



# Public Schools of North Carolina

## State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

### REQUEST FOR LOCAL FLEXIBILITY IN THE DETERMINATION OF STANDARD SIX RATINGS FOR EDUCATORS

Name of District or Charter School

Charter Day School

Contact Person for this Request for Flexibility

Name:

Lisa Edwards

Position: Phone

910-655-1214 ext 228

Number: Email

ledwards@rogerbacon.net

Address:

7055 Bacon's Way Leland, NC 28451

Our district or charter school requests the use of school-wide data to determine the Standard 6 ratings for teachers indicated below. The district understands that these teachers will receive an overall educator effectiveness status when they have three years of valid student-growth data and that school-level growth assigned as a result of this waiver will constitute valid student-growth data. Furthermore, teachers will be subject to any consequence associated with a status of "in need of improvement". We further acknowledge that this request form, if approved by the State Board of Education, will be posted to the Department of Public Instruction's website.

The NC State Board of Education requires that each district or charter school making a request for local flexibility also include a statement of the educational purpose for making the request. Please provide a rationale for making your waiver request. Please indicate how students and teachers in your district or charter will be better served by this request.

**Please attach a document to this waiver request indicating the educational purpose of the waiver.**

Because teachers' Standard Six rating will be affected by the granting of the waiver, the State Board of Education requires that each district or charter school submit an overview of their communication plan to teachers on the impact of the waiver request. Please include any process the district/charter used to gather feedback from teachers and how the district addressed any concerns that teachers raised.

**Please attach a document to this waiver request that outlines how you communicated the waiver plan to your district/charter school teachers.**

We request the use of school-wide data to determine the Standard 6 ratings of the following group(s) of educators:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Grade Four  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies Teachers            |
|             | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Teachers                   |
| Grade Five  | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies Teachers            |
| Grade Six   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Studies Teachers |
|             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science Teachers        |
| Grade Seven | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Studies Teachers |
|             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science Teachers        |
| Grade Eight | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social Studies Teachers |

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Career and Technical Education Teachers:

- ☐ Exploring Agriculture Science
- ☐ Exploring Biotechnology in Agriculture
- ☐ Computer Skills and Applications
- ☐ Microsoft PowerPoint
- ☐ Microsoft Word
- ☐ Exploring Career Decisions
- ☐ Exploring Family and Consumer Science Education
- ☐ Exploring Biotechnology in Health Science
- ☐ Exploring Business, Marketing and Entrepreneurship
- ☐ PLTW Gateway to Technology
- ☐ Technological Systems
- ☐ Technology Design and Innovation

## High School (9-12)

- ☐ World History Teachers
- ☐ Civics and Economic Teachers
- ☐ US History/American History I and II Teachers
- ☐ Earth/Environmental Science Teachers
- ☐ Physical Science Teachers
- ☐ Chemistry Teachers
- ☐ Physics Teachers
- ☐ English I Teachers
- ☐ English III Teachers
- ☐ English IV Teachers
- ☐ "Second Math" Teachers (Common Core Geometry, Math II, and Geometry aligned to 2003 Standard Course of Study)
- ☐ "Third Math" Teachers (Common Core Algebra II, Math III, Common Core Integrated Math III, and Algebra II aligned to 2003 Standard Course of Study)
- ☐ "Fourth Math" Teachers (Advanced Functions and Modeling, Discrete Mathematics, and Pre-Calculus)



EXCELLENCE WITHOUT EXCUSES

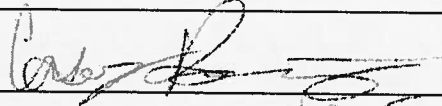



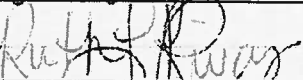
March 3, 2015

### Educational Purpose

We are requesting the waiver for Local Flexibility in the Determination for Standard Six Ratings for Educators for the 2014-15 school year. Our rationale and educational purpose for the request is to always make decisions which will best serve our students and teachers. Our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will already be taking the End-of-Grade Test in both Reading and Math and we do not feel it will be a benefit to them to add a test in Science and/or Social Studies. They have received strong instruction in both subjects throughout the year and are held accountable by their grades on their Report Card. By not adding two additional tests they will be able to place a stronger focus on their Reading and Math tests.

### Communication with Teachers

We have five teachers on our staff which are affected by this waiver request and we met personally with them to explain and review the implications of not taking a Final Exam in their area. We also gave them a copy of the policy so they will have it for their records. All five teachers were in support of requesting the waiver and have signed the below signature spot.

Casey Davis	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies	
Cynesha Hamilton	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science	
Jessica Lopez	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies	
David Johnson	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science	
Ruth Rivas	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies	

The NC State Board of Education requires that the Superintendent (or Charter School Lead Administrator), Local Board of Education (or Charter School Board) Chair, and a Teacher Representative sign this waiver request and attest to the accuracy of the information contained within this document.

**Note:** Districts are responsible for providing the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction a list of all affected teachers when requesting local flexibility. We require this list in order to determine appropriately which teachers receive school-level student growth for the purpose of populating Standard Six.

Signature of Superintendent  
or Charter Lead  
Administrator:

*Lisa Edwards*

Printed Name:

Lisa D. Edwards

Signature of Local Board of  
Education or Charter Board  
Chair:

*John Ferrante, Chairman*

Printed Name:

JOHN J. FERRANTE

Signature of Teacher  
Representative:

Printed Name:

David Johnson

School/Position:

7th grade Science teacher

The NC State Board of Education will review districts' waiver requests during its monthly meetings. Please review meeting dates and submit requests two weeks prior to the appropriate SBE Meeting.

NC State Board of Education Meeting Schedule

**Please submit completed form and accompanying attachments to**  
[educatoreffectiveness@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:educatoreffectiveness@dpi.nc.gov)



# Public Schools of North Carolina

## State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

### REQUEST FOR LOCAL FLEXIBILITY IN THE DETERMINATION OF STANDARD SIX RATINGS FOR EDUCATORS

Name of District or Charter School

Columbus Charter School

Contact Person for this Request for Flexibility

Name:

Steve Smith

Position: Phone

Headmaster

Number: Email

9106414042

Address:

stevesmith@rogerbacon.net

Our district or charter school requests the use of school-wide data to determine the Standard 6 ratings for teachers indicated below. The district understands that these teachers will receive an overall educator effectiveness status when they have three years of valid student-growth data and that school-level growth assigned as a result of this waiver will constitute valid student-growth data. Furthermore, teachers will be subject to any consequence associated with a status of "in need of improvement". We further acknowledge that this request form, if approved by the State Board of Education, will be posted to the Department of Public Instruction's website.

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**Please attach a document to this waiver request that outlines how you communicated the waiver plan to your district/charter school teachers.**

We request the use of school-wide data to determine the Standard 6 ratings of the following group(s) of educators:

Grade Four

- ☐ Social Studies Teachers  
☐ Science Teachers

Grade Five

- ☐ Social Studies Teachers

Grade Six

- ☒ Social Studies Teachers  
☒ Science Teachers

Grade Seven

- ☒ Social Studies Teachers  
☒ Science Teachers

Grade Eight

- ☐ Social Studies Teachers

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Career and Technical Education Teachers:

☐ Exploring Agriculture Science

☐ Exploring Biotechnology in  
Agriculture

☐ Computer Skills and  
Applications

☐ Microsoft PowerPoint

☐ Microsoft Word

Exploring Career Decisions

☐ Exploring Family and  
Consumer Science Education

☐ Exploring Biotechnology in  
Health Science

☐ Exploring Business, Marketing  
and Entrepreneurship

☐ PLTW Gateway to Technology

☐ Technological Systems

☐ Technology Design and  
Innovation

## High School (9-12)

- ☐ World History Teachers
- ☐ Civics and Economic Teachers
- ☐ US History/American History I and II Teachers
- ☐ Earth/Environmental Science Teachers
- ☐ Physical Science Teachers
- ☐ Chemistry Teachers
- ☐ Physics Teachers
- ☐ English I Teachers
- ☐ English III Teachers
- ☐ English IV Teachers
- ☐ "Second Math" Teachers (Common Core Geometry, Math II, and Geometry aligned to 2003 Standard Course of Study)
- ☐ "Third Math" Teachers (Common Core Algebra II, Math III, Common Core Integrated Math III, and Algebra II aligned to 2003 Standard Course of Study)
- ☐ "Fourth Math" Teachers (Advanced Functions and Modeling, Discrete Mathematics, and Pre-Calculus)



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Signature of Superintendent  
or Charter Lead  
Administrator:

*Steve Smith*

Printed Name:

Steve Smith

Signature of Local Board of  
Education or Charter Board  
Chair:

*John J. Ferrante, Chairman*

Printed Name:

JOHN FERRANTE

Signature of Teacher  
Representative:

Printed Name:

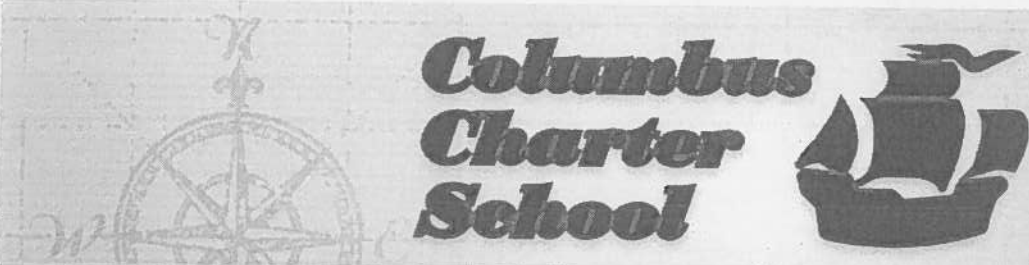
School/Position:

*Signature  
page enclosed.*

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# **Columbus Charter School**

PREPARE EXPLORE DISCOVER

March 3, 2015

## **Educational Purpose**

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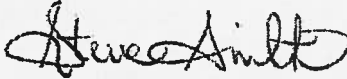
## **Communication with Teachers**

We have four teachers on our staff who are affected by this waiver request and we met personally with each of them to explain and review the implications of not taking a Final Exam in their subject area. We also gave them a copy of the policy so they will have it for their records along with this waiver request. All four teachers were wholeheartedly in support of requesting the waiver and have signed the attached signature page.

Signature Page: Request for Local Flexibility in the Determination of Standard Six Ratings for Educators

Signed by:

Signature of Superintendent:



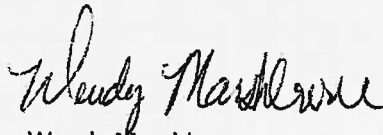
Printed Name of Superintendent: Steve Smith

Signature of Local Board Chair:



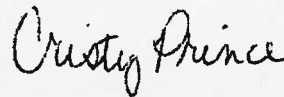
Printed Name of Local Board Chair: John Ferrante

Signature of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher Representative:



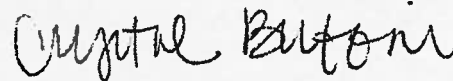
Printed Name of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher Representative: Wendy Marshburn

Signature of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher Representative:



Printed Name of 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher Representative: Cristy Prince

Signature of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher Representative:



Printed Name of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher Representative: Crystal Buffkin

Signature of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher Representative:



Printed Name of 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher Representative: Lisa Klemick



# Public Schools of North Carolina

## State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction

### REQUEST FOR LOCAL FLEXIBILITY IN THE DETERMINATION OF STANDARD SIX RATINGS FOR EDUCATORS

Name of District or Charter School

Wake County

Contact Person for this Request for Flexibility

Name:

Brad McMillen

Position: Phone

Assistant Superintendent for Data, Research, and Accountability

Number: Email

919-431-7199

Address:

bmcmlilen@wcpss.net

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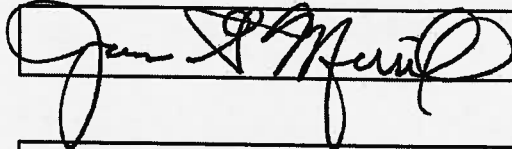
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Signature of Superintendent  
or Charter Lead  
Administrator:



Printed Name:

James Merrill

Signature of Local Board of  
Education or Charter Board  
Chair:



Printed Name:

Christine Kushner

Signature of Teacher  
Representative:



Printed Name:

Larry Nilles

School/Position:

President, Wake NCAE

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Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Career and Technical Education Teachers:

- ☒ Exploring Agriculture Science
- ☒ Exploring Biotechnology in Agriculture
- ☒ Computer Skills and Applications
- ☒ Microsoft PowerPoint
- ☒ Microsoft Word
- Exploring Career Decisions
- ☒ Exploring Family and Consumer Science Education
- ☒ Exploring Biotechnology in Health Science
- ☒ Exploring Business, Marketing and Entrepreneurship
- ☒ PLTW Gateway to Technology
- ☒ Technological Systems
- ☒ Technology Design and Innovation

**High School (9-12)**

- ☒ **World History Teachers**
- ☒ **Civics and Economic Teachers**
- ☒ **US History/American History I and II Teachers**
- ☒ **Earth/Environmental Science Teachers**
- ☒ **Physical Science Teachers**
- ☒ **Chemistry Teachers**
- ☒ **Physics Teachers**
- ☒ **English I Teachers**
- ☒ **English III Teachers**
- ☒ **English IV Teachers**
- ☒ **"Second Math" Teachers (Common Core Geometry, Math II, and Geometry aligned to 2003 Standard Course of Study)**
- ☒ **"Third Math" Teachers (Common Core Algebra II, Math III, Common Core Integrated Math III, and Algebra II aligned to 2003 Standard Course of Study)**
- ☒ **"Fourth Math" Teachers (Advanced Functions and Modeling, Discrete Mathematics, and Pre-Calculus)**

**Wake County Public Schools**  
**Request for Local Flexibility in the Determination of Standard Six Ratings for Educators**  
**March 2015**

**North Carolina Final Exam (NCFE) Waiver Request Addendum**

Wake County's experience with the NC Final Exams has raised concerns regarding logistics, lost instructional time, and alignment/validity issues. Lost instructional time for administration of NC Final Exams has been significant, particularly for high schools due to procedural requirements and how meeting those testing requirements from the state impacts scheduling and instructional time at the end of each semester. Over the past two years, teachers and principals have also reported a lack of comfort around the absence of performance standards on NCFE exams, the over-reliance on multiple-choice test questions on those tests, as well as significant concerns regarding the alignment to the curriculum. Teachers have also reported frustration with the inability of those assessments to accurately reflect the depth and breadth of the standards that they are teaching, and have suggested that teacher-made exams would be a more authentic reflection of their students' overall student performance against the standards.

Given these concerns, Wake County and Wake NCAE recently surveyed high school principals and over 250 high school teachers regarding their desire to keep or opt out from the NC Final Exams. Over 80% of both groups stated that they would prefer to opt out and return to administering final exams that are created in their Professional Learning Teams. Concerns expressed by educators were related mainly to the potential loss of a consistent, objective, across-school indicator of student achievement growth for Standard 6 in those courses. However, the number of educators expressing those concerns was very small compared to the large majority of respondents who indicated that they would prefer to opt out.

After the initial survey, Wake NCAE gathered additional input from teachers to ensure that the evaluative consequence of the NCFE waiver—i.e. the use of school-wide data for the determination of teachers' Standard 6 scores—was completely understood. The vast majority of teacher respondents reassured Wake NCAE that this was clear to them and did not change their desire for the district to pursue the waiver. There were a small number of respondents who, in light of the clarification, expressed a desire to use data drawn from exams given in their subjects to their own students even if they agreed that the NCFEs were incomplete measures of the work done by their students. Those expressing this concern were few in number, however. As with the initial survey, approximately 80% of respondents were comfortable with the move back to the use of school-wide data Standard 6 scores, again reinforcing that this is the preferred solution for the district. The district will continue to work with Wake NCAE and school principals to ensure that communication around this waiver remains robust throughout the entire process.