

Date: August 10, 2009

AREA: General Administration	
AGENDA ITEM(S): Superintendent's Announcements	
CONTACT PERSON(S): Robert L. Logan, Superintendent	
<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATION

I. Synopsis of Agenda Item (Overview & Purpose)

**AlertNow**

Effective August 1, 2009, Chatham County Schools changed its school to parent telephone messaging system (for emergency notification as well) from InstantAlert to AlertNow. The reasons for the change are twofold. AlertNow is compatible with NC WISE, making updating of parental contact information accurate and efficient. Secondly, the annual cost of AletNow is half the cost of InstantAlert. Parents will not notice a difference in the system. The responsibility of the new system will remain under our Public Information Officer.

**AYP**

On Thursday, August 6, the North Carolina State Board of Education made official the 2008-09 EOG, EOC, and AYP results. Chatham County Schools is extremely pleased to announce that 11 of our 16 (69%) schools made AYP. Last year 7 of 16 schools made AYP. This is an increase of 4 schools from last year. Both Virginia Cross and Siler City Elementary are among the schools making AYP for last year. Although Chatham Middle made growth in four of six EOG tests, the school has only made APY once (2004-05). After failure to make AYP for four consecutive years the school is required to make significant changes. Those changes are underway. Horton Middle, Jordan-Matthews, Northwood, and SAGE are the other schools not making AYP for 2008-09.

**Opening Convocation**

Chatham County Schools Opening Convocation will be held on Thursday, August 20, 2009 at Chatham Central High School. The Chatham Central High site was chosen since renovations will be ongoing at Jordan-Matthews High and Northwood High campuses. This year's speaker will be Mr. Michael Mazingo. Below is a schedule of schools attending the two morning sessions:

(8:00-10:00 a.m.)

Bonlee  
Chatham Middle  
J.S. Waters  
Moncure  
Northwood High  
Pittsboro Elementary  
Siler City Elementary  
Silk Hope

(10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

Bennett  
Chatham Central High  
Horton Middle  
Jordan-Matthews High  
North Chatham  
Perry Harrison  
SAGE Academy  
Virginia Cross



### **EOG/EOC**

We are extremely pleased with our EOG/EOC results for the 2008-09 school year. The EOG/EOC results have now been verified. All Chatham County schools increased their EOG performance composite score from the previous year. Fourteen of sixteen schools made growth and five schools made high growth, with five Schools of Distinction versus only one the previous year. In the area of EOG Reading, on 58 testing opportunities (grades 3-8 in 13 schools), CCS improved on all but 9 testing opportunities. In the area of EOG Math, on 58 testing opportunities, CCS improved on all but 14 testing opportunities. In the area of Science (grades 5 & 8) CCS improved on 17 of 20 testing opportunities.

Performance also improved significantly on the EOC result of our four secondary schools. EOC tests were administered to students in the following subjects: Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology, Chemistry, Civics & Economics, English I, Geometry, Physical Science, Physics, and US History. CCS students improved in 21 of 32 testing opportunities. State comparisons were not available at the time of the preparation of this information. Congratulations to all our schools and instructional staff for a job well done.

### **Open Houses**

All Chatham County schools will conduct open houses for parents during the first few days of the new school year. Steps have been taken to avoid conflicts of open house times. You may check the CCS website for the complete open house schedule.

### **Back to School**

It's hard to believe but Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> will start another school year. The 2009-10 school year will be marked with the worst budget crisis in the past 20 years. The budget situation will cause us to open our schools with fewer teachers, less supplies and materials, less staff development money, and fewer buses on the road. In spite of our economic woes, we will return to school with a well planned One-to-One technology initiative for all 9-12 graders, our first year of the new graduation project, full year implementation of Classworks in five schools, expanded AVID programming, security cameras and GPS systems on all yellow school buses, and a new performing arts addition to Northwood High School. Although financial resources will be reduced we are optimistic about initiatives such as Professional Learning Communities (PLC), and Response to Instruction (RtI) working to continue increased student achievement in the district. In a time of diminishing resources, strategic plan priorities will provide focus to our schools and staff. By smartly targeting our limited resources on clearly identified needs continued growth can be achieved.

### II. Organizational Impact (Academic, Fiscal & Personnel)

The above information is offered as both successes of the school district from the 2008-09 school year and possibilities of what is come during the 2009-10 school year. It is provided for your information and consideration.

### III. Superintendent's Recommendation : For Information Only

IV.

Suggested Motion: For Information Only