

Did You Know? Budget Fast Facts

The goal of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is to provide a personalized environment of academic excellence that prepares every child, every day, for a better tomorrow. Our 2014-2015 budget proposal seeks \$402.7 million from Mecklenburg County -- that's a \$46.2 million increase over last year -- to help us better support the more than 145,000 students we will have in our schools next year. Here are a few fast facts supporting the need for the full budget request.

- 1** the number of raises CMS teachers have received in the last five years 3% in 2012
- 15** the percent decrease in NC teacher salaries since 2002-03 when adjusted for inflation, ranking our state last in the nation for teacher salary growth
- 2 of 3** the number of teachers who work outside the classroom to make ends meet
- 46** the percent of teachers nationally who leave the teaching profession every year, costing the U.S. \$7.34 billion annually
- 46** North Carolina's national ranking for average teacher salaries
- 48** North Carolina's national ranking for starting teacher salaries
- 48** North Carolina's national ranking in per-pupil spending, down from 39th only five years ago.
- 59** the percent of CMS employees making less than a Mecklenburg County living wage
** assumes 2 parent 2 children*
- 83** the percent of CMS employees who reside and pay taxes in Mecklenburg County.
- 250** the number of students per counselor recommended by The American School Counselor Association. CMS counselors serve two to three times that many students.
- 1,000** the number of students per school psychologist recommended by The National Association of School Psychologists. CMS school psychologists serve two or three schools each, which is more than three times the recommended caseload.
- 4x** how much more likely students are to drop out of school if not reading-proficient by third grade

