

Interim Superintendent Donna Hargens

Chief Academic Officer Dr. Donna Hargens was named interim superintendent of the Wake County Public School System in April 2010. She began her career with WCPSS in 1989 as an assistant principal for curriculum and instruction at Millbrook High School. Since then, she has served in a variety of administrative roles including her continuing role as Chief Academic Officer.

Dr. Hargens began her educational career in 1979 as an English and Spanish teacher in Lomira, Wisconsin. After joining WCPSS as an assistant principal – a position she held for three years – she went on to serve as principal of Cary High School from 1992 to 1999 and principal of Green Hope High from 1999 to 2003. During her tenure as principal at Green Hope High, the school was honored as a NC Exemplary School and a NC School of Distinction two years in a row, as well as a Top 10 NC High School.

Prior to being named chief academic officer of the school system in 2006, Dr. Hargens served as the western area assistant superintendent from 2003 to 2005 and the assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction from 2005 to 2006.

As chief academic officer, Dr. Hargens serves as a liaison to the school board's Student Achievement Committee, aligns the work of three departments (Curriculum and Instruction, Evaluation and Research, and Student Support Services), and facilitates the district-wide implementation of the 2007 independent curriculum management audit. In her role as interim superintendent, she will also oversee the administrative duties of the day-to-day operations of the school system.

Dr. Hargens earned her doctorate in educational leadership, management and policy from Seton Hall University in 2005. She holds a master's degree in educational administration/supervision from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a bachelor's degree from Marquette University.

She is a member of the Education Committee for the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.