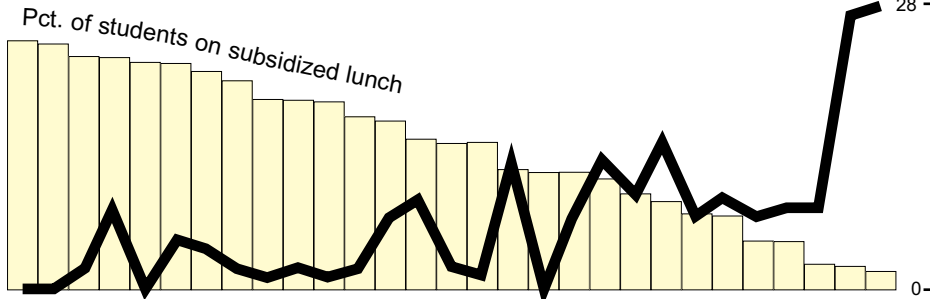


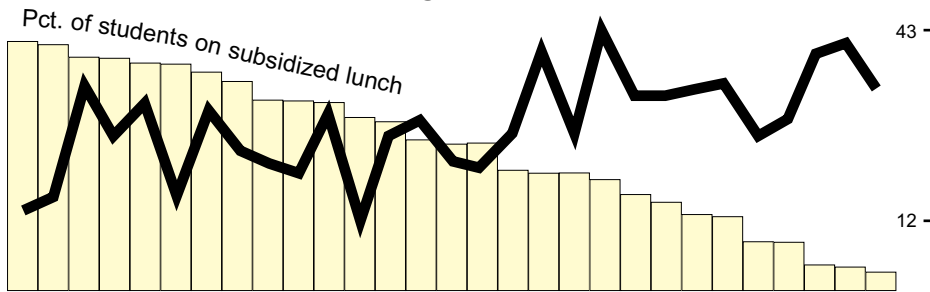
Student poverty vs. teacher indicators

Data shows quality indicators rising as poverty falls. More, Pages 3-9.

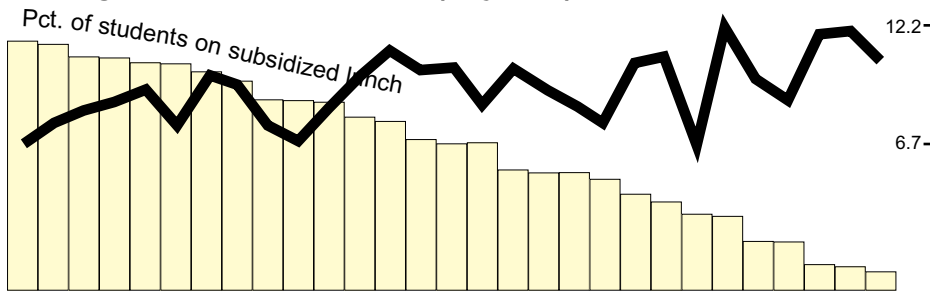
Board-certified teachers, middle schools



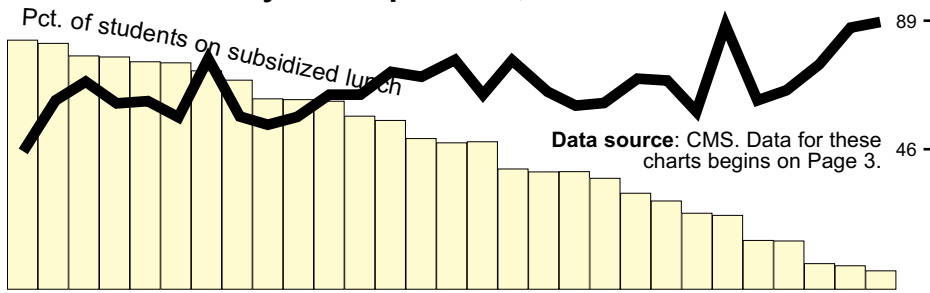
Teachers with advanced degrees, middle schools



Average teacher experience (in years), middle schools



Teachers with 5+ years experience, middle schools



Data source: CMS. Data for these charts begins on Page 3.

School	Pct. of students on subsidized lunch
M.G. Davis	93.6
Spaugh	92.4
J.T. Williams	87.7
Eastway	87.3
Cochrane	85.5
Wilson	85.1
Sedgefield	82.1
Albemarle Rd.	78.6
Martin	71.6
Ranson	71.3
Northridge	70.7
Kennedy	65.9
McClintock	63.5
Quail Hollow	56.7
Randolph	55.7
Coulwood	55.5
Piedmont	45.3
Southwest	44.4
Northeast	44.3
Smith	41.8
Alexander	36.2
Carmel	33.3
Alex. Graham	28.7
Mint Hill	27.9
Crestdale	18.5
Bradley	18.3
So. Charlotte	9.8
Jay Robinson	9.0
Davidson IB	7.1

Week brings testimony, teacher data, review body

Jim Pughsley went to court. Teachers went under the magnifying glass. Business leaders shifted out of neutral.

The conservative Raleigh-based John Locke Foundation announced a foray into a Mecklenburg County "at a tipping point." And by Friday morning, the community would have an outline of next year's billion-plus school budget and which schools won the annual school choicestakes.

– Data by which CMS tracks teacher preparation and experience (charts, left, and Pages 3-9) exposed deep inequities at high-poverty schools. But the data also showed that CMS might succeed if it ever insists that all children have an equal chance at a quality teacher: While a few schools are still hobbled with high levels of first-year teachers, most levels have evened out since CMS closed top-ranked schools to teacher transfers.

– Supt. Jim Pughsley trekked to a Wake Superior Court hearing in the Leandro school funding lawsuit. The appearance went without major incident, though instead of arguing for more state money, as the district has argued for years, Pughsley at one point told Judge Howard Manning that CMS could succeed with the money it already has. At another, however, he

Continued on Page 2

In Leandro spotlight

Continued from Page 1

said he could achieve Manning's suggestion of 90% of students on grade level at schools with 90% at-risk students only if he had the "critical mass" of quality teachers that he says he does not now have.

– Also in the past week, the piston of the north Mecklenburg secession effort recast its Internet presence as saveCMS.com, from dumpCMS.com.

– And the outside look at CMS governance signaled earlier by school board chair Joe White (*Educate!*, Feb. 25) emerged, launched by the Foundation for the Carolinas, co-chaired Cathy Bessant and Harvey Gantt, and funded by corporate donors.

The "governance" issues may be narrowly focused on the hired

hands and how they work – leaving school board, assignment, facilities and other trickier issues to others. And at midweek it was unclear who would compose the task force, or whether the task force would hold the open, televised deliberations that could create public interest in and support for any later recommendations.

– Education consultant Bill Daggett told a Mike Collins show audience that CMS was doing many things very well, but that districts today must not only educate children more thoroughly than they've ever been accountable for in the past, but also must educate every child. He said CMS was as good as any system in the country.

School board vice chair Kit Cramer used the occasion to acknowledge that CMS was having difficulty placing teachers at the district's most challenging schools. Cramer blamed teachers' interest in working closer to their homes. A Chattanooga foundation subsidizes home loans to encourage teachers to live in the communities in which they teach.

Letters

Link driving privilege, school

I think that we should do as another state has done: Until age 18, tie our driver's licenses to school time and staying in school.

Jo Ann E. Casserly

Task force tasks

A key task of the group launched by the Foundation for

Continued on Page 3

Educate! is a journal on public education focusing on Charlotte-Mecklenburg and N.C. Our aim is to supply information useful to you in your role as student, parent or citizen.

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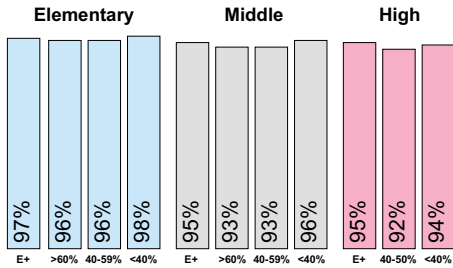
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April 25-May 1

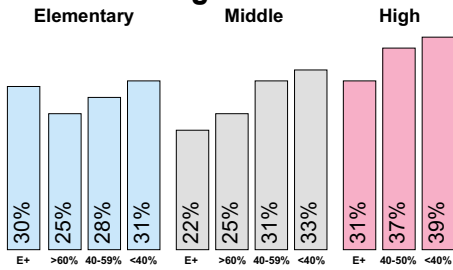
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CMS Teacher Indicators

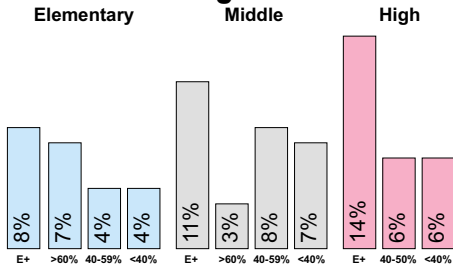
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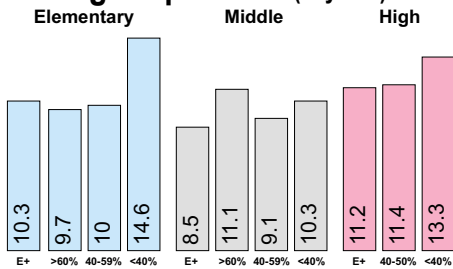
Advanced degrees



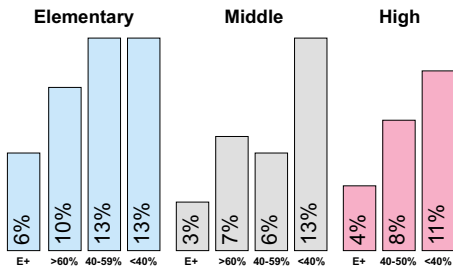
New to teaching



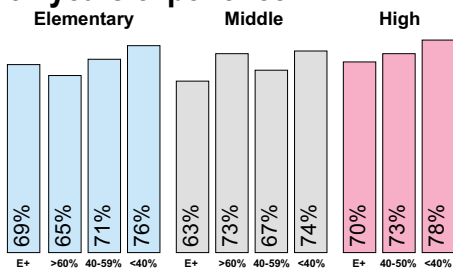
Average experience (in years)



National Board Certification



5+ years experience



In Leandro spotlight

Continued from Page 2

the Carolinas last week is to alter expectations.

The community is now united only by “lack of any faith that what is happening is going to have a good effect,” as one observer put it.

The task force “could be a very beneficial first step,” though the task force could stumble on the community’s justifiable impatience: “Everybody wants a quick fix. What I want takes five years.”

Daggett on CMS

Author and International Center for Leadership in Education founder Bill Daggett told Mike Collins on WFAE’s “Charlotte Talks” program Wednesday that CMS needed to

continue a “laserlike focus on the most essential skills” and to pursue focused instruction “to get all kids to high standards.”

He called for “massive understanding of why we need to get all



Daggett

kids to high standards without making it look like our schools are failing.”

School board vice chair Kit Cramer, who also appeared on the program, defended the curriculum

pacing guides that keep all classrooms at about the same place throughout the district.

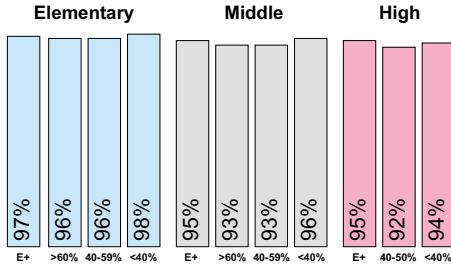
“In many cases... you’ve got kids who move.... It’s essential that we provide them settings where you’ve got consistency in the curriculum.” She noted that the pacing guides were developed by

Continued on Page 5

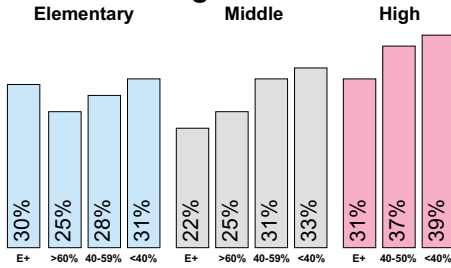
	FRL	Clear license	Adv. degree	New to teaching	Exper. (years)	Board certified	5+ yrs. exper.
Elementary							
Bruns Avenue	97.8	90	43	10	7.6	7	60
W.G. Byers	96.2	100	23	13	10.8	3	56
Druid Hills	95.3	95	19	9	10.7	0	60
Hidden Valley	94.3	100	36	2	9.4	2	69
Reid Park	94.2	100	34	20	7.5	3	69
Sedgefield	94.1	100	38	2	13.8	5	88
Chantilly/Billingsville	94.1	94	27	11	7.1	6	62
Shamrock Gardens	93.4	96	42	7	10.8	2	78
Thomasboro	93.3	100	30	8	12.9	0	70
Highland Renaissance	93.2	100	38	4	10.3	15	81
Devonshire	93.2	97	36	8	12.2	0	74
Westerly Hills	93.1	97	34	3	10.4	6	72
Ashley Park	93.1	96	35	4	10.1	0	78
Winterfield	90.7	87	24	2	9.5	7	62
Allenbrook	90.5	100	30	7	10.8	4	71
Sterling	89.7	97	35	12	11.8	9	71
Merry Oaks	89.5	96	25	8	13.1	10	84
Briarwood	89.2	95	24	12	8.9	0	59
Montclair	88.4	98	42	2	12.6	12	74
Windsor Park	88.3	95	26	2	9.5	0	60
Nations Ford	87.5	100	29	17	8.3	2	71
Pinewood	86.2	93	25	4	8.3	11	64
First Ward	83.4	100	39	0	13.0	12	80
Berryhill	83.4	100	36	18	14.2	18	82
Oakdale	81.6	97	24	0	9.5	9	67
Albemarle Road	81.1	96	23	4	9.5	6	62
Irwin Avenue	79.2	98	27	16	9.2	5	57
Pawtucket	79.0	94	9	16	5.2	6	48
Lincoln Heights	78.6	100	25	8	11.3	6	67
Idlewild	74.9	93	41	6	12.6	15	81
Huntingtowne Farms	65.9	98	24	24	7.1	7	56
E+ Avg.		97	30	8	10.3	6	69

CMS Teacher Indicators

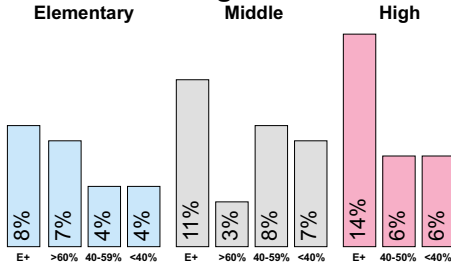
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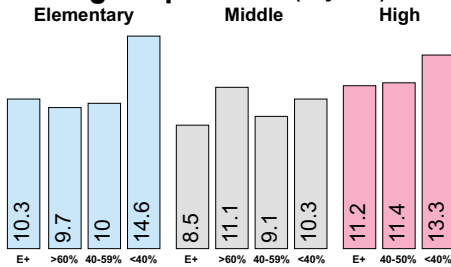
Advanced degrees



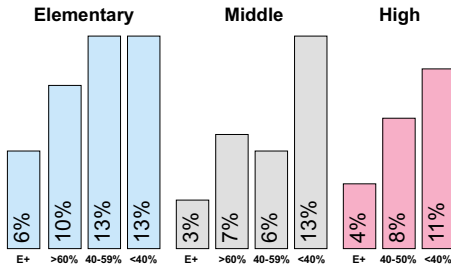
New to teaching



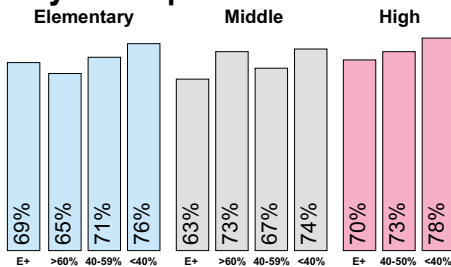
Average experience (in years)



National Board Certification



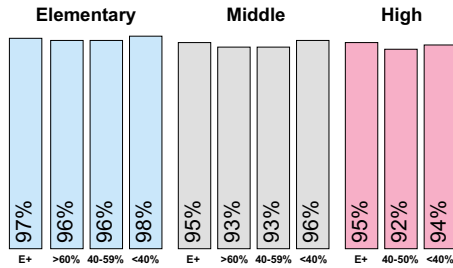
5+ years experience



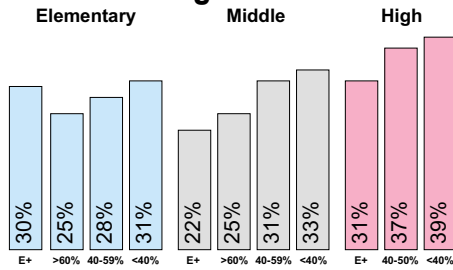
Elementary	FRL	Clear license	Adv. deg.	New to teaching	Exper. (years)	Board certified	5+ yrs. exper.
Statesville Road	74.6	97	24	9	9.5	9	64
Hickory Grove	73.6	100	27	13	11.2	2	58
Newell	72.9	94	16	2	9.2	2	63
Tuckaseegee	69.6	98	24	5	13.0	2	63
Joseph W. Grier	69.1	100	15	10	7.6	3	50
J.H. Gunn	68.3	98	34	2	12.6	20	80
Nathaniel Alexander	67.9	98	14	5	7.1	5	62
Oaklawn	67.2	93	14	7	5.3	14	50
Hornets Nest	66.1	92	24	6	8.7	10	57
Piney Grove	63.5	100	25	8	11.9	6	69
Greenway Park	62.9	98	29	4	12.8	17	79
University Park	62.6	97	43	0	7.6	23	57
Rama Road	62.5	81	26	2	11.0	16	77
Collinswood	62.3	100	39	12	8.7	3	73
Dilworth	61.9	100	24	16	9.2	12	64
University Meadows	61.4	95	20	5	9.2	9	70
Smithfield	60.1	97	33	8	9.5	11	69
Non E+ >60% Avg.		96	25	7	9.7	10	65
Lebanon Road	59.3	91	30	4	11.8	4	72
Barringer	58.2	98	34	2	10.5	24	80
Oakhurst	57.8	94	33	3	9.0	12	64
Cotswold	56.2	91	24	0	11.0	18	76
Steele Creek	56.1	98	28	8	9.8	5	67
Winding Springs	54.8	100	26	2	6.4	5	60
Morehead	53.4	91	36	4	11.2	22	84
Highland Mill	52.6	95	21	11	10.3	21	63
Paw Creek	49.7	98	19	9	7.1	2	53
Pineville	48.6	96	35	9	11.2	15	67
Crown Point	46.9	98	35	0	9.9	12	72
Reedy Creek	44.3	97	21	0	12.3	10	87
40% - 59% Avg.		96	28	4	10.0	13	71
Lansdowne	39.1	100	38	8	14.1	3	78
Clear Creek	37.7	100	23	0	17.1	11	94
Villa Heights	32.2	94	22	17	9.7	17	67
Lake Wylie	32.2	100	33	7	10.5	7	72
Elizabeth Traditional	32.2	100	31	6	14.0	13	84
David Cox Road	31.1	98	28	0	9.6	11	68
Mountain Island	29.8	97	18	3	9.0	16	69
Myers Park Traditional	29.2	97	33	8	10.2	13	69
Mallard Creek	27.4	96	15	2	7.8	6	63
Beverly Woods	25.5	98	40	4	13.3	9	82
Eastover	25.3	100	30	0	10.2	3	94
Blythe	24.5	97	25	7	7.0	8	58
Park Road	24.4	100	42	4	15.8	19	88
Park Creek	20.1	98	26	2	10.8	7	63
Sharon	19.6	94	35	3	7.7	10	65
Bain	18.7	98	26	4	12.0	14	76
Matthews	16.6	96	30	2	13.4	21	83
Cornelius	16.6	99	37	1	10.0	14	77
McAlpine	16.2	96	33	4	10.8	6	69
Huntersville	14.5	100	27	5	9.4	12	73
Olde Providence	14.0	100	36	5	14.3	14	93
Selwyn	12.8	100	44	6	13.3	15	76
Davidson	8.1	98	41	2	12.9	16	79
Hawk Ridge	7.3	97	32	10	9.8	20	66
Elizabeth Lane	6.1	98	35	7	12.0	11	78
Endhaven	5.9	100	21	0	8.9	17	69
McKee Road	4.9	96	37	4	13.4	15	76
Providence Spring	3.1	98	27	2	10.8	23	96
<40% Avg.		98	31	4	11.4	13	76

CMS Teacher Indicators

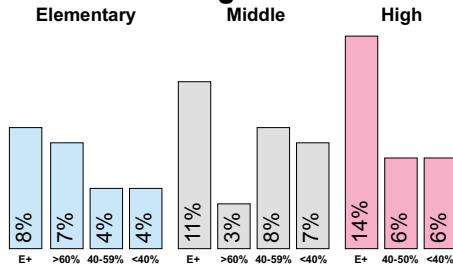
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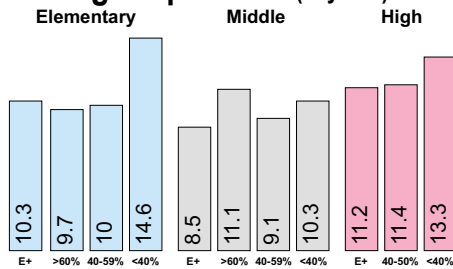
Advanced degrees



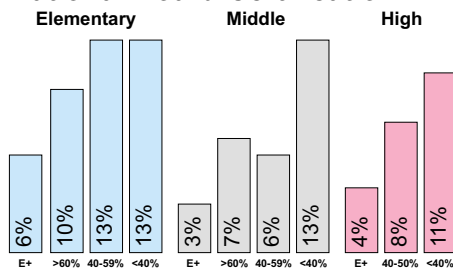
New to teaching



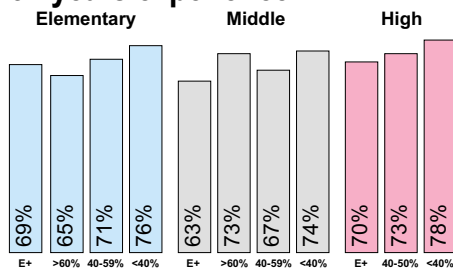
Average experience (in years)



National Board Certification



5+ years experience



MIDDLE	FRL	Clear license	Adv. degrees	New to teaching	Exper. (years)	Board certified	5+ yrs. exper.
Marie G. Davis	93.6	92	13	13	6.7	0	46
Spaugh	92.4	96	15	9	7.7	0	63
J.T. Williams	87.7	98	34	11	8.3	2	70
Eastway	87.3	98	25	6	8.7	8	62
Cochrane	85.5	92	31	16	9.2	0	63
Wilson	85.1	98	15	12	7.5	5	57
Sedgefield	82.1	96	30	10	10	4	78
Albemarle Road	78.6	90	23	16	9.4	2	57
Martin	71.6	90	21	12	7.5	1	55
Ranson	71.3	93	19	11	6.8	2	58
Northridge	70.7	94	29	6	8.3	1	65
Kennedy	65.9	96	12	16	9.9	2	65
Coulwood	55.5	96	20	11	8.4	1	64
Piedmont	45.3	98	26	11	10.3	13	77
EquityPlus Average		95	22	11	8.5	3	63
McClintock	63.5	93	25	3	11.1	7	73
Non E+ >60% Avg.		93	25	3	11.1	7	73
Quail Hollow	56.7	94	28	3	10.1	9	71
Randolph	55.7	97	21	3	10.2	2	77
Southwest	44.4	87	40	15	9.3	0	67
Northeast	44.3	92	25	3	8.5	7	61
Smith	41.8	93	43	15	7.6	13	62
40% - 59% Avg.		93	31	8	9.1	6	67
Alexander	36.2	96	32	6	10.5	9	71
Carmel	33.3	99	32	10	10.7	15	70
Alex. Graham	28.7	96	33	13	6.5	7	59
Mint Hill	27.9	98	34	0	12.2	9	89
Crestdale	18.5	88	25	10	9.6	7	63
Bradley	18.3	92	28	6	8.7	8	67
South Charlotte	9.8	98	39	8	11.8	8	74
Jay Robinson	9.0	99	41	6	11.9	27	87
Davidson IB	7.1	100	33	6	10.6	28	89
<40% Avg.		96	33	7	10.3	13	74

In Leandro spotlight

Continued from Page 3

teachers who know what works.

Daggett agreed that all students needed “a certain core of knowledge” but that’s only the beginning:

“In an awful lot of schools, the kids come to school to watch the teachers work. The reality of it is, the student has to become the worker....

“When I look at large urban centers, Charlotte-Mecklenburg is about as good as it gets,” Daggett said. “I think you have very good

schools down there and you’ve had great leadership for several years that has continued to push the envelope.”

“We’ve got to get everybody to agree, from parents to taxpayers to educators, that fundamental change is needed.”

Assistant Supt. Lloyd Wimberly, who oversees high school curriculum, added, “What the kids are calling for... is to feel connected, to feel significant, to feel appreciated, and to have something that relates to what it is they do....

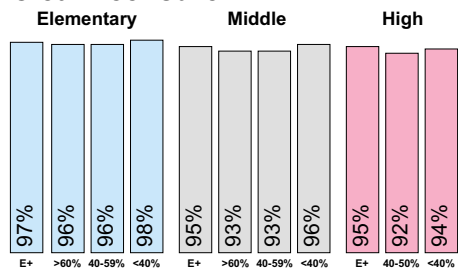
The world is into their homes.”

Daggett says one of the first

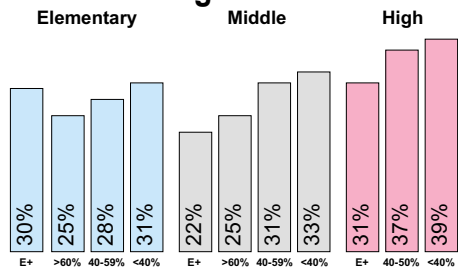
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CMS Teacher Indicators

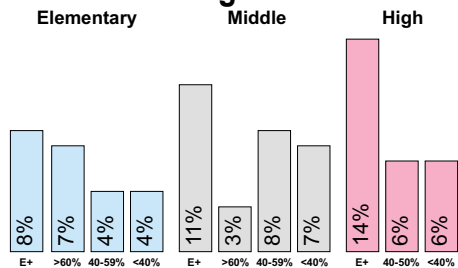
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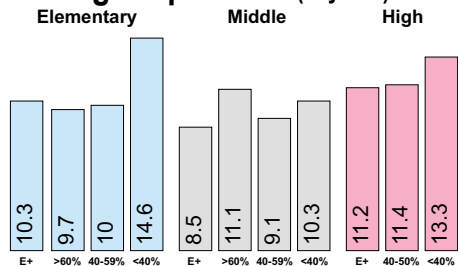
Advanced degrees



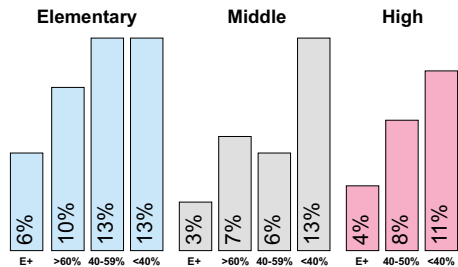
New to teaching



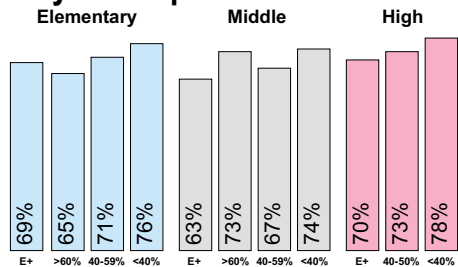
Average experience (in years)



National Board Certification



5+ years experience



	FRL	Clear license	Adv. degrees	New to teaching	Exper. (years)	Board certified	5+ yrs. exper.
HIGH							
West Charlotte	76.3	93	25	10	12.8	3	78
Garinger	71.2	94	32	10	12.1	3	75
Berry Tech	66.2	94	27	19	8.5	1	60
West Meck	63.9	95	29	13	11	8	70
E.E. Waddell	60.2	97	45	18	11.5	7	67
Olympic	42.1	96	28	13	11.5	6	68
E+ Avg.		95	31	14	11.2	4	70
Harding	49.2	87	35	7	11.8	6	69
Independence	46.0	95	32	2	13.8	6	80
Vance	45.7	94	37	8	10.7	6	72
East Meck	45.6	93	36	5	11.7	10	75
Northwest Arts	42.2	92	47	6	8.8	10	70
40% - 50% Avg.		92	37	6	11.4	8	73
South Meck	22.1	95	34	8	13.0	8	74
Myers Park	21.2	95	42	6	13.6	14	82
North Meck	20.2	92	37	8	12.3	8	71
Hopewell	19.7	91	36	5	10.0	6	71
Butler	17.8	98	35	5	14.6	20	88
Providence	6.2	94	47	5	16.1	12	85
<40% Avg.		94	39	6	13.3	11	78

Note: "5+ years experience" includes teachers in fifth year and beyond.

In Leandro spotlight

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issues to address is valuing education, a "culture not only for kids, but for adults as well, that would support and embrace high standards for all kids."

High standards includes challenging well-prepared students, Cramer and Daggett agreed.

Daggett's phone interview was in advance of a March 23 appearance at the Charlotte Chamber's fourth annual What's Working conference.

Locke steps up

The John Locke Foundation has focused on state government from its Raleigh base. Wednesday, the nonprofit said it would bring its well-financed blend of media tools into Mecklenburg.

In a press release, president John Hood said the group's monthly Carolina Journal would now be inserted in the weekly Rhinoceros Times, which recently named District 1 school board

member Larry Gauvreau as its publisher. The rest of the Locke mix includes research reports, a radio show, editorial columns, issues guides, and events – all promoted from its charlotte.john-locke.org Web site.

Locke says it has four full- or part-time Charlotte staff, including former school board member Lindalyn Kakadelis and former county commissioner George Higgins, who is Locke's vice president for development.

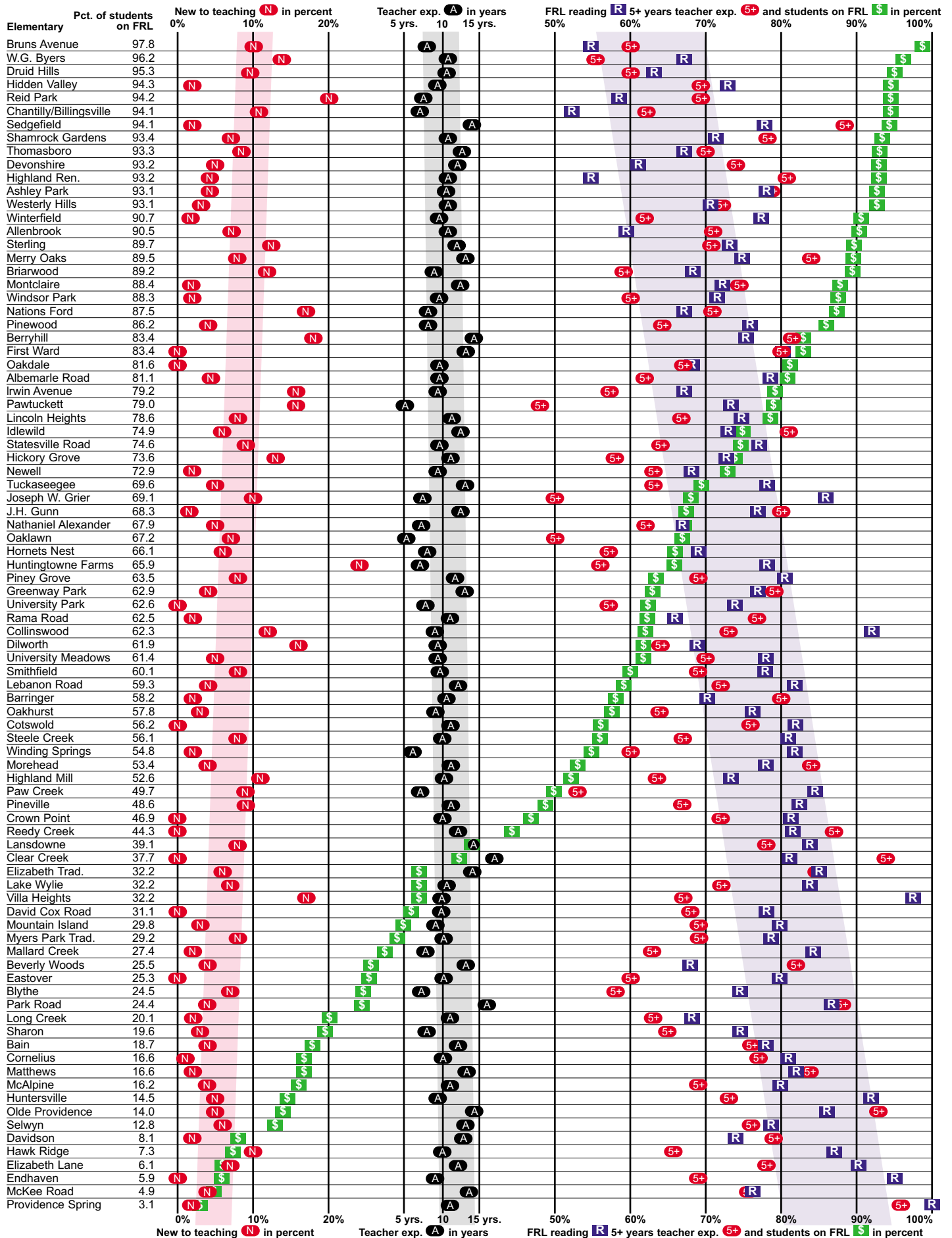
Notes on teacher data

The school-by-school data published in this edition is taken from a paper copy of a spreadsheet prepared for a school board committee by CMS staff.

In that document, the Myers Park Traditional average teacher experience in years was listed at 102.0, which inflated to 14.6 years the average teacher experience among schools with less than 40% subsidized lunch. Alerted Sunday about the numbers, CMS officials had not offered correct numbers

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CMS Teacher Indicators



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in time for this publication early Thursday morning. The charts list the two numbers as 10.2 and 11.4 respectively.

Academic researchers should also be warned that all the “averages” listed, for Equity Plus II and other school types, were computed by CMS. The data sheets gave no indication whether or not the results were weighted by the number of teachers at each school.



Manning and Pughsley in court

Pughsley testifies

Supt. Jim Pughsley and two assistants were in Wake Superior Court Tuesday testifying about low student achievement at CMS high schools.

Presiding was Judge Howard Manning, who is overseeing litigation in the long-running Leandro school funding suit.

Earlier rulings have established that all N.C. children should have access to a sound basic education. Manning in earlier hearings questioned whether all children even in a relatively wealthy district like Charlotte-Mecklenburg were receiving what they were due.

While the state is the defendant in the case, school districts are the legal mechanism through which the state is responsible for delivering a sound basic education, Manning has ruled.

These vignettes from Tuesday’s hearing are taken from an edited videotape of the proceedings that was broadcast Wednesday night by CMS-TV3, the district’s cable channel.

On teachers in the pay-for-performance pilot program:

Manning: “If they stay and they

Clear licensure under 95%

	FRL	Clear license	Adv. degrees	New to teaching	Avg. exper.	Board certified	5+ yrs. exper.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS							
Rama Road	62.5	81	26	2	11	16	77
Winterfield	90.7	87	24	2	9.5	7	62
Bruns Avenue	97.8	90	43	10	7.6	7	60
Morehead	53.4	91	36	4	11.2	22	84
Cotswold	56.2	91	24	0	11	18	76
Lebanon Road	59.3	91	30	4	11.8	4	72
Hornets Nest	66.1	92	24	6	8.7	10	57
Oaklawn	67.2	93	14	7	5.3	14	50
Idlewild	74.9	93	41	6	12.6	15	81
Pinewood	86.2	93	25	4	8.3	11	64
Sharon	19.6	94	35	3	7.7	10	65
Villa Heights	32.2	94	22	17	9.7	17	67
Oakhurst	57.8	94	33	3	9	12	64
Newell	72.9	94	16	2	9.2	2	63
Pawtucket	79.0	94	9	16	5.2	6	48
Chantilly/Billingsville	94.1	94	27	11	7.1	6	62
MIDDLE SCHOOLS							
Southwest	44.4	87	40	15	9.3	0	67
Crestdale	18.5	88	25	10	9.6	7	63
Albemarle Road	78.6	90	23	16	9.4	2	57
Martin	71.6	90	21	12	7.5	1	55
Marie G. Davis	93.6	92	13	13	6.7	0	46
Cochrane	85.5	92	31	16	9.2	0	63
Northeast	44.3	92	25	3	8.5	7	61
Bradley	18.3	92	28	6	8.7	8	67
Ranson	71.3	93	19	11	6.8	2	58
McClintock	63.5	93	25	3	11.1	7	73
Smith	41.8	93	43	15	7.6	13	62
Northridge	70.7	94	29	6	8.3	1	65
Quail Hollow	56.7	94	28	3	10.1	9	71
HIGH SCHOOLS							
Harding	49.2	87	35	7	11.8	6	69
Hopewell	19.7	91	36	5	10	6	71
Northwest Arts	42.2	92	47	6	8.8	10	70
North Meck	20.2	92	37	8	12.3	8	71
West Charlotte	76.3	93	25	10	12.8	3	78
East Meck	45.6	93	36	5	11.7	10	75
Garinger	71.2	94	32	10	12.1	3	75
Berry Tech	66.2	94	27	19	8.5	1	60
Vance	45.7	94	37	8	10.7	6	72
Providence	6.2	94	47	5	16.1	12	85

don’t get run out of the classroom out of frustration by the misbehavior of the students, they make it, they don’t get but four cuts, they go to the staff development, and performance goes up, they ring the bell.”

Pughsley: “They ring the bell.”

Manning: “They should ring the bell.”

Pughsley: “They ring the bell.”

Manning: “They should ring the bell.”

Q: “Do you think you can solve your student performance issues with your student assignment plan?”

Pughsley: “You can’t fix – I’m sorry.”

Manning: “I’m just mumbling to

In Leandro spotlight

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myself.”

Pughsley: “OK.”

Manning: “I’m agreeing with you: [That] can’t fix it. Go on and answer it.”

Pughsley: “You can’t fix student achievement solely by the student program. However, student assignment does begin to relate to one’s ability to draw teachers into certain schools.”

Q: “Can you maintain the progress that you’ve made at the earlier grades, and achieve your goals for the high schools with your existing resources?”

Pughsley: “I believe that we can, because we have a different product, if you will, that is now in the pipeline. I mentioned those Bright Beginnings students that are now sixth-graders.... I think you will find with our [Transition 9] program, as an example, that there will be fewer and fewer students that may need that kind of a service specifically, as this group of students continues through the pipeline. And in fact we will lift up all of our students so that the composite is certainly more respectable and more representative of what we’re capable of in Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools.”

Pughsley: “I firmly believe that the key to this thing has to do with strong leadership and a critical mass of quality teachers in our schools.”

Manning: “I’m looking at Olympic since we have the data on that, and believe Ms. Espinosa, the principal who’s been slaving in the trenches for four years now, now has 1,643 kids in that school.

“If you take 54% on the composite level, you’ve still got 700 kids who are tanking. They’re not there. They’re going to graduate from high school and they’re not going to have – they might get a degree or diploma or certificate but they’re not going to be pre-

Board-certified teachers less than 5%

	FRL	Clear license	Adv. degrees	New to teaching	Avg. exper.	Board certified	5+ yrs. exper.
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS							
Druid Hills	95.3	95	19	9	10.7	0	60
Thomasboro	93.3	100	30	8	12.9	0	70
Devonshire	93.2	97	36	8	12.2	0	74
Ashley Park	93.1	96	35	4	10.1	0	78
Briarwood	89.2	95	24	12	8.9	0	59
Windsor Park	88.3	95	26	2	9.5	0	60
Hidden Valley	94.3	100	36	2	9.4	2	69
Shamrock Gardens	93.4	96	42	7	10.8	2	78
Nations Ford	87.5	100	29	17	8.3	2	71
Hickory Grove	73.6	100	27	13	11.2	2	58
Newell	72.9	94	16	2	9.2	2	63
Tuckaseegee	69.6	98	24	5	13	2	63
Paw Creek	49.7	98	19	9	7.1	2	53
W.G. Byers	96.2	100	23	13	10.8	3	56
Reid Park	94.2	100	34	20	7.5	3	69
Joseph W. Grier	69.1	100	15	10	7.6	3	50
Collinswood	62.3	300	39	12	8.7	3	73
Lansdowne	39.1	100	38	8	14.1	3	78
Eastover	25.3	100	30	0	10.2	3	94
Allenbrook	90.5	100	30	7	10.8	4	71
Lebanon Road	59.3	91	30	4	11.8	4	72
MIDDLE SCHOOLS							
Marie G. Davis	93.6	92	13	13	6.7	0	46
Spaugh	92.4	96	15	9	7.7	0	63
Cochrane	85.5	92	31	16	9.2	0	63
Southwest	44.4	87	40	15	9.3	0	67
Martin	71.6	90	21	12	7.5	1	55
Northridge	70.7	94	29	6	8.3	1	65
Coulwood	55.5	96	20	11	8.4	1	64
J.T. Williams	87.7	98	34	11	8.3	2	70
Albemarle Road	78.6	90	23	16	9.4	2	57
Ranson	71.3	93	19	11	6.8	2	58
Kennedy	65.9	96	12	16	9.9	2	65
Randolph	55.7	97	21	3	10.2	2	77
Sedgefield	82.1	96	30	10	10	4	78
HIGH SCHOOLS							
Berry Tech	66.2	94	27	19	8.5	1	60
West Charlotte	76.3	93	25	10	12.8	3	78
Garinger	71.2	94	32	10	12.1	3	75

pared for the workplace.

“You’ve got that not only at Olympic, but you’ve got it five more down and all the way up through Hopewell that have 38% who are doing that.

“And it’s taken this lady who’s broken her neck four years to get from the bottom of the barrel, to half-way.

“What’s concerning me is how many children are we going to lose before you all wake up and

change the program?

“You wrote that [November] memo. You said there are no excuses for it.

Pughsley: “Absolutely.”

Manning: “I don’t see any excuse. I know what the reasons are.... It doesn’t matter to me whether you have the top 10%, the geniuses, on the SAT scores. That’s a great thing, but that doesn’t mean doodly-squat when

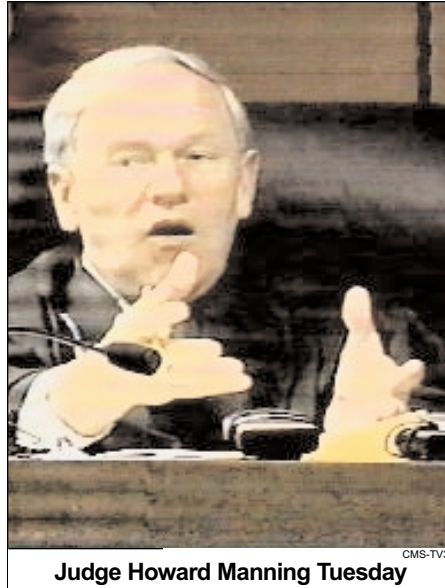
In Leandro spotlight

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you look at all these kids who are going out the door who are unprepared. And it ain't got anything to do with No Child Left Behind. I mean I know they're spearing you. But our Constitution requires that these children have an opportunity – and, Dr. Pughsley, the opportunity's not there in those schools when they're all below 50% or below 70% [on grade level]. Those children are not getting it. If you've got a good principal and they're still not getting it, the problem's got to be that you're not training the teachers, they're not on board, happy and clicking along like a Rolls Royce engine teaching what they've got in the high school. The answer is you've got to have, it's got to be what's going on in that classroom that's not delivering the educational program.”

Pughsley: “I don't disagree with you with regards to it not happening as we would want it to happen in the classroom. Fidelity has been referenced earlier today, and we do have to have it clicking like that Rolls Royce. And that's what we're attempting to do...”

Manning: “Well, I'll give you



Judge Howard Manning Tuesday

credit. From what I've heard today you are thinking outside the box.... But you've got to make it work.”

Pughsley: “Agreed.... There has to be a sense of urgency, and there has to be ownership, by everyone who is involved with these students, and are being held accountable with regards to their growth academically. And I don't disagree with you in that regard.”

Manning: “Looks to me like you're five years out – IF you get the resources in the classroom, the basic minimum to support the

program.”

Pughsley: “Understood.”

Manning: “I know it can't be done overnight, but it's got to be done.”

— — —

Big-city newspaper editors outside Charlotte, by withholding coverage, seemed to suggest they had concluded that the CMS testimony had done little of statewide significance to advance the Leandro case's push to ensure that all schools statewide provide a sound basic education for all children.

Earlier in the week's hearings, Manning appeared restless with the state's progress toward achieving that goal.

“No more playing the budget game – ‘We don't have the money,’ Raleigh's News & Observer quoted Manning as saying. “I don't want to hear it anymore.”

The Leandro case was filed in 1994 on behalf of plaintiffs in low-wealth counties who said that local schools' reliance on property taxes left low-wealth counties unable to meet the constitutional mandate. High-wealth counties like Mecklenburg joined the suit later to recoup higher costs of education a proportionately larger share of at-risk students.

N.C. mandate for 'sound basic education' defined

Last year the N.C. Supreme Court ruled that the test of achieving a sound basic education was a student's being at Level 3 or above in the state's annual testing program. In 1997, the Supreme Court said a sound basic education must include:

“(1) sufficient ability to read, write and speak the English language and sufficient knowledge of fundamental mathematics and physical science to enable the student to function in a complex and rapidly changing society;

“(2) sufficient fundamental knowledge of geography, history and basic economic and political systems to enable the student to make informed

choices with regard to issues that affect the student personally or affect the student's community, state, and nation;

“(3) sufficient academic and vocational skills to enable the student to successfully engage in post-secondary education or vocational training;

“(4) sufficient academic and vocational skills to enable the student to compete on an equal basis with others in further formal education or gainful employment in contemporary society.”

— Hoke County Board of Education, et. al. vs. the State Board of Education and the State of North Carolina

Briefly...

No exceptions: Connecticut was denied an exemption from the annual testing requirement of No Child Left Behind, the Hartford Courant reported. State officials assert that additional testing would be expensive and not beneficial for students.

Connecticut currently spends more than \$4 million annually on its state tests for fourth-, sixth- and eighth-graders.

www.courant.com

Rankings: Florida's Constitutional Accountability Commission reported that the state ranks 45th in the nation in teacher salaries and college funding, the St. Petersburg Times told its readers. The report, aimed at increasing student achievement, found that Florida students are above average only in the numbers attending a second year at community college and third grade reading scores.

www.spttimes.com

Combo schools: Several "hybrid" schools in Atlanta are blending home schooling with traditional education, the Atlanta Journal Constitution reported. Children attend structured classes for two days a week and are home schooled the rest of the week. The schools, because they are only open two days, are less than half the cost of traditional private schools and give parents of home-schooled children a break from creating lesson plans. Teachers create the plans and parents implement them on the days the children do not attend class.

www.ajc.com

Retired, rehired: Hundreds of Arizona teachers, principals and administrators are doing their jobs even after formal retirements, the Arizona Republic reported. The lure is that they can continue to work and receive pension benefits as well. Although Arizona law says that retirees

Calendar

MARCH

10 School board meets, 6 p.m., Government Center Meeting Chamber. Change of date due to Leandro hearings in Raleigh.

14 School board budget work session, 5 p.m., Board Room, Education Center.

15 Disagreement and Dialogue: Presbyterians and Jews Come Face To Face To Talk, 7 p.m., Temple Beth El, 5101 Providence Rd.

16 School board's Safety Committee, 3:30 p.m., Room 414, Education Center.

16 School board work session on student assignment review's guiding principles, 5 p.m., Board Room, Education Center.

16-18 Quad State Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Conference, Adam's Mark Hotel. Keynote: Scott Syphax, CEO of Sacramento's Nehemiah Corp. of America. Registration: \$75 for 3 days; \$40 for one day, by March 1; scholarships available. Info: Renee Thompson at 704-336-2424 or

rthompson@ci.charlotte.nc.us

17 School board's Personnel Committee, 2 p.m., Room 414, Education Center.

22 School board's Curriculum Committee, 3:30 p.m., Room 414, Education Center.

22 School board meets, 6 p.m., Government Center Meeting Chamber.

23 What's Working Community Forum, 7:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., TIAA-CREF Auditorium, spon-

sored by Charlotte Chamber. To participate: Kit Cramer, 704-378-1301.

24 Parent meeting on comprehensive review of student assignment plan, Ranson Road Middle, 6-8 p.m. Subject: Magnet programs.

APRIL

12 School board public hearing on staff effectiveness; staff recommendations on magnets, boundaries and feeder patterns.

19 Parent meeting on comprehensive review of assignment plan, Waddell High, 6-8 p.m. Subject: Boundaries and feeder patterns.

MAY

10 School board public hearing on magnets, boundaries and feeder patterns; additional information about priorities.

11 School board work session, more discussion of magnets, boundaries and feeder patterns.

24 School board vote on magnets, boundaries and feeder patterns.

JUNE

14 At school board meeting annual staff report on end-of-grade test results and their implications for student assignment.

28 At school board meeting, staff recommendation for lottery priorities; annual staff report on end-of-grade test results and their implications for student assignment.

have to wait one year before going back into the system, small businesses are hiring the teachers and "leasing" them back to the school system. Critics say the practice harms the prospects of less-experienced teachers.

www.azcentral.com

Value added: About 10% of Pennsylvania's school districts have value-added assessments under way for teachers, the

Philadelphia Inquirer reported. The assessments track individual students' growth back to the teacher. The system can be linked to pay systems, professional development and assistance for struggling teachers. The Inquirer quoted an elementary principal said that when teachers do not improve, "it is my ...job to ... coach the person into another profession."

www.philly.com