

# Frequently Asked Year-Round Questions

## **What is a year-round school?**

Students at year-round calendar schools attend class the same number of days and receive the same curriculum as students at traditional calendar schools. A year-round school is simply a rescheduling of the standard 180-day school calendar to keep the learning process continuous and to maximize the use of school facilities. Students have periodic, short breaks rather than one long summer break.

## **Explain the school calendar for year-round schools.**

Under the year-round plan the school calendar is divided into four nine-week quarters. Each quarter is separated by a three-week break. Students, therefore, are in school nine weeks, off three weeks, etc. Nationally this is referred to as a 45/15 calendar – 45 days in school, 15 days on break etc.

## **Will my child have the same vacations and holidays as other students?**

Holiday times are the same for students on the traditional calendar and the year-round calendar. Vacation times are different – rather than the long summer break, year-round students have four three-week breaks during the year

## **What is a track?**

In a multi-track year-round school, students are split into four groups or tracks, with each track having a different schedule. Schedules are staggered so that at any given time, three tracks are in school, and one is on break. This allows more students to attend the year-round school than would be able to fit into a traditional calendar school.

## **Will all the children in my family be on the same track?**

Yes, within grade configuration level (K-5, 6-8) if possible; across levels (K-8) when possible.

## **Once my child is on a track, can he move to another track?**

Each student stays on the assigned track for the entire school year. A parent may request to have the student moved to a different track for the next school year.

## **What does “track-out” mean?**

Track-out time is the three-week period when students are on vacation, or “tracked-out” of school. This time is also referred to as “intersession” at many schools. During this time, some students attend remedial sessions at the school.

## **How can I find child care for my child during these “track-out” times?**

There are many agencies that provide child care for children during track-out. The principal can provide names of day-care providers who serve their school.

## **Will my child have homework during track-out time?**

Track-out time is like summer vacation. Students are not assigned homework but many students use this time to get ahead by reading and by attending intersession programs.

## **Will my child have the same teacher throughout the school year?**

Yes. At elementary schools, students stay with the same teacher the entire school year. When students go on break, their teacher goes on break as well.

## **Will transportation be provided?**

Yes. Transportation will be provided for students who are assigned to the school and for students who live in the designated year-round transportation pattern.

## **What is the instructional program like in the school?**

The instructional program is the same one offered in regular, traditional schools in Wake County.

## **How do I get my child in a year-round school?**

Some students are assigned to a year-round school and will attend automatically. Other students need to apply during the magnet application period.