

Back to School 2011 Fact Sheet

Starting Dates and Calendars

- Traditional calendar schools begin Thursday, August 25.
- Wake Early College of Health and Sciences began August 8.
- Modified calendar schools started on July 25.
- Year-round schools started on July 11.

Schools

- 165 total schools
- 104 elementary, 32 middle, 25 high, and four special/optional schools
- 109 schools operate on a traditional calendar (62 elementary schools, 21 middle schools, 22 high schools and four special/optional schools)
- 49 schools operate on a year-round calendar (40 elementary schools and nine middle schools)
- Five schools operate on a modified year-round calendar (two elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school)
- Two schools operate on a calendar matching the community college (Wake Early College of Health and Sciences High School)

Two New Schools Open in 2011

- Walnut Creek Elementary - opens today - <http://walnutcreekes.wcpss.net/>
- Wake NC State University STEM Early College High School - opened August 8- <http://stemec.wcpss.net/>

Students

- 146,657 students expected for 2011-12
- More than 11,700 kindergartners expected this year (Class of 2024)
- WCPSS remains the largest school district in the state

Transportation

- 935 buses
- Expected 75,000 student riders
- Bus routes are online at www.wcpss.net/school-directory/bus-routes/
- Kindergartners and first-graders who ride the bus will be given name tags for the first 20 days of school. Schools will place name tags on students before boarding the afternoon bus. Tags will include student name, school name and phone number, bus route number and bus stop location. Parents are encouraged to teach children to know their home address, phone number and bus route name. Help prepare children for the new experience of riding the bus to school.
- The Wake County Public School System provides bus transportation to all base students in the system who live one-and-a-half miles or more from school and to students with identified special needs. The system's transportation department is committed to providing these students with safe, efficient and reliable transportation service that contributes to their overall academic success.