



RESOLUTION APPROVING STUDENT ASSIGNMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2011, the Wake County Board of Education assigned Superintendent Tata the responsibility for developing a student assignment proposal based upon Policy 6200, Student Assignment, and

WHEREAS, the Wake County Board of Education made this decision with the knowledge that rapid growth over the past two decades has challenged the district's ability to provide adequate seats, resulting in numerous adjustments to the existing assignment model. At the opening of the 2011-2012 school year, the district served over 146,000 students with a projected enrollment of over 200,000 in 2021, and

WHEREAS, the Wake County Board of Education recognizes that stability, choice, proximity, and student achievement play a crucial role in the development of a student assignment proposal that serves children, families, and the community. All children and their families benefit from a strong sense of community. Proximity to a child's school affects opportunities for engagement. Parents should have the opportunity to make choices concerning their child's education. All children deserve a high-quality education, and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Tata immediately identified a task force with the sole responsibility of working on the assignment plan over the past seven months. The Task Force was composed of experts representing different divisions across the Wake County Public School System, as well as external experts to serve as consultants, and

WHEREAS, the Task Force started the process by conducting extensive research which included a review of current assignment plans in twenty-two districts across the nation, and

WHEREAS, the Task Force held twenty sessions to gather public input with over 4,000 comments from community members, and

WHEREAS, the Task Force executed an assignment simulation in which over 2,100 people participated. The Task Force traveled to twenty-three locations throughout the district to encourage feedback and assist parents, as needed, and

WHEREAS, Superintendent Tata has continuously involved the Wake County Board of Education and different community groups to gather feedback, and

WHEREAS, the Wake County Board of Education accepted public comments related to student assignment at each action meeting during the last seven months, and the Wake County Board of Education held a separate public hearing on October 13, 2011, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent's student assignment proposal, as well as the importance of finalizing a student assignment plan for the 2012-13 school year, have consistently received support from different stakeholder groups within the community, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wake Board of Education approves the student assignment proposal presented by the Superintendent, which promotes stability, choice, proximity, and student achievement. The student assignment proposal also provides the flexibility necessary for high growth and supports success for all students.

AND, FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the student assignment plan will remain in effect for a minimum of three years, allowing continuity for students and families. The Superintendent will have ultimate responsibility for implementing the student assignment plan. A Committee including internal and external stakeholders will be established for the purpose of ensuring continuous improvement of the student assignment plan. The Committee's responsibilities will include evaluating the process utilized in implementing the student assignment plan, evaluating the impact on the community, and making recommendations to the Superintendent regarding possible changes. The Superintendent will develop and provide the Wake County Board of Education with quarterly updates which will include implementation results, operational challenges, and recommendations for improvement.

Approved and adopted this 18th day of October 2011.

Ron Margiotta, Chair
Wake County Board of Education

Anthony J. Tata, Superintendent
Wake County Public School System