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New Maps Show In-Depth School Data

MeckEd [MeckEd@mail.vresp.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 2:10 PM

To: sjohnston@tueforumclt.org



September 3, 2014 e-Newsletter: Local, State, and National Education News

MeckEd



Dear Steve,

MeckEd is pleased to unveil the latest version of our [Interactive Data Maps](#), an online resource to help our community better understand the critical issues facing public education. The maps provide an electronic scorecard of sorts that will allow you to learn about numerous data points and then form your own opinions about the performance of our schools. This is MeckEd's fourth year of partnership with the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, which helps us combine a wide range of data for all Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools into easy-to-read dashboards.

This year, the data maps include examinations of READY and ABC proficiency scores, graduation rates, SAT scores, teacher turnover, suspension rates, and much more. A new data visualization platform called Tableau makes it even easier to understand how a school ranks compared to other schools and to the district average.

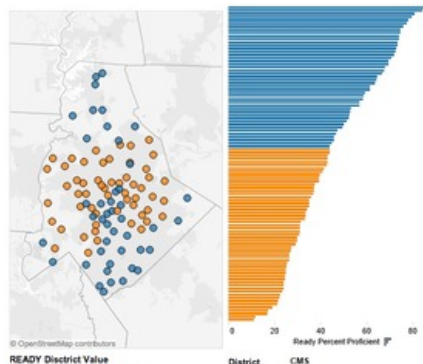
We hope you will use this information to understand what's happening in our schools. This resource is part of MeckEd's commitment to being an objective and non-partisan resource to our community. Please let us know what strikes you as you explore the latest data. We are always interested in trends, patterns, and theories. More importantly, please share these with your friends and colleagues so we can all be better informed about what's happening in our public schools.

Thank you for all you do to support public education.

Sincerely,

Bill

MeckEd's 2014 Interactive Data Maps



In this week's e-Newsletter:

[MeckEd's Most Up-to-Date Data Maps](#)

[Gov. Jim Hunt Headlines MeckEd Breakfast](#)

[CMS Graduation Rate Hits New High](#)

[Nationwide Common Core Debate Intensifies](#)

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[Education Briefs](#)

**2014 Annual Community Breakfast
Keynote Speaker: Gov. Jim Hunt**

Today MeckEd launched its 2014 [Interactive Data Maps](#) in conjunction with UNC Charlotte's Urban Institute. The new maps, which give us in-depth looks at all Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, use a data visualization program called Tableau to make it even easier to understand the story behind the numbers. For example, you can now see how a school ranks in comparison to other CMS schools on measures such as graduation rates and teacher turnover.

In talking with the Urban Institute's John Chesser, we thought it would be interesting to use the data to take a look at how the income level in particular neighborhoods affected teacher turnover rates in our schools.

[Read More](#)

Gov. Jim Hunt Headlines MeckEd Breakfast



MeckEd is pleased to once again host our Annual Community Breakfast. This year's event, on October 9 at the Westin Charlotte, will be an opportunity for us all to underscore our support for public education in Mecklenburg County.

We are thrilled to welcome former Gov. Jim Hunt as the keynote speaker at this year's breakfast. Known as "the education governor," he helped to solidify North Carolina's reputation as a national leader in public education. Gov. Hunt will inspire and challenge us all to do what we can to support our schools in order to empower North Carolina's next generation.

In addition, MeckEd will honor Howard Haworth as the 2014 Education Champion of the Year. Howard is a longtime friend of public education, having been appointed to the State Board of Education in 1987 by Gov. Jim Martin. He served as chairman of the board from 1988 to 1991, as was appointed lifetime chairman emeritus. His support for our schools is unwavering.

We hope you will join us for this special event. [Tickets may be purchased online and corporate sponsorship opportunities are still available.](#)

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CMS Graduation Rate Hits New High



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools' high school graduation rate hit its highest mark ever in 2014, and the gap between white and minority students continued to decrease.

According to the district, the graduation rate hit 85.2 percent this year, up from 81 percent in 2013. This is the fifth year in a row of increases. More than half of the district's high schools have a graduation rate above 90 percent.

-The Charlotte Observer



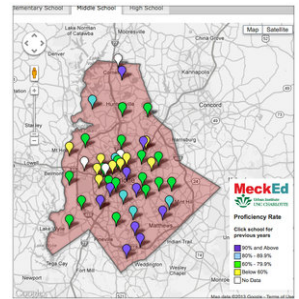
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2014 Teachers of Excellence Award

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View Interactive Data Maps of CM



[View Interactive Data Maps of Mecklenburg County Charter Schools](#)

Education Briefs

Voter Education Seminar

September 13, 9:00 a.m. | League of Women Voters Center, Charlotte

Join the League of Women Voters for a session about North Carolina's voter identification voter registration laws ahead of the November elections. For additional information, please call 704-817-8341.

MeckEd's Annual Community Breakfast

October 9, 8:00 a.m. | The Westin Charlotte
Save the date for MeckEd's annual breakfast. Join education leaders and learn about critical issues facing our public schools. Our keynote speaker is former Gov. Jim Hunt. [Information and sponsorship opportunities.](#)

Get Engaged

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Common Core Debate Intensifies

North Carolina is among a growing list of states that have decided to reexamine the Common Core State Standards amid concerns from some teachers and backlash from policymakers. The renewed debate about the math and reading guidelines also comes as more Americans learn about Common Core. Last year, only two-thirds of people surveyed were aware of Common Core. This summer, more than 80 percent of Americans polled know about Common Core.
-The Associated Press

[Read More](#)

Judge Rules N.C. Voucher Program Unconstitutional

A Raleigh judge has ordered an immediate halt to North Carolina's "Opportunity Scholarship" program, which would give taxpayer dollars to low-income families to use at private and religious schools. Judge Robert Hobgood declared the program unconstitutional and blocked the state from distributing \$4,200 vouchers to families this summer. Hobgood said it is illegal to use taxpayer dollars for private school tuition. Supporters of the program have appealed the order. Meanwhile, the North Carolina Supreme Court has rejected a request from legislative leaders for an emergency release of the voucher dollars during the appeal process.
-The News & Observer

[Read More](#)

Thank you for your support of MeckEd as we champion for excellent public schools for all children in Charlotte-Meckle Schools.

Bill Anderson, Ed. D. | Executive Director

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