



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
Anthony J. Tata, Superintendent

3600 WAKE FOREST ROAD
P.O. BOX 28041
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27611-8041
PHONE: 919.850.1606
FAX: 919.850.8952

June 16, 2011

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II
NAACP
P. O. Box 335
Durham, North Carolina 27702

Dear Reverend Barber:

Thank you for your letter dated June 13, 2011. I appreciate your desire to engage in the betterment of education in Wake County. Prior to our meeting, I encourage you and your team to study our student assignment website at www.assignment.wcpss.net, where we have listed all of our research, other districts studied, and facts/assumptions relevant to our assignment plan. For example, if you study the Base Schools Achievement Plan (Green), you will find it closely resembles the previous Wake County assignment plan that you reference. I look forward to further discussions and of course we can meet at a mutually agreeable time in private to discuss the questions you propose.

I would like to add some topics to the agenda:

1. What efforts in Wake County or around North Carolina has the NAACP undertaken to improve the numbers and availability of African American and Hispanic teachers and principals? I would appreciate some concrete examples so that we can learn from these best practices and focus our recruiting efforts. I believe it is important that we provide a higher density of teachers of color here in Wake County where we have had 85% Caucasian teachers and 50.5% minority students for the past several years. I am particularly interested in African American male teachers and role models for our most at-risk students.
2. What efforts in Wake County or around North Carolina has the NAACP undertaken to assist school systems with community outreach in order to help those school systems more effectively communicate with parents and students? I would appreciate examples where we can take best practices and partner together to inform all Wake County parents and students about any upcoming assignment policy or other important changes. The assistance of community-based organizations such as the NAACP will be essential to ensuring all residents fully understand how to maximize their children's education.

I look forward to meeting again and a meaningful dialogue.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Tata
Superintendent
Wake County Public School System