

Nodes 383.3 & 384.4: Reassignment Facts

Retain Nodes at Apex High & Fix Our Feeder Pattern

Click on any of these links to obtain a PDF of our proposal & visit our website:

<http://www.churchilldownsschools.info/>

<http://www.macgregorschools.info/>

<http://www.royalridgeschools.info/>

<http://www.woodsofkildaireschools.info/>

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Avoid Double Reassignment

- Retention now prevents double reassignment and future ‘pinball’ movements between Athens and Apex when new H7 high school opens in western Wake County.
- Treat our nodes consistently as was done for 381.1 & 381.7 (returned to Apex due to H7).
- Do not repeat reassignment snafu involving Cary High, Green Hope, and Panther Creek.

Athens is Healthy

- Enrollment grew 16% since 2004 and was over-capacity 3 years in a row (1.09%)
- Under capacity of 167 was created in 2008 by addition of 8 mobile units.
- Median LI = 33.5%, within acceptable limits according to Policy 6200 guidelines (2008 actual LI = 27%, Growth Mgmt. estimated LI = 40%).
- LI ratio = 25.3 for a 3 year average (no significant increases in LI).
- LI is similar to Broughton and Enloe, inside the beltline neighboring schools.

Apex Has Capacity

- Apex High currently has more open seats than Athens (290 vs. 167).
- Room for our 78 students to attend Apex **AND** all students newly reassigned into Apex.
- Room on campus for future mobile units to accommodate additional capacity needs.
- Only 78 students from nodes 383.3 and 384.4 attend Apex, not 104 as quoted by Growth Mgmt (26 students attend magnet high schools).

Growth Management Projection Models Overstate Growth

- States 33% growth when actual enrollment declines 6% annually for 383.3/384.4.
- 50% decline in new student enrollment at WCPSS for past 3 years.
- Completed in July 2008, prior to economic meltdown.
- ITRE/municipal data is 3 years old, prior to developer’s bankruptcies.
- Cost/benefit analysis not included.

Reality Check: Diminishing Enrollment

- Enrollment declines 73% from 12th grade to kindergarten, averaging 6% annual decline.
- Students lost at graduation are not being replenished in the lower grades.
- High school enrollment decreases by 8 students in 3 years.
- 50% decrease in middle school enrollment by 2011 (from 67 to 37 students)
- After grandfathering, 23 students will be reassigned to Athens, not 104.

Reality Check: Diminishing Enrollment (continued)

- Impacts a mature retirement community with a 2.8% turnover rate.
- Neighborhoods of Churchill Downs, MacGregor Downs, Royal Ridge and Woods of Kildaire.
- Mature, declining population nodes should not be targeted for reassignment.

Fix Broken Feeder Patterns – Consistently!

- Dillard Middle assignment was created 10 years ago to open Dillard.
- Our nodes are the only ones West of US1 and I-40 attending Dillard.
- Fix our nodes as was done for:
 - nodes 381.1 & 381.7 returned to Apex High due to H7 and,
 - nodes 412.1, 412.4, 412.7 reassigned from Dillard Middle to Reedy Creek & East Cary Middle since they attend Briarcliff & Adams (same as our nodes).
- Current Feeder Pattern:
 - Briarcliff Elementary
 - Dillard Middle
 - Apex High
- Fix feeder pattern to flow cleanly into Apex High
 - Change middle school assignment from Dillard to Lufkin, Apex or Salem.
 - Change elementary assignment from Briarcliff to Laurel Park, Apex, or Baucom.

Good Time to Increase Taxpayer Costs?

- Reassignment triples distance and transportation costs.
- Increases cost to taxpayers about \$1,500 annually:
 - On par with a teacher's bonus,
 - \$65 per student (23 students).
- Route to Athens is 3 times the route to Apex (6.6 miles vs. 2.2 miles).
- Is it prudent to increase spending by \$65 per student on transportation with these budget cuts?
 - \$11.2 million WCPSS budget cuts,
 - \$6.5 million school level budget cuts
 - \$7.25 per student supplies budget cuts

Student Drivers at Risk

- Route to Athens is longer and more dangerous; US1/64 corridor at 113,000 cars per day.
- Students face 51 times greater accident rates on Athens route.
- Travel with rush hour traffic both ways.
- Leading killer of teens is car crashes.
- 64% of all teen crashes in Wake County occur during school travel hours.