

Fuller G/T Magnet Elementary School
Principal's Page
November 13, 2007



Dear Parents:

Last Saturday was a big day for the Fuller family. I joined principals and teachers from other WCPSS magnet schools at the annual Magnet Fair. It was a very dynamic setting—families from across the district taking time to peruse the educational and instructional variety that magnet schools have to offer. Our Band 2 class performed under the direction of Ms. Oatsvall, and they did an outstanding job. The experience is rewarding for me because it gives me an opportunity to describe our school in a manner that illuminates what makes Fuller so different any other school in Wake County. In the coming months, I'll host tours of our school to families who are considering magnet program options. This is just one of many marketing strategy, the best of which is you, our current Fuller family. You do a great job selling our school to your neighbors and friends. Please refer them to the school website for dates and times of upcoming tours and talks.

After the fair, the magnet fair team and I made our way back to Fuller to catch the Fall Festival. Our campus was certainly alive for both children and adults. It was clear that the PTA did an outstanding job organizing the event and preparing for a large turnout. I appreciate all who took the time to make this event a success.

Teacher of the Year

Each year, one teacher from each school receives the distinct honor of being recognized by his/her peers as the school's representative for "Teacher of the Year." This year, our staff has selected Nancy Woodward to represent Fuller. Serving in many leadership roles, including magnet coordinator, teacher mentor coordinator, and before school care coordinator, Ms. Woodward is the model teacher-leader. Additionally, she collaborates with NC State representatives to secure engineering students to serve as tutors at our school and she advises the energy club. Yet the most important asset that Ms. Woodward brings to Fuller doesn't really have a title. Her positive energy and genuine love for children can't be defined by a title. It is dispensed in the way she embraces and models learning for colleagues and students, in her enthusiasm when her students "get it", and in her ever-constant attempt to make everyone happy. Working with her is a blessing and a joy. Simply put, she makes our school a better place. Congratulations Ms. Woodward!

Food Drive

Last year, our school collected over 4000 lbs. of food for the Food Drive. Our goal for this year is 5000 lbs. Please help us out by providing non-perishable food items—canned goods, peanut butter, pasta, etc. We will collect food items each morning. This is not a competition, but a collective school goal.

Extended Absences from School

I understand that many of our families have obligations that take them out of the country for extended periods of time. While I empathize with the challenges you may face in securing a travel window that minimizes absences from school, I am obligated to adhere to board policy when excusing absences from school. In terms of your child's learning, there is no substitute for classroom instruction with his/her teacher. For approximately one week, we can safely assume responsibility for the student's learning while he/she is absent from school. But for more extended absences from school, we cannot assume the responsibility for the student's progress, therefore, the request for excused absences will be denied for long periods of time. Taking extended travel also compromises your status as a magnet student. Please utilize the summer, spring, and winter break for long periods of travel.

Fuller T-Shirts

The building has certainly been alive with Fuller spirit, thanks to the new t-shirts designed and supplied by the Fuller PTA. First grade students attended a field trip and each student wore the new bright green spirit wear with pride. Teachers reported that they received compliments from other schools in attendance. During times throughout the year, we will have Fuller pride days in which we will all wear our t-shirts. On behalf of the staff, I extend a sincere "thank you" to the PTA and all who were involved with this project.

Lost and Found

In just 3 months of school, we have already collected a number of jackets, shirts, sweaters, etc. We know that our students sometimes forget their items on the playground, on the bus, in the cafeteria or in the gym. Please check through your child's clothing and if you suspect that an item is missing, chances are it is at school in our lost & found. We would appreciate your stopping by to pick it up before we donate the items.

Dates to Remember

November 16th
November 21-23

Picture Retakes
Holiday—No School