

High schools' challenge: Student achievement

Continued from page 1A
 their students through End of Course testing. The reconstituted schools showed improvement for the 2005-2006 academic year, but none reached the 50-percent mark.

"We're not educating the kids well, and we're not doing what we need to do," said Gorman. "We have to begin doing something different. What will improve the scores at these schools is more effective teaching... and leadership."

Gorman explained on a national level, reconstitution usually means taking 10 teachers who are struggling at school A and moving them to school B, and School C, etc. However, that is not how this plan will work.

"We can not simply move under performing employees from one site to another," explained Gorman. "All that does is move an existing problem from one school to another. We have poorly performing students at all of our schools... we have to make sure we provide them with what is best."

Gorman's plan will mea-

sure principal and teacher effectiveness using established standards already employed by CMS. Principals, teachers and support staff who perform at a high performance level will be eligible for a merit-based salary supplemental bonus for next year.

Principals, teachers and support staff who do meet the standards will be given action plans that lay out specific areas of improvement. If they do not improve after working on the Action Plan this year they will be considered for dismissal.

"Please understand this is just one component," said Gorman. "Students play a role, they must be held accountable. Parents must be held accountable. (But) I can't control the student piece or the parent piece. I have some control over the staff piece."

The plan will be implemented immediately with initial observations of teachers and staff through Oct. 20. By Oct. 31, individual growth and action plans will be completed for anyone needing improvement. Before the

winter break, principals will complete a second observation, and mid-year appraisals will be completed by the end of January. In May and June, CMS will complete the non-renewal and dismissal process.

In addition, CMS mandated all four high schools must reach 55 percent on EOC composite scores by the end of this year and 60 percent by the end of next year. The state minimum is 60 percent; Judge Howard Manning, who is overseeing the Leandro case for funding low-wealth schools and threatened to shut down struggling CMS campuses, wants 55 percent.

"I don't want a situation where Judge Manning is telling us how to run our schools," said Gorman. "We need to get above that bar."

The principals of each high school were in attendance at a media briefing on Wednesday. West Charlotte's John Modest acknowledged the need for change.

"We have that challenge," he said. "We have eighty percent of our students on free and reduced lunch, student

population about 95 percent African-American. I know those students can learn. I have extremely high expectations, and it's my job to help provide the type of environment to prepare them for the next level. Am I afraid of the challenge?"

Each principal is aware that their job is tied directly to student achievement. Yet, Gorman also realizes the failure of his plan could mean the end of his job.

"It's my expectation that the board won't continue to have me as Superintendent if we are not successful with this," said Gorman.

"This is not a flexible target," said Gorman. "We can't afford to wait. If we don't act now more than 3,700 students will be in jeopardy of not being able to pass the state tests this year."

The reconstitution plan is only the first part of his reform initiatives. "We are looking at perfor-

mance-based pay and differentiated pay expanded well beyond these four schools. This is the first step."

Fight sparks CMS security upgrade

By Erica Singleton
 FOR THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Superintendent Peter Gorman said stronger safety measures are being put in place at schools, but they can't do it alone.

"We must have help from the community," said Gorman, who urged parents to be more involved, especially with middle- and high school students.

"You need to know who your child is [hanging out] with... where are they going, why are they going there... and know what your child is bringing to school."

He added that in addition to the incident at East Mecklenburg High School last week, there has been an increase of weapons, like knives and Airsoft pistols being brought to school.

"This has to stop," said Gorman. "These are not toys. Help us keep your children and our schools safe."

Chief Operating Officer Maurice Green and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Deputy Chief of Police Dave Stevens discussed ongoing and new security measures, as well as the status of the football incident.

"We have made one arrest for an assault of the two men," said Stevens.

"However, we are not prepared at this time to give out the name. This is an ongoing investigation... we are seeking one other suspect." Stevens added that police have reason to believe this was a gang related incident.

"We are very concerned about safety at schools, particularly at East Mecklenburg," Green said.

He outlined that while some security plans and actions will go into effect immediately, others may be put into place after further evaluations of current practices. Between 14-25 police officers will continue to be present at games.

Beginning this Friday, all students attending Derita Alternative School due to behavioral and disciplinary problems will not be allowed into any games. Also, students who "display gang style behaviors" will be put on social restrictions, banning them from attending games.

"Going to athletic events is a privilege, not a right," said

Green. Also, more CMS staff will be employed at games, especially in the parking lots, to help identify those students that have been banned from games.

Schools will communicate with parents regarding

restricted students.

"The policy to ban students from games is not new, but it has not been enforced as strong as it could be," Green said.

Banned students who are caught at games face the possibility of expulsion or

trespassing charges.

"Fourteen-year-olds should feel safe going to a football game," said Gorman. "Students can govern their own behavior. These kids are old enough to be free-thinking and make positive decisions."



Green

Come on in. The rates are great.

<p>Money Market Accounts</p> <p>For balances of \$1,000 or more</p> <p>4.25% APY</p> <p>High yields to your funds</p> <p>FDIC insured</p> <p>Plays well with a 529 Plan! Mention code 02877.</p>	<p>Certificate of Deposit</p> <p>5.25% APY</p> <p>12 Month CD</p> <p>High yields</p> <p>FDIC insured</p> <p>Monthly interest rates on other available money market rates</p>
---	---

For more information or the latest rates, contact the local MetLife Financial Services Office listed here.

MetLife Financial Services Office

4837 Sharon Road, Suite 400

Charlotte, NC 28217

704-362-2070

Have your met life today!

MeLife

"A lifetime of health starts here."

MIDCAROLINA PEDIATRICS

HEALTH CARE CONSULTANTS

- Urgent Care
- School/Sport Physical
- Sports Injury
- Allergy Test
- Minor Trauma
- In-House Lab/X-Ray
- Immunization

Andrew Ighade, MD FAAP BOARD CERTIFIED

Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm • Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm

CALL NOW FOR APPOINTMENT'S

2540 West Arrowood Rd, Suite 100

Charlotte, NC 28273

www.midcarolinaped.com

(704) 588-0232 phone (704) 588-0445 fax

Se Habla Español

ALL MAJOR INSURANCES ACCEPTED • WALK-INS WELCOME

Girlfriends L.A. Getaway

The ultimate trip for the ultimate circle of friends.

Pack your bags and go in style with the Girlfriends L.A. Getaway.

Enter for your chance to win a trip to glamorous Los Angeles, California. Plus sensational sights, shopping and spa treatment for you and three of your best girls!

How 2 Enter:

Text the word **LAGIRL** to **87366**

Five lucky winners will receive:

- \$1000 Visa Gift Card
- \$200 for each friend
- A stylish Motorola RAZR phone
- One year of free Alltel Wireless Service
- A Spa Day for you and your friends
- Two entertainment events
- An special Alltel girlfriends gift bag

Visit alltel.com/girlfriends for details.

come and get your love™

alltel wireless

my circle — call anyone on any network for free. Visit alltelcircle.com for details.

<p>Alltel Retail Stores These Retail Stores Now Open Sunday.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> <p>North Carolina</p> <p>Alhambra 1126 Providence Rd (704) 983-2256</p> <p>Charlotte 1824 Galleria Blvd (704) 532-4406</p> <p>4704 S South Blvd (704) 916-3405</p> <p>Grand Promenade 230 E. Hibernia Blvd (704) 716-3396</p> </td> <td> <p>Wilmington 4425 E. Main St. (704) 945-5925</p> <p>Tarboro 3415 Tarboro Hwy (919) 282-2474</p> <p>Waxahatchee 3302 W. Plaza Dr. (704) 682-4944</p> <p>Winston-Salem 3094 E. Franklin Blvd (704) 911-3930</p> <p>Kannapolis 2220 Rose St. (704) 733-4850</p> </td> <td> <p>10300 Cantor Pkwy 1830 E. Blvd St. (704) 942-8245</p> <p>Rockingham 1719 E. Broad Ave. (810) 887-3093</p> <p>Solix 913 E. Innes St. (704) 689-0080</p> <p>Shelby 1105 E. Main Blvd (704) 483-3403</p> </td> <td> <p>Stateville 1800 E. Blvd St. (704) 971-8781</p> <p>Waxahatchee 1009 E. Cavalry (704) 894-3066</p> <p>Charlotte Shop at a Participating WAL-MART</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>North Carolina</p> <p>Alhambra 1126 Providence Rd (704) 983-2256</p> <p>Charlotte 1824 Galleria Blvd (704) 532-4406</p> <p>4704 S South Blvd (704) 916-3405</p> <p>Grand Promenade 230 E. Hibernia Blvd (704) 716-3396</p>	<p>Wilmington 4425 E. Main St. (704) 945-5925</p> <p>Tarboro 3415 Tarboro Hwy (919) 282-2474</p> <p>Waxahatchee 3302 W. Plaza Dr. (704) 682-4944</p> <p>Winston-Salem 3094 E. Franklin Blvd (704) 911-3930</p> <p>Kannapolis 2220 Rose St. (704) 733-4850</p>	<p>10300 Cantor Pkwy 1830 E. Blvd St. (704) 942-8245</p> <p>Rockingham 1719 E. Broad Ave. (810) 887-3093</p> <p>Solix 913 E. Innes St. (704) 689-0080</p> <p>Shelby 1105 E. Main Blvd (704) 483-3403</p>	<p>Stateville 1800 E. Blvd St. (704) 971-8781</p> <p>Waxahatchee 1009 E. Cavalry (704) 894-3066</p> <p>Charlotte Shop at a Participating WAL-MART</p>	<p>Premier Agents Equipment & promotional offers at these locations may vary.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> <p>Altamonte (704) 883-8888</p> <p>Charlotte (704) 367-8770</p> <p>Concord (704) 965-8511</p> <p>Kannapolis (704) 838-4537</p> </td> <td> <p>Salem (704) 633-4405</p> <p>Shelby (704) 627-8030</p> <p>Union City (704) 919-4303</p> <p>York (803) 678-8008</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Altamonte (704) 883-8888</p> <p>Charlotte (704) 367-8770</p> <p>Concord (704) 965-8511</p> <p>Kannapolis (704) 838-4537</p>	<p>Salem (704) 633-4405</p> <p>Shelby (704) 627-8030</p> <p>Union City (704) 919-4303</p> <p>York (803) 678-8008</p>	<p>Authorized Agents Equipment & promotional offers at these locations may vary.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td> <p>North Carolina</p> <p>Greene 30 Vireos (704) 423-2210</p> <p>1 Touch Mobile (704) 578-6767</p> <p>Maroon TribalWireless (802) 988-4057</p> </td> <td> <p>Pennville 1 Touch Mobile (704) 541-3783</p> <p>TribalWireless (802) 988-4058</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>North Carolina</p> <p>Greene 30 Vireos (704) 423-2210</p> <p>1 Touch Mobile (704) 578-6767</p> <p>Maroon TribalWireless (802) 988-4057</p>	<p>Pennville 1 Touch Mobile (704) 541-3783</p> <p>TribalWireless (802) 988-4058</p>
<p>North Carolina</p> <p>Alhambra 1126 Providence Rd (704) 983-2256</p> <p>Charlotte 1824 Galleria Blvd (704) 532-4406</p> <p>4704 S South Blvd (704) 916-3405</p> <p>Grand Promenade 230 E. Hibernia Blvd (704) 716-3396</p>	<p>Wilmington 4425 E. Main St. (704) 945-5925</p> <p>Tarboro 3415 Tarboro Hwy (919) 282-2474</p> <p>Waxahatchee 3302 W. Plaza Dr. (704) 682-4944</p> <p>Winston-Salem 3094 E. Franklin Blvd (704) 911-3930</p> <p>Kannapolis 2220 Rose St. (704) 733-4850</p>	<p>10300 Cantor Pkwy 1830 E. Blvd St. (704) 942-8245</p> <p>Rockingham 1719 E. Broad Ave. (810) 887-3093</p> <p>Solix 913 E. Innes St. (704) 689-0080</p> <p>Shelby 1105 E. Main Blvd (704) 483-3403</p>	<p>Stateville 1800 E. Blvd St. (704) 971-8781</p> <p>Waxahatchee 1009 E. Cavalry (704) 894-3066</p> <p>Charlotte Shop at a Participating WAL-MART</p>							
<p>Altamonte (704) 883-8888</p> <p>Charlotte (704) 367-8770</p> <p>Concord (704) 965-8511</p> <p>Kannapolis (704) 838-4537</p>	<p>Salem (704) 633-4405</p> <p>Shelby (704) 627-8030</p> <p>Union City (704) 919-4303</p> <p>York (803) 678-8008</p>									
<p>North Carolina</p> <p>Greene 30 Vireos (704) 423-2210</p> <p>1 Touch Mobile (704) 578-6767</p> <p>Maroon TribalWireless (802) 988-4057</p>	<p>Pennville 1 Touch Mobile (704) 541-3783</p> <p>TribalWireless (802) 988-4058</p>									

For Business & Government Accounts call 1-877-BIZ-CNTR or visit alltelbusiness.com

Text Messaging: Standard and other charges may apply. Appropriate charges will appear on your wireless phone bill. For Alltel customers, the charges for text messaging services will vary depending on your plan. Each message sent or received will count against your messaging plan. Only those messages confirmed to be sent or received will be applied to your bill. Incoming & outgoing messages are 160 each on a pay-as-you-go plan. On most plans, text messages are limited to 100 characters per message. Messages will be saved & delivery attempted for up to three (3) days. Alltel does not guarantee message accuracy, completeness or delivery. Messages are neither monitored nor controlled for content, except for a text communication from Alltel. Messaging delay (date, time & phone number the message was sent to) is a credit not available. **Text 87366 for details.** **Text 87366 for more info.** **How to Enter:** Text the word LAGIRL to 87366 for more information. **Alltel Information:** Text messages, voice & video services available through participating wireless carriers. Full customer support, call 1-800-ALLTEL. **Girlfriends L.A. Getaway: No purchase necessary to enter, play or win. To enter:** (1) send a text message to the short code 87366 to opt in to the Sweepstakes and to receive three (3) multiple-choice trivia questions per promotional time period or (2) send your name, last address, e-mail, a winning number and address to the phone number, age, e-mail address (optional) and 3" x 3" photo on paper and send in a properly stamped envelope to: Alltel Girlfriends L.A. Sweepstakes, P.O. Box 51328, New City, NY 12151. All prize responses and mail-in entries, up to ten (10), will count as entries into the Sweepstakes per promotional time period. You do not have to enter the trivia questions correctly to be entered into the Sweepstakes. Prizes may be changed without notice. Prizes will be shipped according to your carrier's service rate plan. Promotion ends 11:59 pm ET on October 28, 2006, weekly entries due 11:59 pm ET each Sunday. Non-winning entries will be carried over into the subsequent weeks drawing. Open only to legal forms residents of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, or Ohio who are 18 years of age or older. Void where prohibited. Full rules and details at www.alltel.com/girlfriends. **My Circle:** Available free and easy to use but may be subject to change without notice. © 2006 Alltel. All rights reserved. All product & service marks mentioned are the names, trade names, trademarks & logos of their respective owners © 2006 Alltel Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.