

Community Engagement Meetings
Wake Forest High School
Monday, October 24, 2005

Comments from the Wake Forest High School Community Engagement Meeting, Monday October 24, 2005.

Generally, the notes are written as parents wrote them. Some information that might identify a child's unique situation was not included in this report:

- Ramey Beavers does an exceptional job conveying the information that the county is presenting to the audience.
- I do not understand why my child(ren) is being bused from Heritage to Forest Pines when we have a perfectly good school in our neighborhood. It makes no sense to bus children so far away.
- Do not split neighborhoods keep neighborhoods together. My child(ren)'s friends may be assigned to a different school.
- Due to rising cost, keep schools closer to their communities. Keep classes intact, keep in mind; teachers are an invaluable resource to keep quality classrooms together. Everyone benefits from being together.
- Put node 653 in one of the Forest Pines Schools or Wildwood or Durant Elementary. Move middle and high school closer to North Raleigh for node 653.
- Reassigning 9th graders to existing schools serves no purpose, causes more problems than good. Students have invested time and emotions in their schools. Put more trailers on sports fields, parking lots. If you are going to reassign students at the high school level do it before December-students can make course changes if needed.
- The School Board needs to better communicate its specific funding needs to the community. What will it take to open Heritage High earlier? SAY IT! I cannot go ask my commissioner for just "more money" provide parents with facts and figures for capital projects.
- Reassign the kids from the community of Riverside to Wildwood Elementary. It is closer to our house than Fox Road.
- I would like to see more GT schools in North Raleigh. Create them as year-round to entice folks to get on board for year-round.
- Sending students from Wake Forest Elementary to Forest Pines is NOT an equal switch. Wake Forest Elementary has a great GT Program and with the electives offered-we would not have the same at Forest Pines. Also, keep Heritage together-our students need to stay together. Parents would support year-round instead of reassignment. Give us a choice between year-round or reassignment. Open one of the Forest Pines Schools as a GT Magnet school.
- I am glad that there are no plans to convert Wake Forest Elementary to the year-round calendar. Converting this school would impact their magnet program. Wake Forest is a good magnet school-LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY!

- Consider putting North Forest Pines Drive at Spring Forest site. Move node 653 to Wildwood Forest or one of the Forest Pines Drive Schools or Durant Elementary. Node 653 supports being assigned to year-round.
- Keep students in Heritage, Wake Forest at Wake Forest Elementary. Move students from subdivisions on the other side of Capital Blvd. to Forest Pines Drive. They are on the same side of the highway. Keep our neighborhoods TOGETHER! Economic diversity would not be affected. Consider this.
- As a resident of Node 653, I strongly encourage you to assign us to Forest Pines Drive, Durant Road Elementary or Wildwood Forest. I support year-round schools. Consider moving our middle and high to Wakefield.
- Stability is the key.....families need to invest in a school long term. Consider guidelines that children are not reassigned more than one time in their elementary career. Offer parents this “guarantee” would help us know you are doing the best you can to protect children in spite of growth concerns.
- If students are within 1-2 miles of high school, they should not be moved.
- Totally support impact fees. Support year-round whether a popular choice or not. It is not popular until a child is going to be reassigned, and then I am sure that year-round would be the preferred choice.
- Thank you for not making Wake Forest Elementary a year-round school, but if for overcrowding it is necessary, do it rather than reassigning our neighborhood. Never get rid of the magnet program whether traditional or year-round.
- The final approval of the reassignment plan should be done before magnet application process for magnet schools.
- Prefer going year-round instead of breaking up communities. Assign node 653 to Forest Pines site, Durant Road or Wildwood Forest.
- Reassign nodes 233.6 and 233.9 to our walk zone school – Wildwood Forest Elementary.
- If the purpose of making a school a magnet is to give relief to those schools with high F&R and other inner city characteristics, make Fox Road a magnet, not a year-round. Assign node 233.6 and 233.9 to Wildwood Forest Elementary.
- Live less than _ mile from Wildwood Forest; children come from as far away as 64 east – being bused into our neighborhood school. Reassign nodes 233.6 and 233.9 to Wildwood Forest.
- Community schools; control growth; impose impact fees. Move Heritage High School up on the schedule instead of Holly Springs and Cary.
- Keep our node (288.3) at Wakefield Middle and Wakefield High. We want to have sense of community where our children’s neighbors, friends, and classmates were all the same people. Do not place 8 new modular units onto the Wakefield High campus until you are ready to prepare them for occupancy. Mobile units at “The Village” have been a PR disaster for the school board. You took up a practice field by placing the units there in the spring of 2005. It is nearly November 2005, and they are still not occupied. I know that there are occupancy permit issues and the traffic flow. That does not excuse the PR and morale issues. I am a supporter of the board, but this made them look inept.
- When the plans are issued on the website, make sure that the objectives are explained.
- Have we studied other areas in the country to see how they successfully or unsuccessfully handle growth (Arizona, Las Vegas, and Atlanta)?