

Posted on Thu, Mar. 03, 2005

## Fewer schools available for teacher transfers

35 CMS schools closed to those seeking switch

ANN DOSS HELMS

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As Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools continues trying to steer the district's best teachers to its neediest schools, the teacher transfer season that opens today will offer a shrinking menu of options.

Teachers seeking a switch won't be allowed to move into 35 schools that meet district goals for staff experience and qualifications. But 100 schools still remain open to teacher transfers.

Superintendent James Pughsley launched the "no transfer" list two years ago, with 26 schools. Last year 33 schools met the district's goals for experience, licensure and advanced degrees.

The goal is to make sure desirable schools don't attract a disproportionate share of the district's best teachers. When teachers leave schools on the "no transfer" list, new ones must be hired from outside -- which means every year some schools slip off the list because of turnover.

The release of each year's list creates a good news/bad news scenario, with recognition for schools that have strong staff but frustration for teachers who want jobs there.

While the list of schools meeting the staff goals has grown, the improvements have come mostly at the elementary level. The number of high schools on the list has shrunk from four the first year to none this year. Four middle schools are on this year's list, compared with eight last year.

CMS is in the midst of controversy about how to get more highly qualified, experienced teachers into high-poverty, low-scoring schools. The district already offers extra perks to entice teachers to schools with high levels of poverty and other disadvantages, dubbed "Equity Plus" schools.

Pughsley has proposed beefing up those benefits for 2005-06; his proposals will be fleshed out when the school board begins discussing a budget plan next week.

Equity Plus schools also get the first shot at recruiting CMS teachers who want a new assignment. Interested teachers can talk to principals from 43 Equity Plus schools tonight. Eleven Equity Plus elementary schools won't be recruiting because they're on the "no transfer" list.

### Teacher Transfer Ban

#### CLOSED SCHOOLS

*CMS teachers will not be allowed to transfer into these schools. Schools marked with an asterisk are new to the list:* ELEMENTARIES

Allenbrook\*, Ashley Park\*, Barringer, Beverly Woods, Cornelius\*, Crown Point, Davidson, Devonshire, Eastover\*, Elizabeth Lane, Elizabeth Traditional\*, First Ward\*, Hidden Valley\*, Highland Renaissance\*, J.H. Gunn, Lake Wylie\*, Lansdowne, Matthews, McAlpine, McKee Road\*, Montclair\*, Myers Park Traditional, Olde Providence, Park Road Montessori\*, Sedgfield, Selwyn, Shamrock Gardens\*, Smithfield\*, Thomasboro, University Park\*, Westerly Hills

Middle schools

Davidson IB, Mint Hill, Robinson, South Charlotte

#### REOPENED SCHOOLS

*These schools were closed to transfers last year but reopened for 2005-06:*

Elementaries

Bain, Berryhill, Hawk Ridge, Huntingtowne Farms, Idlewild, Morehead, Reid Park, Sterling

Middle schools

Alexander Graham, Carmel, Cochrane, Piedmont

High school

Providence