

Wake Education Partnership

Monthly Newsletter

August 2011



Steve Parrott

A Message From Our President

Today is the first day of school for our traditional school-year students and I want to wish each student, teacher and administrator our best hopes and support for a great school year. I also want to remind our readers to say "thank you" to each of our educators for their commitment to preparing our children for college, the workforce and life's successes.

As I reported last month, Wake Education Partnership is pleased to be hosting the Wake Leadership Institute on August 30. The Institute is designed to provide a tutorial about the Wake County Public School System. That includes the challenges and opportunities regarding school construction, student assignment and teacher pay-for-performance issues that the candidates running in the Board of Education election in October almost certainly will face during their school board term. The discussions will focus on school district operations and a factual overview of the issues. The focus is not about the politics. Eleven of our fourteen candidates have confirmed their attendance.

As you read this month's newsletter, six students from Millbrook High School are traveling to Beijing, China where they will be spending a year at the Beijing Royal School furthering their global education.

IN THIS ISSUE

- [President's Column](#)
- [Teacher Leadership Grants: Your Investments at Work](#)
- [Upcoming Events Featuring Back to School Links](#)
- [Invest in Public Education Through the Partnership](#)
- [Learn More About Us](#)
- [Save the Date! Annual Education Summit is Oct. 12](#)
- [News From Area Chamber Education Committees](#)
- [In Their Words: Why The Partnership Matters](#)
- [In Context: Subscribe Today!](#)
- [School Board Elections Resource Page Now Available](#)
- [By the Numbers: A Measure of Wake County Schools](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

.....

Welcome! We hope you find the information and links in this publication helpful. To find out more about us:

Visit our web site

Join our mailing list

Invest in our work

View our profile on **LinkedIn**

.....

Annual Education Summit
Oct. 12, 2011 7:30 - 10:00 a.m.

In exchange for our students going to the Royal School, five Chinese students will be coming to the U.S. to attend Millbrook High School for one year. This is an exciting student exchange program and the Partnership (with additional support from SAS) is proud that we can provide financial support to deliver our students to/from Beijing. The entire tuition and boarding cost for our students is being paid by a philanthropic businessman in Beijing who visited Millbrook High School earlier this year. He was clearly impressed with the global education initiatives taking shape across Wake County.

Speaking of global education, don't wait to [reserve your seat](#) for the 2011 Education Summit on October 12. Last year, Dr. Tony Wagner from Harvard discussed the global achievement gap between the U.S. and the international community. This year, our distinguished panelists will address the opportunities being created in Wake County's public schools and other school districts in North Carolina that help our students close those gaps.



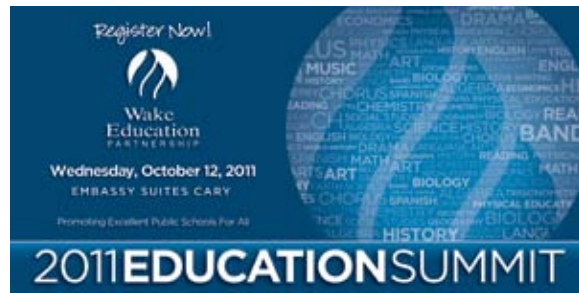
Teacher Leadership Grants

The Partnership is proud to recognize Carol Longo, one of our 2011-2012 Teacher Leadership Grant recipients! Carol was chosen from a national pool of applicants to be a [Summer Scholar by the National Endowment for the Humanities](#). Carol is a teacher at Lacy Elementary School.

2010-2011 Grant Outcomes

For the next few months we will

[Reserve your seat today!](#)



Join Wake Education Partnership as we host our 2011 Education Summit at the Embassy Suites Cary, October 12th from 7:30 to 10 a.m..

Following last year's presentation about the global achievement gaps facing our students, we have brought together a highly-respected panel to address how they are creating opportunities to close those gaps.

Confirmed panelists are SAS CEO **Jim Goodnight**, NCSU Chancellor **Randy Woodson**, Wake School Superintendent **Tony Tata** and VIF CEO **David Young**. The moderator for the event will be NC Technology Association CEO **Brooks Raiford**.

The summit will also include this year's presentation of the **Vernon Malone Friend of Education Award** and remarks from the Partnership's Annual Fundraising Campaign Chair **Frank Daniels, Jr.**

Join hundreds of business leaders, educators and policy makers at this premier event. [More information](#) is available at our web site about advertising opportunities, sponsorships, tables sales and tickets.

**Chamber of Commerce
Education Committees**

highlight outcomes from the 2010-2011 Teacher Leadership Grants.

eInstruction Response Devices: eInstruction Clickers

Kathy Bauer at West Lake Elementary School found that eInstruction clickers enabled teachers and students to increase classroom engagement with technology by 25%. Teachers were able to efficiently administer weekly assessments and target students who needed immediate remediation. 3rd grade reading and math End-of-Grade test scores increased over 5%. Teachers will continue to use these devices to increase technology engagement and student achievement.

Teacher Leadership Grants are designed to promote effective teaching and improve student achievement through professional learning communities and instructional innovation.

You can support Teacher Leadership Grants with an investment in this program. For more information, email [Julie Crain](#) or contact her at 821-7609.



Upcoming Events

WCPSS 2011-2012 School Year Begins!

The Wake County Public School System begin the traditional calendar school year today.

You can find information on [bell schedules](#), [bus routes](#), [before and after school programs](#) and more by visiting the [WCPSS Back to School website](#).

Cary Chamber of Commerce

August 10, 2011

On August 10, the Cary Chamber of Commerce Education Committee presented and approved a Business Plan for 2011-2012. Their mission: The Education Committee will facilitate and champion business community involvement by promoting partnerships and innovative programs for the positive influence of our students, teachers and schools.

Apex Chamber of Commerce

In July, Apex Chamber of Commerce Education Committee member Julie Oster received the [Janet Linton Leadership award](#) from the National Academy Foundation. Julie is the Director of the Academy of Information Technology at Apex High School. The award honors teachers who have a passion for academy leadership and improvement.

Congratulations to Julie and Apex High School!

In Their Words: Why The Partnership Matters

The Partnership added a new feature to its home page this spring that provides visitors a chance to read what others have to say about our work.

We will highlight some of those comments in this space each month, but we also encourage you to [visit our site](#) to see what others have to say and learn more about our work with Wake County's schools. Please feel free to send us an [email](#) letting us know what you think.

"There's not a more effective advocate for

Investing in Education is the Building Block to Success

As a 501(c)3 non-profit, Wake Education Partnership has been serving as a non-partisan, independent advocate and resource for public education reform in Wake County since 1983. Our work is made possible solely from the financial support of corporations, small businesses and individuals in our community. Please consider joining those who support our "world-class initiative" to provide a globally competitive education for all students in Wake County. Working together, we can create a public school system that graduates students who are well prepared to enter the workplace or to pursue their college education!

Invest in our work

Our Cornerstone Investors

The following have invested in the work of the Partnership at \$10,000 and above. We would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank them and want you to know who they are.

AT&T
Bank of America
BB&T
Capitol Broadcasting Company
GlaxoSmithKline
Golden Corral
Goodnight Educational Foundation
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
Lifetouch
News & Observer
Progress Energy
RBC Bank
Rex Healthcare
SAS
SunTrust Bank
Time Warner Cable
Wachovia, a Wells Fargo Company

public schools in Wake County than the Wake Education Partnership. In a bipartisan way, the Partnership brings together educators, citizens, elected officials and business to focus on the things that matter. Time Warner Cable believes a high quality public school system is an essential component of healthy and vibrant communities, and we are proud to support the Partnership's efforts to promote excellence in public education in Wake County."

Keith Poston
Director of Communications
Time Warner Cable



In Context

An independent review of school issues for business leaders, elected officials and the education community in Wake County.

Provided free by Wake Education Partnership

[Read](#) / [Subscribe](#) / [Archives](#)

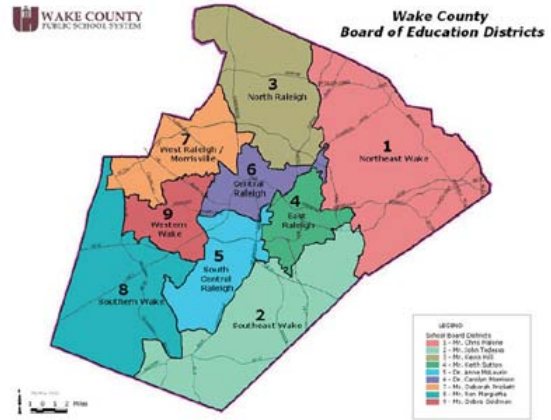


Find out more about the 2011 school board elections

Unsure who is running in your school board district this fall? Unsure what district you even live in?

The Partnership has created a [one-stop web page](#) that offers you links to the county Board of Elections, candidates' web pages, district maps and more. It does just about everything you need except vote. That's up to you.

Election day is Oct. 11.



By the numbers...

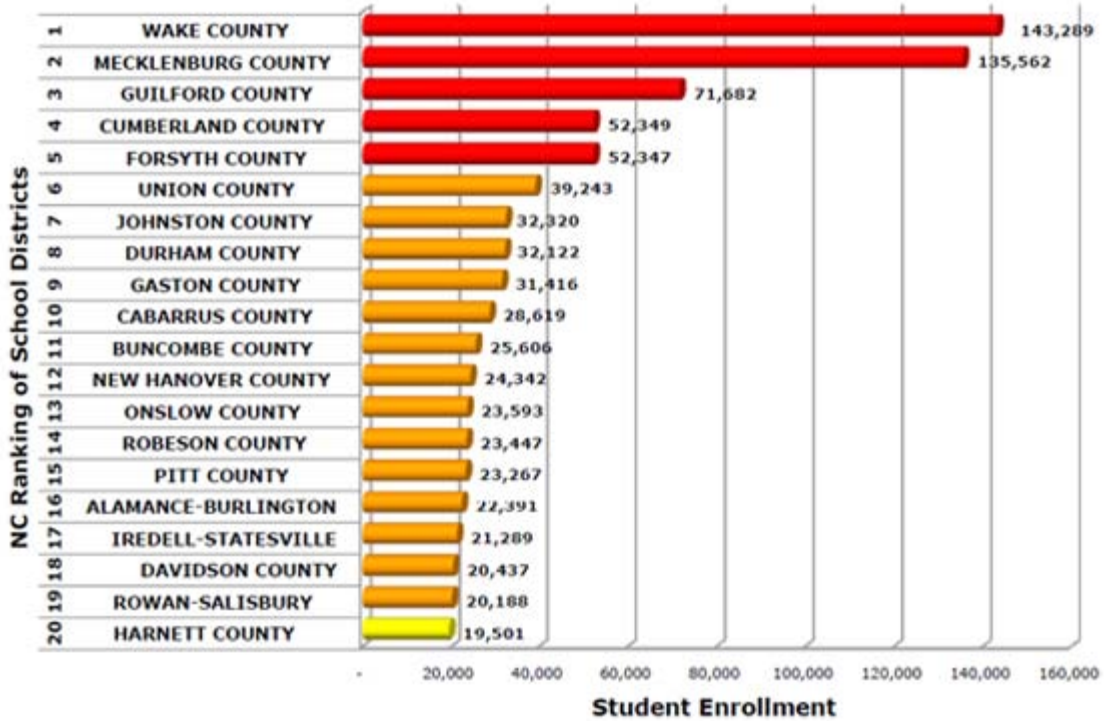
A few years back, the Partnership published an annual digest titled *Quality Matters*. Most of the data found in that publication can now be easily collected online, but we thought it might still be appreciated if we offered a couple of facts and figures in each newsletter.

We hope the information provides a relatively painless way to better understand the numbers that define the 18th largest school district in the country.

Enrollment figures for 2011-2012 will be reported shortly after Labor Day so this seems like a good time to remind people where Wake stood statewide once the "official numbers" were reported last year.

While 2011-2012 enrollments are expected to increase in most large North Carolina districts, the rankings are almost certain to stay the same. The graphic is part of the [Demographics](#) page presented by the school system.

20 Largest School Districts in North Carolina (Out of 115) Student Enrollment 2010-11, Month 1



Please contact our [staff](#) at 821.7609 if you have any questions about our work or if you wish to find out how you can invest in public education through the Partnership.

Join our mailing list

Invest in our work