



“SWA isn’t like a ‘traditional’ school. If you need help, all my teachers will give me personalized time. It shows they care and are willing to make sure I finish my school work.”

– Colton Clifton, 8th grade

### SWA Administration Team



**Dave Thomas**  
Principal



**Carroll Reed**  
Senior Advisor



**Winnie Lameck**  
Dean of Students

### Office of Development



**Mike Heavey**  
Director of Development  
Assisted by the Development Committee, Mike Heavey oversees the fundraising initiatives and cultivates the donor community, giving SWA the opportunity to invest in our school by delivering the necessary programs and services that equip our students for the future.

### Gift Giving Membership Levels

To thank our constituents for their donations, we’ve created tiered levels of giving that include recognition gifts, awards and an annual banquet.

Diamond.....	\$5,000 +	Silver.....	\$750 – \$1,499
Platinum .....	\$2,500 – \$4,999	Bronze .....	\$250 – \$749
Gold .....	\$1,500 – \$2,499	Pride Member .....	\$25 – \$249

Southern Wake Academy’s mission is to utilize an integrated, community-based curriculum to sustain a challenging and supportive learning environment for students of all ability levels, particularly those students whose success has been deemed “at-risk” in traditional school settings. SWA will provide an engaging environment where student develop an understanding of life-long learning and citizenship by participating in internships in a variety of community settings.



Southern Wake Academy  
5108 Old Powell Road  
Holly Springs, NC 27540

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Fax: (919) 567-9956  
email: [frontdesk@swake.org](mailto:frontdesk@swake.org)

# SOUTHERN WAKE ACADEMY



## SWA ANNUAL FUND

*Thriving together.*





“Our students gain more independence through self advocacy – they learn to present themselves and their ideas effectively.”  
 – David Thomas, Principal



“SWA is wonderful for so many reasons. The teachers are fabulous, caring and patient, and they treat our children as their own. My son loves going to school everyday and being a part of all that Southern Wake Academy offers.”  
 – SWA Parent

Established in 1999, Southern Wake Academy (SWA) is one of the most sought after tuition-free, public charter schools in Wake County. Our small class sizes, independent-learning methods, and dedicated teachers and administrators foster a personalized approach where students, who may have struggled in the one-program-fits-all public school system, can now thrive in a learning environment where they receive the academic, cultural, athletic and social skills needed to succeed.

### Not All Public Schools Are Created Equal

Charter public schools receive approximately 30 percent of the state’s tuition dollars that standard public schools obtain. This smaller allotment must cover everything,

including all salaries, mortgage payments (public schools do not pay for their buildings or land), supplies, equipment, counseling, tutoring, and extracurricular activities. Also, SWA serves a high percentage of at-risk, socially challenged, and exceptional children who must meet North Carolina’s Standard Course of Study accountability measures. These uniform state-wide guidelines determine competencies for each grade level and high school course with rigorous academic standards. SWA’s highly skilled and enthusiastic teachers achieve outstanding results in teaching our students.

In addition, our program for middle and high school students includes quarterly portfolio conferences that promote personal-evaluation, self-advocacy, goal-setting, and public-speaking skills. Students gain real-life experiences and discover career preferences through community service; job-shadow encounters; and an extensive internship program for seniors. Our success in preparing young people to do well in life and accomplish their goals comes largely from community support, which has made the following achievements possible:

### Recent Improvements:

- Using a new 44,000+ sq. ft. school building and gymnasium.
- Providing after-school tutorials in ALL subject areas; summer enrichment opportunities for ALL grade levels, including ACT prep, math and reading enrichment; and ACT prep in ALL core courses.
- Offering Honors courses in all high school academic areas including Discrete Math, Precalculus, Chemistry, French I & II and Spanish III.
- Presenting the North Carolina Triangle Apprenticeship Program.
- Equipping ALL classrooms with Internet connections.

### SWA Accomplishments:

- Received a Bronze Award from US News and World Report’s Best High Schools for the 2011-2012 school year, placing SWA in the top 25 percent of high schools in the nation.
- Named an Honor School of Excellence—the highest academic award given by the NC Department of Public Instruction to public schools.

### The Budget is Tight. We Need Your Help!

What could be more important than a child’s future? With your help, our students will receive an outstanding education through increased learning opportunities, innovative teaching and expanded choices for cultural arts, technology, tutorial, and academic and extracurricular programs.

**Donations can be made online at [swake.org](http://swake.org), or checks can be mailed to:**

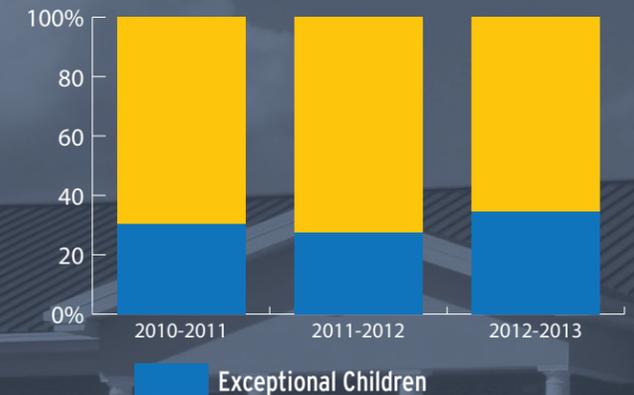
Southern Wake Academy  
 Attn: SWA Annual Fund  
 5108 Old Powell Road  
 Holly Springs, NC 27540



“The sports programs at Southern Wake Academy teach our students commitment, hard work, dedication and motivation. They’re a lot of fun, too.”  
 – Jeremy Thomas, Teacher and Athletic Director

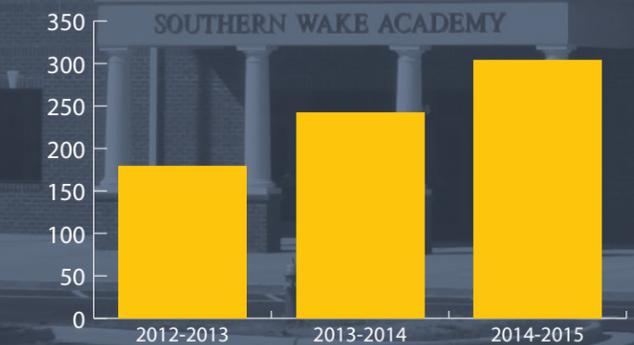
### Percentage of Exceptional Children

Our increasing percentage of exceptional children is a direct result of our caring environment.



### Attendance Growth Rate

SWA’s expanding student enrollment is part of our success, but it comes with additional costs.



### SWA Expenses

100 percent of our government funding is dedicated to operational and instructional expenses with no extra for Academic Enrichment Programs.

