

**ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: January 3, 2011

AGENDA ITEM No. 11-01-13

ACTION ITEM: (Y/N) N

SUBJECT: Student Reassignment Discussion #4

INFO. CONTACT: Dr. George McFarley PHONE: 919-732-8126

ATTACHMENTS: None.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this item is to allow the Board an opportunity to continue student reassignment discussions.

BACKGROUND: The last student reassignment study was conducted in 2006. In April 2010, Orange County Schools contracted with student assignment experts from N.C. State University's Operations Research/Education Laboratory (ORED). On November 22, 2010 the board received a comprehensive report from ORED which included land development trends, achievement analysis, free/reduced meal analysis, growth drivers/constraints, and capacity analysis. On December 6, 2010 the board reviewed sample scenarios and engaged in an in-depth discussion of the study's findings and identified areas for further board and staff consideration and study. Areas for further study include:

- Analysis of the Orange County Schools transfer policy
- Exploration of expanded year-round options
- Establishment of magnet program at Central Elementary
- Establishment of a PreK center to house all of the district's PreK classrooms
- Reconfiguration of Central and Hillsborough Elementary to both as year round
- Exploration of K-8 year round programs

Information provided by ORED and staff indicated that school capacity imbalances in some schools have been exacerbated by the student transfer process.

Board of Education Policy #4150 School Assignment states "When student reassignment becomes necessary, the board will approve a reassignment plan and communicate the assigned schools to parents on or before April 1, prior to the academic year that the new assignment becomes effective".

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Unknown at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education delay the formal reassignment decision for one year. In keeping with time constraints outlined in board policy, delay of the student reassignment process for one year will provide the board and administration time to analyze the items outlined above and fully consider their impact on student assignment.