SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSED REDISTRICING PRINCIPLES & TIMELINE

The following criteria were presented to the school board on 9/12/17. Although these sound fine, they're not likely to result in improved diversity judging by the discussion. One board member requested that the first principle should be that neighborhood schools would not be questioned.

New Hanover County Schools Proposed Guiding Principles for Redistricting

The Redistricting Committee, in its School Assignment proposals to the Board of Education, shall apply the following guiding principles:

- 1. A diverse student body (e.g. race, gender, disability, and socioeconomic status) is important and valued.
- 2. An efficient and safe transportation service is important to maintaining a quality instructional program and student learning.
- 3. School attendance boundaries should follow terrain features (e.g. roadways, waterways, subdivisions, and natural boundaries), and be contiguous to the fullest extent possible.
- 4. The school system's Educational Specifications (addressing building capacities, infrastructure and support spaces in schools) are the blueprint for optimal instruction and student learning.
- 5. Early Childhood Education Centers are important to student learning and are a significant part of the school system.
- 6. Opportunities for school choice (magnet school, year-round school, open enrollment) by parents are important to a viable school and community.
- 7. Attendance zone boundaries should minimize change for students.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AT GREGORY

Gregory Principle Lampley updated the board on what is going on at Gregory. STEM is being integrated into the curriculum and the immersion program is flourishing.

LAB SCHOOL AT D.C. VIRGO

Superintendent Markley is in negotiations with UNCW School of Ed to have Virgo become a lab school. It would be much like a charter school and remain within the NHC school system. Many steps are still required before this becomes a reality. At this point it sounds like it would be a good for students.

All members were present at regular board meeting on September 12, 2017, which ran from 5:30 to 9:00 PM.

Submitted by, Nancy McCoy-Fennell