

SUPERINTENDENT'S LISTEN & LEARN FEEDBACK



Colfax Elementary School, October 10, 2016

Hosted by: Ed Price

District 2

What does Guilford County Schools do well?

- Many parent involvement opportunities.
- Teachers encourage students to learn character education and values.
- Good communication. Sunday evening phone calls are very helpful.
- Teachers teach in fun ways.
- Staff is well trained.
- Schools are well maintained and cleaned.
- Guilford Parent Academy, celebrating diversity, and the new ARC Reading Program gives teachers the materials we need to individualize.
- Service learning and AP course
- ACES program.
- They make you feel safe.

What can Guilford County Schools improve?

- More tutoring programs.
- Communication between the school and parents.
- Invest in updating buildings and making technology more accessible-- smart boards, iPads, etc.
- Change the location of the magnet schools to be more centrally located.
- Provide more equitable resources for all schools. Teachers are purchasing their own materials.
- Provide better pay for teachers.
- Teachers need a voice in curriculum decisions.
- In magnet schools if students continuously disrupt class and are a major behavior problem, the school should have the right to revoke their magnet status.
- More playground equipment.
- Focus less on preparing for a test the whole year for testing at the end of the year.
- Better communication to the parents on bad weather days.
- Provide more field trip educational opportunities.
- Provide more online and volunteer activities.
- More choices for after-school programs (ex. Adventure time).
- Hire more teacher assistants.
- Work to improve Power School—not reliable.
- Transportation—middle and high school students should not ride bus together.
- Better food in cafeteria.
- Teach bilingual language at early age/grade.
- Hire more diverse staff at the school.

What advice would you give Superintendent Contreras and the Board of Education that will assist them in moving the District forward?

- Listen to all the parents and teachers.
- Be innovative and creative with community alliances to look at updating all schools and buildings to a modern educational setting.
- To provide resources for support of facilities especially technology and athletics.
- Research dropping of cursive handwriting curriculum. Students are unable to read or write formally.
- Work towards smaller class sizes so teachers may work individually with all students.
- Consider the fact that elementary students could go to school later in the morning so they are not standing at the bus stops in the dark and bad weather.
- Help schools communicate urgent needs regarding the budgets and spending.
- Need current textbooks and curriculum based resources.
- Bullying if not handled well at the local school should be immediately followed up by the district office.

