

GCS By The Numbers

- **120** schools (some campuses serve both elementary and secondary)
- **Third** largest district in the state and among the **50** largest districts in the country
- More than **71,000** students
- **Second-largest** employer in the 12-county area
- More than **10,000** full- and part-time employees
- Our students represent **142** countries and speak **150** languages
- **More than half** (59.6 percent) of the student population is non-white
- **Just over half** (50.39 percent) of the GCS student body receives free or reduced-price lunches
- Dropout rate: **3.31** percent
- The GCS transportation department operates approximately **634** school buses and manages **65** contract buses, transporting **40,000** students to and from school daily
- School buses travel a total of **9.4 million** miles annually
- GCS serves more than **14,500** breakfasts and **53,000** lunches daily
- Volunteers logged more than **354,784 hours** with GCS in 2008-09

GCS Points of Pride

- ABC results show that 10 of the district's schools are **2009 Honor Schools of Excellence**, the highest level a school can obtain on the ABCs, compared to only one school being named in 2008. At these schools, **90 percent** or more of students scored at or above grade level, made expected or high growth and met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).
- For the 2008-09 school year, **69.8 percent** of the district's schools **met AYP**. This is the highest number for GCS since the measure was established in 2003. About 82 percent of the district's middle schools, about 70 percent of elementary schools and about 58 percent of high schools made AYP. Ten of the district's schools met AYP for the seventh year in a row.
- GCS **increased in all 10 subgroups** on the **End-of-Grade (EOG) tests**, experiencing double-digit growth in eight out of the 10 subgroups. GCS showed improvement in all 14 EOG categories/tests.
- The GCS **class of 2009** earned **\$78.9 million** in scholarships this year. This is about \$2 million more than the class of 2008 earned last year.
- Diplomas Count 2009, a report by Education Week and the Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, included GCS on a list of **graduation rate "overachievers."** The graduation rate for the GCS class of 2006 was **14 percentage points higher** than experts predicted.
- Fourteen district high schools made *Newsweek's* **Top Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Schools**, and each school is thought to be in the top six percent of schools nationwide. Both **The Early College at Guilford** and **Weaver Academy** placed in the top 100.
- Fifteen students were the first to earn a North Carolina Standard Professional I licensure to teach in the state through **GCS' Alternative Certification Track (ACT) program**. GCS ACT is the **only program in the state** to offer lateral entry candidates an in-house teacher preparation program that leads to licensure.
- GCS was named **Outstanding Employer of the Year** by the Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities at the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce 2008 Business Awards.
- The **Teacher Supply Warehouse** has allowed more than 900 teachers to shop at no cost and has recycled **\$250,000** worth of supplies back into the classroom.
- GCS students constituted 11.3 percent of the state's **Advanced Placement** test takers, 11.8 percent of the exams taken and 9.4 percent of students who scored a three or higher.
- **The Early College at Guilford** was established as the **first early college high school** in the state and is a model for early entrance high schools nationwide which provide a seamless transition to higher education.

GCS Staff - Teaching Excellence By Example

- Dr. Deborah E. Parker, principal of **Erwin Montessori**, is the GCS nominee for **Magnet Principal of the Year**, which recognizes outstanding school leaders who succeed in providing innovative programs that promote equity, diversity and academic excellence for students in magnet schools.

- The City of High Point named **High Point Central High** Principal Revonda Johnson the **2009 Humanitarian of the Year**. Johnson received the award during the city's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration. Johnson was chosen for her contributions to schools and the community.

- Betty Anne Chandler, executive director of the **exceptional children's department**, received the **EP Maxwell/J. Schleifer Distinguished Service Award** for her work on behalf of the disability community.

- Silvana Mazo, a media specialist at **Grimsley High**, was selected from a national applicant pool to attend a Landmarks of American History and Culture workshop through the **National Endowment for the Humanities**. Mazo will study the topic "Ellis Island, Public Health and the American Workforce 1891-1924" with humanities experts.

- The **GCS Purchasing Department** received the **2008 Sustained Professional Purchasing Award** by the Carolinas Association of Governmental Purchasing, which is presented annually to member agencies that demonstrate excellence in purchasing standards.

GCS Students Show Intelligence Plus Character

- **Northwest High** senior Megan Hitchcock started her own charity called "**Hope in a Teddy Bear**." Through the program, she collected donations to fund "Build-A-Bear" teddy bears for 62 patients at Brenner Children's Hospital. Hitchcock also donated games, books, puzzles and movies to the hospital.

- Tyquan Easton, a junior at **Andrews High**, received the "**Best in Show**" award from U.S. Rep. Mel Watt in the 12th Congressional District Art Competition. His self-portrait will hang in the U.S. Capitol for a year.

- Students at **Vandalia Elementary** provided **200 bagged lunches** to a community kitchen in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In a school-wide effort, students in pre-K, kindergarten, first and second grades hand-decorated lunch bags, third- and fourth-graders stuffed the bags with healthy snacks, and fifth-graders made the sandwiches. The members of Vandalia's Cougars Care Club marched one mile to deliver the bags to the Greensboro Urban Ministry Potter's House.

- **Millis Road Elementary** second-grader Lauren Easter received the **National Award of Excellence** in the PTA Reflections competition for her original music composition, "Wow is everywhere."

- **Oak Ridge Elementary** third-graders joined in "**Coins from Colts**" in support of the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Students collected more than \$15,000 - half of which was in change - to support research and treatment of brain tumors in young people.

- Sam McLamb, a rising eighth-grader at **Jamestown Middle**, was one of only eight students in eight nations to receive the **2008-09 Kiwanis International Leadership Award**. Sam was named the Carolinas District Leadership award winner at their annual retreat last April.

- Students and faculty at the **GCS Newcomers School** planted a sustainable garden on the school's campus. The "**Community in Peace Gardens**" is rooted in the belief that gardening supports the wellbeing of the entire school community. While helping with the garden, students learn about life cycles, ecosystems, species diversity, environmental pollution and food economics.

- **Aycock Middle** student Nicole Shaw won the **Silver Award in Junior Energy and Naval Science Award** at the International Sustainable World (Energy, Engineering & Environment) Project Olympiad in Houston, Texas. Her project, entitled, "Evaluating and Comparing the Energy Content of Animal Feed Stock and Home Compost Using the Process of Anaerobic Digestion... The Power of Poop!" was one of 450 displayed by nearly 1,200 young scientists and project supervisors from 60 different countries.