



Fuller G/T Magnet Elementary School  
Principal's Page  
September 2, 2008

Dear Parents:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to a year of learning at Fuller. It was great to see so many families on Thursday night's "Meet the Teacher." Our halls and classrooms were alive with the sounds of children. We gladly welcome their return.

A lot has changed since sending out the beginning of the school year *Principal's Page* one year ago. Faced with the challenge of explaining both the sanctions under *No Child Left Behind* and our school's failure to make growth as measured by North Carolina's accountability model, I sent last year's *Page* hoping to help parents understand the flaws of standardized testing and to sustain a sense of confidence and trust in our work with students. While my feelings about standardized testing have not changed, I am very pleased that these data support the hard work of our teachers and students, who worked to accomplish both *AYP* and we made growth last year. Our families were also a critical element in this success, attending parent conferences, checking folders, attending Fuller Family Nights, and trusting us to do our work. These behaviors send very powerful and necessary messages to students about the value of education.

In recognizing and celebrating last year's work, I think it is important to make two distinctions: (1) Data from the tests fail to capture some of the most significant gains our students made last year; and (2) Our challenge are far from over, as there is still much need for continuous improvement. But we proceed into this school year a little more informed and a little more confident. I will send the *Principals Page* bi-monthly and it will serve as an on-going conversation with you about our progress at Fuller. Thank you for your on-going support of and participation in our school community.

### **Electives**

As we begin the elective process, please help us by adhering to due dates for requesting changes to your child's elective schedule. It is very challenging to make changes after this week. If you communicate a request for a class change, we try to accommodate that change. If it is not possible to change your child's class, please respect that we have given it consideration and trust that your child will have an educationally beneficial experience.

### **Fuller Website**

As we noted in our summer mailing, we are continuing to update and revise the content of our website. We understand that this is a very useful tool for many of families, and we apologize for the delays. To date, most of the issues have been resolved. Thank you for your patience.

### **Fuller Parent/Student Handbook**

The Fuller Handbook was distributed at "Meet the Teacher." It is very important that you review the handbook, as it is our communication of policies and procedures. Please pay particular attention to the "Parent's Top Ten" section, which was mailed to you in early August. If you have not received a handbook, let your child's teacher know so that one can be provided for you.

### **Dates to Remember**

September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Elective Registration Begins
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Elective Change Day
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	First Day of Electives
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Open House
September 19 <sup>th</sup>	School Pictures
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Early Release Day