

Grades

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According to a media release, the school has a Spanish population of 55 percent with 32 percent of those students being limited in English proficiency, and 94 percent of the school's population is on free or reduced lunch.

"We have to look at it through mental, home and cultural factors. We have to look at it through a lot of things that, as an educator, I feel should be inclusive," Hopkins said. "That gauge is the depth and the breadth of how children learn and their motivation to achieve."

The schools Board of Directors is scheduled to vote on a final resolution at its next board meeting on Monday.

Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools is

fighting back with its own performance grading system.

Superintendent Beverly Emory said in a media release that they system created its own system because the state's didn't accurately capture the work that school were doing. She believe the grades should include the growth students make from year-to-year and take poverty into account. "Using one grade to measure a school's progress is limiting, and we wanted it to better reflect student growth from one year to the next and the challenges of poverty," Emory said. "At the same time, our grades show that we have much work to do. We want all of our schools to be As under any grading scale, and we will continue to work to that."

The school system increased the state grade one letter grade if the school met or exceeded growth. To show, those

schools that are poverty-challenged, the grade was given a '+' if more than 85 percent of a school's students receive free or reduced-price lunch.

Under the school system's model, 22 schools received an A; two schools received a B+; 13 received a B; 11 received a C+; eight received a C; six received a D+; six received a D; and five received an F+. Eight schools with special programs, such as The Children's Center, Lowrance Middle, Carter High and Main Street Academy, were not given a grade.

The Board of Education unanimously approved the district's model at its Jan. 27 meeting, again deciding that the district would focus on its goals of literacy in early grades, increasing the graduation rate and decreasing achievement gaps.

Sharia

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The North Carolina law, sponsored by Republican lawmakers and allowed to become law by the governor without his signature in 2013, bans the use of all foreign laws in family cases. Sharia is moral code and religious laws taken from the Quran and the example set by the Prophet Muhammad in the Sunnah. In the case of family law, it may affect things like marriage and prenuptial agreements for people from certain countries.

Seven states have passed similar measures and the matter has been debated in dozens more. The laws typically ban foreign laws, since a court in Oklahoma struck down that state's ban because it specifically focused on Sharia law, which is observed in some Muslim countries.

Proponents of the bans say they protect the Constitution, but many disagree. Muslim groups have been joined by Jewish organizations in their opposition to the bans. The Anti-Defamation League in Florida opposed that state's foreign law ban, which passed last year, for fear of its potential effects on alimony, child custody and even the ability to remarry for Jews who divorce in Israel.

The American Civil Liberties Union has opposed such bans as being discriminatory and successfully challenged the Oklahoma ban. The American Bar Association said the bans are unnecessary and can complicate divorce and marriage cases that involve religious laws and that wider foreign law bans could have negative effects on international business deals.

"The law has all types of far reaching implication that we may not even realize until situations arise," said May.

Panelists assured attendees that there is no justification in Sharia or the Quran for terrorist attacks like the one on a Paris

newspaper last month. Abdullah said violence in reaction to blasphemy was not following Muhammad's example. He said those trying to incite Muslims, like the Florida pastor who threatened to burn the Quran in 2010, are best left ignored.

"If you ignore it, it'll go away," he said.

El-Amin said Sharia is also not represented by Islamic State militants beheading prisoners. He said few ever identify the Ku Klux Klan with Christianity, even when members burn crosses in people's yards, yet many want to judge his faith by its extremists.

"It's a different mindset today because we don't have a knowledge base of each other," he said.

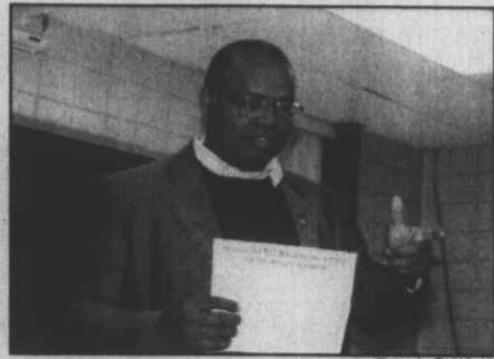
Another aspect of the Sharia bans, panelists said, is that they added fire to the fear of Muslims across the nation. On Jan. 29 in Texas, where legislators have attempted

to pass a foreign law ban for years, Muslims were invited to come to the state Capitol in Austin. They were met with angry protests shouting things like, "No Sharia!" "Go Home!" and "Jesus is Lord." One Texas lawmaker, Molly White, posted on Facebook that she left an Israeli Flag in her office with instructions for Muslims to denounce extremists and pledge allegiance to America and its laws.

"We'll see how long they stay in my office," she wrote.

Griggs said even he's been accused of radicalism by online websites. An article on the website Clarion Project cited a study called "Shariah: The Threat to America" when asking why WFU didn't understand the "serious implications" of hiring "an individual like Griggs" as associate chaplain for Muslim Life.

Griggs is well known in the community for appearing at interfaith programs. Under his leadership, Community Mosque has long held a free medical clinic, regular food and clothing giveaways and will open its own academy for children ages 4 to 18 in March.



Fleming El-Amin speaks on the Sharia ban.



Imam Khalid Griggs speaks.

Go Red

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cent are aware of the signs and symptoms of a heart attack. These signs include pressure, squeezing or pain in your chest, pain or discomfort in your arms, back, neck, jaw and stomach, shortness of breath, cold sweats, lightheadedness and nausea.

Kirsten Royster, vice president of Novant Health Heart and the Vascular Institute, said that the partnership Novant has with the Go Red Campaign allows it to educate and empower women to live healthier lives for themselves and their families.

"The partnership with Go Red for Women is critical to educating women so that we can improve the health of women. As a leading center in the region for heart and vascular care, our team provides care to thousands of patients per year and continues to achieve quality results that put us in the top 10 percent in the nation," she said. "While our national recognition for quality in heart and vascular care is impressive, our more important mission as a community wellness partner is to help prevent heart disease. We will continue to invest not only in the most advanced technology and procedures to treat heart disease, but also in programs designed to prevent it."

Others around Winston-Salem are taking the campaign to heart. The Winston-Salem Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. will sponsor Go Red for Women on Friday, Feb. 6, at St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Go Red for Women is locally sponsored by NewBridge Bank, Novant Health and Crumley and Roberts. Macy's is the national sponsor.

People are encouraged to take photos of themselves and post it on www.facebook.com/triadaha with the #TriadGoRed.



The crowd at the 2014 Go Red breakfast gathering.

Heart Disease for women by the numbers

43 million: Estimated women in the U.S. who are affected by cardiovascular disease.

90 percent: Women who have one or more risk factors for heart disease or stroke.

80 percent: The number of heart disease and stroke events that could be prevented.

50,000: The number of African-American women that die from cardiovascular diseases annually.

50 percent: The number of African-American women who are aware of the signs and symptoms of heart attack.

Source: American Heart Association, 2015 Fact Sheet

The Chronicle

Upcoming Go Red Events

*Feb. 5 - Red H.E.A.R.R.T. (Help Educate and Reduce Risk Today)- The agency's Wear Red Event will be held from 5-7:15 p.m. at Gateway YWCA. During the event there will be Zumba Flash mobs, healthy quiz games, and other health information.

*Feb. 6 - National Wear Red Day- Wear red, take photos and post to Facebook.

*Feb. 6 - W-S Go Red Breakfast- The annual breakfast with community and business leaders will be at Novant Health's Conference Center from 7:30 to 9 a.m.

*Feb. 10 - WS/FCS School system partners with Red H.E.A.R.R.T., allowing basketball players to wear red socks while playing.

*Feb. 12 - WFU Basketball- At the women's basketball game, it will be Girl's Night Out Goes Red, where women will take to the court with AHA's mascot, Thumper, and the Deacon.

*Feb. 15 - Red Dress Tea- invites local congregations to wear their red and ask women's health questions at Novant Health's Conference Center from 3 to 5 p.m.

*Feb. 27 - Piedmont Federal Savings, 201 S. Stratford Road, will have screenings, door prizes, nutritionists and local survivors on hand to talk about cardiovascular disease.

Another event in Winston-Salem:

*Winston-Salem Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. will sponsor Go Red for Women on Friday, Feb. 6, 6-8 p.m. at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 2400 Dellabrook Road. The event, which will include line dancing, is open to the public, and donations will be accepted at the door for the American Heart Association. Please wear red and support the W-S Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Project 13 and Physical & Mental Health Committees.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

SAVE THE DATE

A NETWORKING EVENT WITH FINANCE AND BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS

Thursday, February 12
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Albert H. Anderson Conference Center
on the campus of WSSU

Get tips for your career path

Hear directly from finance and business professionals who can help you

Light refreshments will be served

WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ISAAC GREEN
Founder and CEO of Piedmont







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For more information, contact WSSU Career Development Services at (336) 750-3240 or careersvcs@wssu.edu