



WCPSS RETURN ON INVESTMENT

In December 2015, WakeEd Partnership and Wake County Public School System commissioned a study by Michael Walden, PhD, the Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Economics at NC State University regarding the economic impact of spending on tax dollars on public school operating costs and capital improvements. The study reported the following findings as summarized below:

- Every \$1 spent and retained in the region by the WCPSS capital budget results in \$2.23 of Wake County spending.
- Every \$1 million spent by the WCPSS capital budget results in 9.6 Wake County jobs.
- Each recent WCPSS graduating class generated between \$1.429 billion and \$1.617 billion in additional lifetime income (in 2015 purchasing power dollars; noted below as 2015\$).
- As a result of improved academic performance of recent WCPSS graduates, their increased likelihood of completing college is valued at average \$105.9 million for each of the last five graduating classes.
- Each recent WCPSS graduating class is associated with a lifetime reduction in public crime, welfare, and health care costs between \$565 million and \$639 million (2015\$).
- The additional spending of each WCPSS graduating class adds \$86 million to local property values.
- Every \$1 spent and retained in Wake County by the WCPSS operating budget results in \$1.76 of Wake County spending.
- Every direct WCPSS job is associated with another 0.34 Wake County jobs.
- The recent improvement in WCPSS academic performance is estimated to have resulted in Wake County residential property values that are \$11.2 billion higher compared to levels without the improvement in academic performance.

SOURCE: [HTTP://WWW.WAKEED.ORG/WP-CONTENT/UPLOADS/2015/12/ECONOMIC-IMPACT-REPORT.PDF](http://www.wakeed.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/ECONOMIC-IMPACT-REPORT.PDF)