

# FORT MILL SCHOOLS

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## NEWS RELEASE

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**TO:** Fort Mill Times, The Herald, Charlotte Observer, WRHI, CN2

**FROM:** Dr. Chuck Epps, Superintendent

**DATE:** 9/21/2011

**RE:** **Enrollment Freeze at Orchard Park Elementary School**

During the September 20, 2011 work session, the Fort Mill School District Board of Trustees voted to accept the Administration's recommendation, presented by Dr. Chuck Epps, Superintendent, to invoke an enrollment freeze at Orchard Park Elementary School, effective December 31, 2011. This freeze only affects students of new families moving into the Orchard Park Elementary attendance area after December 31, 2011.

As part of the vote, the Board of Trustees agreed to allow the administration flexibility to re-evaluate student enrollment at Orchard Park Elementary in December, and to make modifications to the recommendation, if necessary.

Orchard Park Elementary will be the second elementary school currently frozen in the Fort Mill School District, with the other being Gold Hill Elementary. Like Gold Hill Elementary, new students moving into the Orchard Park Elementary attendance area after December 31, 2011 will attend Riverview Elementary School.

Enrollments at frozen schools are evaluated every summer, and if space becomes available in their frozen-zoned school, students are enrolled back into their zoned school which was originally unavailable to them due to the freeze. The Fort Mill School District has historically used enrollment freezes to manage growth while keeping student-to-teacher ratios as equitable as possible.