

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The greatest responsibility we have as a community is the education of our children. We are committed to providing an environment in which all students reach their full academic potential.

Part of that commitment includes the continual improvement of how we teach. We are always seeking the best possible teaching methods and learning from each other. This helps our school community ensure each child's success.

Collaboration at our school is an important part of our efforts, and we regularly hold team-based learning sessions at our school. These meetings are called Professional Learning Communities (PLC) and are a time for teachers to discuss classroom strategies, individual student performance, and best teaching practices.

Recently, the Wake County Board of Education approved a school schedule for the 2009-10 school year that allows for more collaboration and Professional Learning Community (PLC) sessions.

Mark your calendar for these important changes

- **Every Wednesday, all Wake County Schools will release one hour early to allow for PLC meetings**
- **Six early-release days are also included in 2009-10*. All Wake County schools will dismiss 2.5 hours early. These early release days also occur on Wednesdays.**

*High schools utilizing SMART Lunch will only have four Early Release days

Please check with the office for the availability of child care on these days.

Ten minutes has been added to the school day

To meet the state requirements of 180 days of instruction and 1,000 hours of instruction, 10 minutes has been added to the school day to make up for the time used in the PLCs. You can view bell schedules online at www.wcpss.net/2009-10-bell-schedule.html.

We hope that you will support our efforts at improving learning and teaching for our students. We are committed to helping your student reach his or her full potential, and PLC time will help us in these efforts. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.