March, 2019

Dear Orange County Schools Families,

As a part of the Orange County Schools Strategic Plan 2015-2020, our school system has pledged to provide safe and sustainable operations to support optimal learning. In course of fulfilling that pledge, we work to provide transparency with the public by engaging in two-way communication with our stakeholders and diverse community. While some of our schools are within their student capacity limits, some of our schools are overcrowded. Particularly, the future growth in housing developments will result in some of our schools being overcrowded, while other school not impacted by the growth will be under enrolled. These factors create a compelling why for student reassignment within our school district.

The Orange County Schools Board of Education has hired the NC State Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) to examine our expected growth over the next years and to evaluate the capacity of all of our schools. Additionally, ITRE will help identify options that would utilize our schools better and reduce costs.

As we await the results of the ITRE study, I want to let you know that we will keep you informed. Before any recommendations are finalized in the fall of 2019, the Board of Education will conduct community meetings so they can hear feedback from parents in our schools. Please stay tuned for more information. Thank you for your continued support of Orange County Schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Todd Wirt, Superintendent
Orange County Schools