



2009-2010 Roundtable Topics

World-Class Public Schools

Global competition and a growing demand that all graduates meet higher standards require a different design for Wake County's public schools in order to provide a world-class education.

The Partnership's report "Suspending Disbelief" offers a framework for change in the schools. Its findings describe what a world-class school system would look like in areas such as basic student competencies, curriculum standards, assessment, testing, and the way time is used in the classroom. (Copies of the publication will be provided for all attendees.)

This Roundtable discussion will focus on what it means to guarantee every graduate is ready to compete in a global economy.

Socio-Economic Diversity

For more than 30 years, students attending the Wake County Public School System have benefited from a demonstrated commitment by community leaders to schools that reflect the county's diversity. First by race, and more recently by family income, our public school system has actively sought to create and maintain the kind of enrollment balance that decades of research have proven to be critical for successful schools, students, and communities.

This Roundtable discussion will present the position of the Partnership as published in "Striking a Balance: In Support of Diversity in the Wake County Public School System." (Copies of the publication will be provided for all attendees.)

Open Topic

Chambers may choose a focus for the Roundtable. The Partnership is particularly able to provide information on the following public education topics: Accountability and Student Performance; Choice, Charters, and Magnets; and Teachers (retention, turnover, experience).

The Partnership's staff is well-equipped to provide an overview for many topics. Our staff currently includes a former school superintendent who worked in public education for more than 40 years, a classroom teacher who has earned her National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certificate and an award-winning journalist who covered education at The News & Observer for more than 20 years.