accreditation status** for the Class of 2011 and all our high schools.
- One year later, we are under a Title VI review by the U.S. Office of Civil Rights.
- One year later, the Board majority **wasted \$145,550** to pay Supt. Del Burns to do nothing for the rest of this year, rather than work full time.
- One year later, there is no cost estimate for the massive reassignments continuously proposed by Board majority members.
- One year later, the Board majority spent an additional **\$4.3 million**--just for the land--to site a new high school (H6) in Rolesville, 12 miles from grossly overcrowded Wakefield HS (built for 1800 students, serves 3,000). Apparently, proximity is an assignment criterion that is selectively ignored.
- One year later, the original site for the much-needed H6 high school was abandoned by the Board majority at a cost in excess of **\$18 million** (an estimated \$3.7 million non recoverable expenses) and a **multi-year delay in opening**. The cost to house students in temporary classrooms (needed because of currently overcrowded schools): at least **\$10 million**. Additional costs (delayed construction, rework plans for the new site) continue to mount.
- One year later, the Board majority spent an additional **\$82,500** plus unspecified expenses to hire the **most expensive** firm under consideration to lead a search for the next Superintendent. Chicago-based Heidrick & Struggles offers **limited experience**, with only two superintendent searches under its belt. The Board majority refused to consider using the North Carolina School Board Association, (cost: **under \$15,000**) or another national firm-Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates--with 600 successful public school searches to its credit and whose **fees were half** that of the firm selected.
- One year later, **counseling services at Project Enlightenment**, the County's premier early childhood education program, have been gutted and some of Wake County's most vulnerable families face a threat to needed services.
- One year later, in response to increased criticism of Board majority policies, we've seen increased, **onerous police presence** at Board meetings, including one meeting with two inmate transfer buses standing by. The Board majority spent **31 times more money on**

security—\$14,000 in a five-month period compared to \$451.58 for a five-month period by the previous Board—including at least four armed police officers and more than six security officers at a regular meeting attended by fewer than 50 people in April. These actions are more fitting of so-called governments in authoritarian regimes rather than a democracy.

- One year later, citizens wishing to address the Board are required to sign up online to speak and obtain tickets to attend a meeting of a governmental body— violating the spirit of the **NC Open Meetings Law**.
- One year later, Broughton High School has its IB program intact although no one outside its assignment zone can apply to attend that school now that it is not a magnet. The IB program at Garner High School attracts few magnet applicants because it is not centrally located.
- One year later, early release days are all on Fridays, which is better for families but more difficult for teachers.
- One year later, **special education funding** for our most vulnerable children has been under attack by Board majority members who threaten to cut services that Wake County is obligated to provide.
- One year later, we've seen the Board majority hire political cronies—including Thomas Farr and Kieran Shanahan—to conduct legal work behind closed doors.
- One year later, the Board majority voted 5-4 to receive training from the John W. Pope Civitas Institute, a nonprofit organization with a stated mission "to facilitate the implementation of conservative policy solutions to improve the lives of all North Carolinians"—but without experience or expertise in training a School Board.
- One year later, the Board majority has removed student assignment policy that worked to avoid creating schools with high concentrations of low performing students. Such poor planning will harm student achievement and teacher work conditions.
- One year later, our school system is **professionally isolated** due to Board majority votes to leave the N.C. School Board Association and the National School Board Association. *We are the only school district in the state that is not a member.*
- One year later, the Student Achievement Committee, which once met at least monthly, has only met four times, despite the Board majority's claim that it cares about Student Achievement.
- One year later, our Superintendent no longer is required to have educational experience.
- One year later, facing financial crisis and a crisis in public confidence, the Board majority voted to meet less often—with more work to do, the Board is doing less work.
- One year later, the Board Chairman directed the arrest of high school students who had the audacity to tell them not to segregate their public schools.
- One year later, the Board majority has aided private school interests by delaying decisions on school construction.
- One year later, we spent **\$15,000** to change street signs because the bell schedule was changed.
- One year later, we spent **\$750,000** for extra buses needed to run to new schools because the bell schedule was changed.
- One year later, the Board majority **has failed to have concrete planning or earnest discussion of a looming \$40 million shortfall for next year.**
- One year later, we have witnessed name calling among Board majority members at public meetings.