

Tecora Jenkins	Juneteenth	In light of the recent racial tensions throughout America and the quest for equity in the community, why are year-round schools in Wake County not out for the Juneteenth holiday? This holiday was signed a federal holiday by President Joe Biden. For equity and to celebrate the freedoms of African-Americans throughout the country, this holiday should be honored on the calendar in the future. This year, the holiday sadly was not honored or acknowledged by the school system and looking at next year's calendar, neither is it next year or in the year to come. This is inequitable and speaks volumes about those creating the calendars. Just as July 4th is celebrated, Juneteenth, a pivotal moment in our country's history should be acknowledged by the county.
Felicia Yan	Inclusive Curriculum	Cultivating a school environment that makes all students feel seen and heard is so, so important. I know as a high school student myself that learning with an inclusive curriculum that features diverse voices and perspectives has widened my view of the world and affirmed my own sense of belonging. School should be a place students feel safe and listened to, where they are accepted as they come, and where they feel comfortable to be who they are. It's where we come to learn, but it is also where we are forming critical perceptions of ourselves and our place in the world, ones that will last well beyond our middle and high school years. LGBTQ+ youth and students of color shouldn't have to fight to see themselves represented in the curriculum or to keep books by diverse authors in the classroom or to be afforded the same respect as the rest of the student body; it is simply what they deserve.

Holly Higgins Wilcher	Randomized clinical trial	<p>Dear Board,</p> <p>Because you decided to impose unethical medical experimentation on children in Wake County schools (forced usage of and failure to provide informed consent for emergency use (EUA) medical devices) in recent history, I will continue to reach out to share information that will hopefully support data informed decision making that avoids any form of child abuse in the future.</p> <p>To date, there are still no RCTs showing the benefit, efficacy or safety of masking pediatric or adult populations. Why is this important? The randomized clinical trial (RCT) is recognized as the most credible research design for clinical investigation. The goal of the RCT is to achieve a valid comparison of the effects of an investigational treatment or treatments with the control treatment (standard of care) in the target patient population. Bias can be reduced by concealing the randomization sequence from the investigators at the time of obtaining consent from potential trial participants. Allocation concealment is a very simple maneuver that can be incorporated in the design of any trial and that can always be implemented. This means that the only way to remove bias from scientific research in the medical field is with randomized clinical trials.</p> <p>Contrary to popular belief, every single RCT ever performed on mask usage and prevention of infection for laboratory-confirmed influenza, the common cold, or other respiratory viruses shows that masks are ineffective. There is a sum total of zero randomized clinical trials showing that masks prevent any of these illness. ZERO.</p> <p>Thank you for commitment to the scientific method, scientific inquiry, and the Hippocratic oath.</p> <p>With great care,</p> <p>Holly Wilcher</p>
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Anne Bacon	Study Skills	<p>As you continue work on your strategic plan, I hope you will emphasize study skills and work completion in instruction, as well as interventions and emotional support for students who are having trouble staying engaged. I am continuing to see the impact of the pandemic on my children and their ability to complete their work and homework. One daughter flunked in quarter grades in math and science, largely due to not completing work, being disengaged, feeling overwhelmed by the amount of homework, or having holes in math concepts from last year during the pandemic and shutting down. This is despite my husband and I following PowerSchool and Google Classroom and Canvas as well as we could and often checking in about homework.</p> <p>I'd like to see this in core instruction, with counselor interventions, and with more for families (including effective strategies for students shutting down or becoming disengaged) in Family Academy sessions. Wake County Public Schools could take cues from postsecondary education, where the community colleges use a combination of predictive analytics (e.g., Aviso program to identify kids going off track early based on bad grades, lack of attendance, etc.) and counselor/success coach intervention. Even Meredith College has introduced success coaches for its students.</p> <p>My children are not alone. In fact, the daughter who struggled the most with 0s intermixed with good grades this year was recognized in her 8th grade award ceremony as (over the past 3 years) being among the top 10 students in her team at East Garner Middle School. She's been on a downward trajectory, and so, I fear, are a lot of our kids.</p>
Adam Haller	Various Topics	<p>As a parent of both a current WCPSS student and two recent graduates, I thank the school board for its leadership over the years. Some other parents, with different perspectives, are attempting to organize to thwart the longstanding objectives of academic excellence, and in its stead, press for their personal religious beliefs to be the guide for all students.</p> <p>I ask you to categorically reject:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- all calls for removal or banning of books from schools that school librarians and administrators have already selected.</li> <li>- any motion or action which would adversely impact LGBTQ students.</li> <li>- any attempt to diminish the quality of comprehensive sex education for students.</li> </ul> <p>Lastly, given the recent tragic shootings at schools across the nation, and the recent event at Sanderson High School, you will face many ideas and proposals to address the violence. I ask that you react in the most measured way, and avoid the knee jerk reaction of hiring more SROs.</p>

		<p>Continue to strive to ensure that school is a place where each unique student can absorb knowledge and learn critical thinking skills. Avoid turning our schools into fortresses, with armed guards, who inevitably will turn their attention to non-conforming students, making things miserable for many.</p> <p>Regards, Adam Haller</p>
Melanie Connelly	Title IX	<p>No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.</p> <p>This law is to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities. This has greatly impacted women sport opportunities however when this was written the intent was to give women equality in education. Women were now having opportunities in medical schools and law schools.</p> <p>Although 50 years in the making We still have disparities in equal opportunity. Opportunities exist for our male athletes that our female athletes are not privy to.</p> <p>One being academic tracking and resources that are put in place for success to prevent failing of classes. Outside donations of paid tutoring is available for male athletes is provided and submitted under gifts to the system. Shall a male student athlete need time to remediate, need extra help and tutoring, it is not held against him and he is still given the opportunity to play in the game. Male teams support inclusion.</p> <p>Coaches that coach male sports will offer guidance and supports to all male athletes focusing on those that need services the most.</p> <p>Guests motivational speakers are invited to male sports teams to shine positive light on overcoming hardships, stories of resiliency, staying focus, and living your purpose and best life.</p> <p>All uplifting and positive messages of life skills, overcoming adversity and challenges. Providing tools in the tool kit for life success. This is not provided for female athletes.</p> <p>It is my understanding that each Middle and High School in WCPSS has a Title IX coordinator. They have received proper training to work toward equality and yet no one knows who that individual is. Please allow those parents and students to reach out to their Title IX contact by listing them on your faculty pages.</p> <p>Even with an academic hardship awarded by NCHSAA tracking program to help female student success had not been successfully implemented. Female athletes need a voice.</p> <p>I am strong, I am powerful, I am Driven, I am unstoppable I have determination, I have grit</p>

		I deserve to play, I deserve the same resources. I deserve the same opportunities. I am equal.
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