

Support for the 2024-2025 WCPSS Board of Education Budget Request

A Resolution of the Wake County Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Council Board of Directors

Wake County PTA Council represents over 190 PTA units in Wake County and thousands of parents, teachers, students, and community members.

WHEREAS, the mission of the PTA is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children; to support and advocate for children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental and other organizations that make decisions affecting children; to assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; and to encourage parent and public involvement in public schools.

WHEREAS, our strong public education system is the heart and soul of the economic strength of our county;

WHEREAS, the Wake County Public School System continues to serve the 160,000+ students and nearly 20,000 staff providing a high-quality education to each student every day;

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Wake County Public School System to provide relevant and engaging education and to graduate students who are collaborative, creative, effective communicators, and critical thinkers;

WHEREAS, the state has failed to fulfill its Constitutional obligation to fully fund the Public Education system, choosing instead to invest in private school vouchers with little to no income limit nor oversight, and in charter schools with minimal regulation.

WHEREAS, The Wake County Commission is uniquely positioned to ensure that the children within its borders do not suffer from the legislature's failure to invest in them; and moreover, they understand the moral obligation to fulfill the promise of our State Constitution that all children deserve access to a public education that improves North Carolina's collective future;

WHEREAS, increased local funding is necessary in order to:

- Ensure that a fundamental standard of school infrastructure exists to serve basic student needs;
- Ameliorate the ongoing bus driver shortage with market-based compensation;
- Increase compensation for teachers and staff to ensure WCPSS can recruit and retain the professionals our schools need; and
- Provide additional funding to hire much-needed behavioral health specialists and building substitutes;

WHEREAS, while we recognize that the financial challenges faced by our schools are not of the Wake County Commission's making, we also know that without action by our Commission, our schools will suffer;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wake County PTA Council Board of Directors hereby expresses its support for funding of the WCPSS Board of Education Budget increase of 10% for the 2024-2025 school year.

Adopted by the Wake County PTA Council Board of Directors, May 19, 2024.