

Wake Education Partnership

Monthly Newsletter

June 2011



Steve Parrott

A Message From Our President

On June 13, I had the wonderful privilege of speaking at the launch event for the Global Schools Network hosted by Superintendent Tony Tata and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Donna Hargens. The Wake County Public School System is 1 of only 14 districts chosen statewide to participate in the Global Schools Network initiative.

The Network is an alliance of schools, organizations and businesses committed to creating collaborative and multi-faceted approaches to international education. The participation of WCPSS shows our commitment to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to gain the essential skills and attitudes needed for work and life in a global economy.

Since Wake Education Partnership serves as the "business community's" advocate for student achievement, I was asked to share my views regarding the skills and competencies required for the 21st century workforce. A study published several years ago by the Partnership and other organizations concluded that "the future workforce is here now, but is ill-prepared".

The need for greater communication and collaboration between the business sector and educators on the knowledge and skills required for our youth to succeed in today's workforce was made clear in the

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Meet Our Investors

BB&T
Bank of America

report. The driving force for U.S. economic success will be our intellectual capital.

Rapid technological change and international competition are driving the increasing demand for knowledge-based workers. These are workers who go beyond just providing information to now being responsible for generating and conveying knowledge needed for decision-making. 21st century workers must adapt to changing technologies and shifting product demands. Technology and innovation will be key drivers for the successful worker in this century.

The Partnership invited Dr. Tony Wagner to speak at our Annual Education Summit last October. In his book, *The Global Achievement Gap*, he identifies survival skills for our youth in today's global economy. They include critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, agility and adaptability, initiative and the ability to be an entrepreneur, effective communication, accessing and analyzing information and curiosity and imagination.

While reading and math are still fundamental, applied skills such as teamwork, critical thinking and communication are essential. The current educational focus on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) must also include collaboration and communication components in the curriculum.

When today's 1st graders graduate high school, they will find that none of the 5 largest cities in the world are in the U.S., India and Mexico will have moved into the top 5 economies in the world and China will boast the largest economy in the world.

Wake County parents, business leaders, elected officials and educators should take great satisfaction in knowing that our school system is stepping forward with other school districts in providing our students the global education and



With 17 years of investing in the Partnership and 13 years as a Cornerstone Investor, there is no doubt of **BB&T's** commitment to Wake Education Partnership's work for the highest quality and highest standards for our public schools and students. Supporting public education initiatives in Wake County is one of the main ways that **BB&T** makes our community a stronger and more desirable place to live and work. We are grateful that they choose to partner with the us!

In addition to their strong financial support, **BB&T** lends leadership to the Partnership through **Director Gray Reed**, Regional President, Triangle Region. Gray's words speak well for **BB&T's** support of our community and of the Partnership: *"A strong public school system has always been a strength for our Region in attracting new business investment and jobs to our community. We must stay highly competitive in this area, and Wake Education Partnership is a great way to leverage our investment! I cannot think of a higher priority for our firm's investment in the community!"*

Many, many thanks to **BB&T** for their support of the work and mission of Wake Education Partnership!



For 17 consecutive years, **Bank of America** has been investing with the Partnership and the last 13 have been at the Cornerstone Investor level. We are honored to be one of the organizations that **Bank of America** has continued to partner with through the years.

knowledge-based skills necessary for their future success in the workforce.



Teacher Leadership Grants

The Partnership is proud to announce that 15 grant were awarded for the 2011-2012 school year!

More than 40 grant proposals were submitted during this year's application period. Proposals were reviewed by a committee of volunteers from Wake County's business leaders and educators.

Recipients represent 14 schools throughout the county (10 elementary, 2 middle, and 2 high). These fourteen schools are located in ten of the county's twelve municipalities.

2011-2012 TLG Recipients

- Patricia Brown - Turner Creek Elem.
- Heather Callaghan - Olive Chapel Elem.
- Mary Decker - Olive Chapel Elem.
- Marcia Ferreira - Morrisville Elem.
- Stephanie Harris - East Wake Middle
- Jennifer Lanane - Holly Springs Elem.
- Carol Longo - Lacy Elem.
- Randy McFarland - North Forest Pines Elem
- Susan Pearce - Zebulon Middle
- Janet Pride - Combs Elem.
- Anna Shartzler - Rand Road Elem.
- Jordan Trull - Millbrook High
- Dawn Vinson - Lincoln Heights Elem.
- Sam Wheeler - Enloe High
- Patricia Williams - Alston Ridge Elem.

Teacher Leadership Grants are designed to promote effective teaching and improve student achievement through professional learning communities and instructional innovation. Summaries of each [winning](#)

Bank of America's support of Wake Education Partnership goes far beyond financial. In-kind webinars are provided on helpful topics to the Partnership and other non-profits, hosting an Executive Breakfast is being scheduled for the fall and strong leadership has been provided to the Partnership's Trustees and Directors. Currently, **Director Kari Stoltz**, Triangle Market President, serves on the Partnership's Board of Directors, with service on the Board Development Committee. Kari says, "*Through our involvement with Wake Education Partnership, Bank of America is making a significant investment in one of the critical components of our community, public education. By partnering with Wake Education Partnership, we are supporting excellence in public education, which in turn, promotes the overall economic health of the community we serve.*"

Many, many thanks to **Bank of America** for its support of Wake Education Partnership!

Chamber of Commerce Education Committee News

The Apex Chamber of Commerce Education Committee raised more than \$9,000 to support their Bookbag Bonanza. This program supplies bookbags full of school supplies for students in need in the Apex Community. To learn more about this program, please call Sue Mooney at the Apex Chamber at 919-362-6456 or sue@apexchamber.com.

Our Cornerstone Investors

The following have invested in the work of the Partnership at \$10,000 and above.

[proposal](#) as well [the full press release](#) can be found online.

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



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

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Upcoming Events

First Day of Year-Round Calendar Schools Is Approaching Fast

July 11, 2011

The 2011-2012 school year is less than a month away. Calendars for the entire year can be [found here](#).

[Modified year-round calendar](#) schools are scheduled to open July 25.

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

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
Elinvar
Ethicon
GlaxoSmithKline
Golden Corral
Goodnight Educational Foundation
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
IBM
Lifetouch
News & Observer
Progress Energy
RBC Bank
Rex Healthcare
Rotary Club of the Capital City
SAS
SunTrust Bank
Time Warner Cable
Triangle Community Foundation
Wachovia

In Their Words: Why The Partnership Matters

The Partnership has added a new feature to its home page 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.

"SAS values Wake Education Partnership and the vital work they are doing to help local businesses join together in support of quality education in Wake County. Educating our youth is the engine of economic growth. By investing in the Partnership's work with schools, we can

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

continue to ensure a world-class education system in Wake County."

Caroline McCullen
Director Education Initiatives
SAS

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.

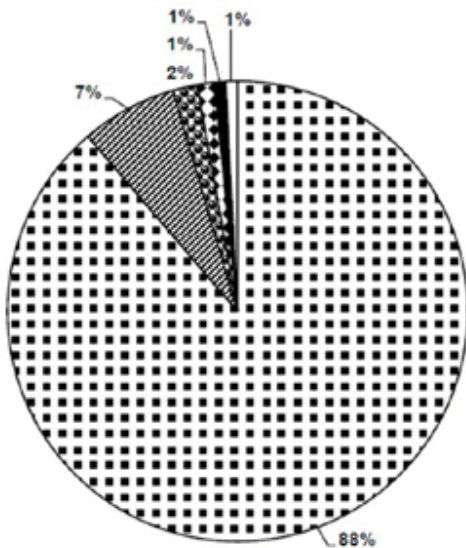
We hope the information provides a relatively painless way to better understand the numbers that define the 18th largest school district in the country.

Given the ongoing discussions about the school budget, a timely chart to offer this month is one found in the front of this year's annual budget request from the school board. The percentages don't change much from year to year, so it's a good one to keep handy. The key number here is 88 percent. That's how much of the budget is spent directly inside the schools.

The source is the 2011-2012 Board of Education's [Proposed Budget](#) posted on the school district's web site.

Where are funds spent?

Operating Budget: \$ 1,254,611,915



- Schools (people, supplies, training) \$1,113,232,112 - 88%
- Auxiliary Services \$84,531,580 - 7%
- Instructional Services \$21,628,246 - 2%
- Administrative Services \$14,951,159 - 1%
- Technology Services \$9,919,267 - 1%
- Organizational Development & Support \$3,494,188, Communications \$4,148,024, Area Superintendents \$1,589,721, Board of Education \$1,117,618 - 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
