

Timeline of Official and Judicial Reviews Impacting Student Assignment Process

1960's - Separate suits filed against the Pitt County Board of Education and Greenville City Board of Education seeking racial desegregation of the two (then separate) school districts.

July 1970 – Judge Larkins rejected desegregation plans proposed by districts. Judge Larkins requested amended plans which were subsequently approved and cases were administratively closed, subject to being reopened.

Actions remained dormant for **35 years**. During this time period (1986), the two school systems merged into one called the Pitt County Board of Education.

Students in (previous) Greenville City Schools and (previous) Pitt County Schools were redistricted in the 2006-07 school year. In **February of 2006**, Complaint was filed with Office of Civil Rights, US Dept. of Education, alleging 2006-07 reassignment plan adopted was unconstitutional because it was based on race.

2006-2009 - Office of Civil Rights (OCR) conducted investigation of allegation.

Supreme Court Decision of **June 2007**, reviewed redistricting criteria of school districts in Seattle and Louisville and determined in those cases use of race as determining factor violated students' rights for equal-protection under the 14th Amendment.

September 2007, Board of Education revises its School Attendance Area Policy changing its diversity goals to non-racial factors in the establishment of school attendance areas. Policy revisions reviewed and cleared by OCR.

March 2008 – Pitt County Board of Education filed motion to reopen the case involving the Greenville City Schools (desegregation order) to seek judicial approval of the 2006-2007 Student Assignment Plan and the revisions made to the School Attendance Area Policy, Policy 10.107.

July 2008, Plaintiffs-Intervenors filed motion asking Court to deny School Board's motion and to declare the Pitt County Schools "unitary" and no longer subject to the 1970 desegregation orders.

July 2008 - The Court reopened and consolidated the school desegregation cases. Court established timeline for discovery, mediation and disposition.

April 2009 – (Subject to Court Approval) Mediation Agreement Reached. School Board agreed to provide Plaintiffs with certain non-personally identifiable data on students/teachers and to involve Plaintiffs/Plaintiffs-Intervenors in planning and discussion stages of next student assignment plan. Plaintiffs-Intervenors agreed to (1) withdraw motion for unitary status declaration, (2) Court's approval of 2006-07 student assignment plan, and (3) Court's approval of revised School Attendance Areas Policy.

November 2009 - Court approved settlement terms. Additionally, Court ordered parties to work toward attaining unitary status and ordered parties to submit, on or before December 31, 2012, a report detailing the Board's efforts and progress toward achieving unitary status and eliminating the vestiges of past discrimination to the extent practicable.

December 2009 - OCR closes its investigation.

Ongoing Now Through November 2010 - New Student Reassignment Work in Process. Representatives of Plaintiff and Plaintiffs-Intervenors will be involved in process. Work also beginning on data needed to present for Unitary Status.

Note: Judicial Language lifted from Judge Malcolm J. Howard's Order Dated November 4, 2009