



## Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

May 25, 2011

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### Upcoming Events

For additional events, access our online [calendar of events](#)

#### Thursday, May 26:

2011 Guilford County Faith Summit; Mt Zion Baptist Church, 1301 Alamance Church Road, Greensboro; Hosted by Welfare Reform Liaison Project, 691-5780.

#### Thursday, May 26:

Rally for Education!; McDonald Plaza, 220 S. Greene Street, Greensboro; Join parents, teachers and concerned citizens of Guilford County as we fight to FUND SCHOOLS FIRST!

#### Tuesday, May 31:

"No More Bullies" Rally; 5:00 - 7:00pm; Center City Park, Downtown Greensboro; School Superintendent Green and Community Leaders will be speaking out against bullying; RSVP by May 23 to 230-1232 or [bobbijean@winwinresolutions.org](mailto:bobbijean@winwinresolutions.org).

#### Saturday, June 4:

Teen Image Awards; 7:00 - 9:00 pm; Atkins High School, 3605 Old Greensboro Road, Winston-Salem; Come join us as we honor, celebrate and reward our Triad Youth! For more information, visit [www.thenextlevelofthetriad.weebly.com](http://www.thenextlevelofthetriad.weebly.com).

Nominations are due by May 20th! Email [TheNextLevelBB@gmail.com](mailto:TheNextLevelBB@gmail.com).

#### Monday, June 6:

Let's Move Y's Way to Physical Activity; 6:30pm; Bryan YMCA, 501 W. Market Street, Greensboro; Register at [parentacademy.gcsnc.com](http://parentacademy.gcsnc.com).

#### Monday, June 13:

Planning for College; 6:30pm; Bryan YMCA, 501 W. Market Street, Greensboro; Register at [parentacademy.gcsnc.com](http://parentacademy.gcsnc.com).

#### Saturday, June 18:

Celebration of Children: A Day in the Park; 11am - 3pm; Barber Park, 1500 Dans Road; For more information, contact Black Child Development Institute at 230-2138 or [info@blackchilddevelopment.org](mailto:info@blackchilddevelopment.org).

ANYTOWN - Not your typical summer camp!

Dear Jennifer,

Happy Guilford County Schools Employee Appreciation Month!

thank a central office support staff  
 thank a maintenance staff  
 thank a cafeteria assistant  
 thank a custodian  
 thank a social worker  
**THANK A TEACHER**  
 thank a bus driver  
 thank a school nurse  
 thank a principal  
 thank a school counselor  
 thank a school support staff

Join us on Facebook and LinkedIn!

Simply click on the link below (or above!) to go directly to our Facebook page and "Like" us. It's an easy way to show your support and to get the latest news and information about upcoming events.

[Find us on Facebook !\[\]\(b626ca8a6876887fc3858e02aec38235\_img.jpg\)](#)

[View our profile on LinkedIn !\[\]\(b96b3a660a85c4a0498f921ce823c64a\_img.jpg\)](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### NC Senate Puts Forth Its Budget

The Senate's \$19.4 billion budget officially introduced Tuesday failed to win over Democrats in the legislature or Gov. Bev Perdue, who continued to reject proposed education cuts.

The education budget remains a key sticking point, even though Senate Republicans added a little more than \$140 million than the House proposed, bringing the total for K-12 public schools, community colleges and the UNC system to \$10.7 billion.

Perdue has been pushing back on proposed education cuts, and she took her campaign to schools across the state this month. [Read more...](#)

### Senate Budget Proposes Merit Pay

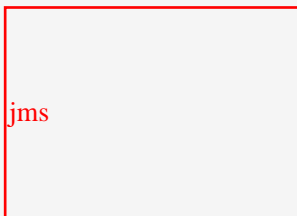
The \$19.4 billion state budget the Senate will make public today will include a proposal to pay state employees and teachers based on their performance. It also includes more than \$320 million for pay raises, effective in the 2012-13 fiscal year.

The call for performance pay is one of the major differences between the Senate and House budgets. The idea drew mixed reactions from state employee and teacher representatives.

[Read more...](#)

NCCJ's nationally acclaimed leadership development and human relations camp for rising high school juniors and seniors will be held June 26-July 1 and July 31-August 5 at the Blowing Rock Conference Center in the NC mountains. Round-trip transportation is provided and scholarships are available. Call 336-272-0359 or visit [www.nccjtriad.org/anytown](http://www.nccjtriad.org/anytown).

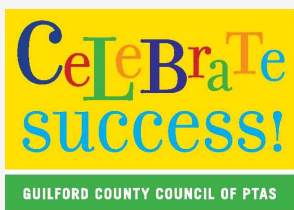
### Hat and Tea Time at Jamestown Middle School



The Jamestown Middle School PTSA hosted a "Hat and Tea Time" for the JMS teachers May 13. Students, faculty and other staff members wore hats of their choosing to school.

"During the month of May we are hosting something each Friday to thank the teachers for all they do," said PTSA president Jhorghhan Bunn. "The idea for this event was twofold - teachers wear many hats and hats off to our teachers."

article and picture from [Jamestown News 5-18-11](#)



Guilford County Council of PTAs newsletter

[May 2011 newsletter](#)

[Click here](#) for the their website

**CHARACTER CORNER**  
"Intelligence plus character -  
that is the goal of true education."  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Congrats to Falkener Elementary for being one of the winning schools of the Bounty Paper towels "We Love Our School" contest and receiving cleaning supplies to clean teacher classrooms. As a part of teacher appreciation week, students & volunteers cleaned the classrooms last Friday!!!

### School Focusing on Service Learning

Zachary Odeh's one-day stint distributing groceries to needy families during his spring break could have been just that: a stint.

But Odeh wants to do more than complete a five-hour assignment for his world history class at Northwest Guilford High School.

He hopes to partner with Second Harvest Food Bank to operate a food pantry at his school during the remainder of his high school years.

[Read more...](#)

### How Students Learn in the Cloud

Students throughout North Carolina may soon be adding two C's to their classic three R's.

The new letters stand for "cloud computing," a method of accessing everyday computing resources such as document storage, software programs and sophisticated computing services over the Internet. Experts and educators say the adoption of cloud computing in the classroom, under way in several North Carolina high schools, represents a crucial step toward keeping students competitive with their peers overseas, who are scoring higher on math, physics and engineering tests. [Read more...](#)

### Governor Perdue, Cabinet Secretaries Begin Seven Days to Show Education Works Tour

Gov. Perdue today announced that she and her cabinet secretaries will spend the next seven days showing how "Education Works" - visiting classrooms in public schools and community colleges around the state and talking to teachers, students and local leaders about the importance of education in our economic recovery. [Read more...](#)

Click [here](#) to view the GCS News Break of Secretary Linda Carlisle's visit to Weaver Academy!

### Is a Free Education a Fundamental Right?

Should your zip code determine your access to the American dream? Or is the U.S. Constitution's guarantee to provide "equal protection" a principle we have silently agreed to uphold in theory -- but not in practice?

This makes me wonder about Tanya McDowell, the Connecticut mother **facing felony charges** for lying on her 5-year-old son's registration forms so he could attend a better school. McDowell's story is painfully reminiscent of Kelley Williams-Bolar, the Ohio mother who **made a similar choice earlier this year** -- and is now a convicted felon. [Read more...](#)



The last day of shopping at the Teacher Supply Warehouse for the 2010 - 2011 School Year is Thursday, June 9.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Guilford Education Alliance was so proud to again sponsor the On Stage! Student Talent Showcase starring over 600 Guilford County student performers! It was a fun night out supporting the arts and local students!

Check out the GCS NewsBreak!  
[On Stage News Break](#)

Thank you to all the teachers, volunteers and stage crew who made On Stage! such a success!!

### Support Guilford Education Alliance

Guilford Education Alliance is dependent on donations from the community for its operating expenses. Please consider making a donation to support our initiatives and work to promote quality education in Guilford County.

Together, we can motivate our entire community to promote and support education for our students and our future.

[Click here to donate](#)

Today there are 120 projects for Guilford County classrooms listed on



right now! So far, you have helped to fund almost 800 projects in Guilford County School classrooms. Help us reach 1,000 by December 31st!

### Specialist Weigh Common Social Studies Standards

Feeling that social studies has been sidelined by a test-driven focus on math and English/language arts, subject-matter specialists from more than a dozen states are meeting this week with representatives of content-area groups to brainstorm ways to improve academic standards in that subject.

The two-day gathering in Charlotte, N.C., is the third convened in the last year and a half as states and social studies groups seek to re-establish the prominent role they feel the disciplines deserve in classrooms. Social studies specialists from 18 states and officials of 15 social studies organizations have been taking part in the talks.

[Read more...](#)

### Schools Need Real Solutions, Not Magic-Bullet Fixes

In the nearly 30 years since publication of the national wake-up call, "A Nation at Risk," the United States has used the silver-bullet approach to fix what's broken in education, trying every fad and ideological whim to improve student achievement. Today we favor the "business" or market approach, hoping to spur higher academic test scores by creating private-school choices, simply measuring achievement through standardized tests or threatening teachers by firing staff or shuttering public schools. But left in the wake are ineffective charter schools and voucher programs that are largely no better, and perhaps worse, than regular public schools. And many new teachers are leaving the profession within their first five years, frustrated by the lack of support or respect they are due. Meanwhile, U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan estimates that this year, 82 percent of America's schools could fail to meet education goals set by No Child Left Behind. [Read more...](#)

### Fordham Responds to the Common Core "Counter-Manifesto"

The "[counter-manifesto](#)" released this week in opposition to national testing and a national curriculum is full of half-truths, mischaracterizations, and straw men. But it was signed by a lot of serious people and deserves a serious response.

First, let us dispatch some silliness. To the best of our knowledge, and



Jocelyn will probably never forget the day those new supplies arrived in her classroom. With a donation of just \$75, you can [create an unforgettable moment](#) for a whole class full of kids. One of them might even become your new best friend!

### Our Pacesetter Sponsors

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Greensboro Grasshoppers  
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Weaver Foundation

Please join in thanking them for their support

To become a sponsor of the Guilford Education Alliance, visit [www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org/support/index.php](http://www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org/support/index.php)

### Corporate Education Council

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based on all evidence that we're aware of, neither the signers of the [Shanker Institute manifesto](#), nor leaders in the Obama/Duncan Education Department, advocate a "nationalized curriculum" that would "undermine control of public school curriculum and instruction at the local and state level" and "transfer control to an elephantine, inside-the-Beltway bureaucracy." Nor is anybody calling for "a one-size fits all, centrally controlled curriculum for every K-12 subject." We certainly wouldn't support such a policy-and can understand why the conservative luminaries who signed the counter-manifesto wouldn't want it, either. As parents, grandparents, charter-school authorizers, and champions of school choice in almost all its forms, we believe deeply in the importance of schools having the freedom to shape their own unique educational approaches. [Read more...](#)

### Experts Call For Expanding Boys' Career Options

In the nearly four decades since Title IX of the federal Civil Rights Act barred sex discrimination in education, educators and policymakers have encouraged more girls to study and enter traditionally "male" careers, from science and technology to architecture and law.

With male-dominated fields like construction now stagnant, however, experts argue that the situation may be reversed: American schools [don't do enough](#) to encourage boys to explore careers in traditionally female-dominated fields, such as health care and education.

[Read more...](#)

### Why Wrong Is Not Always Bad

The conversation about schools and reform frequently focuses on how to do better. And doing better usually translates into excellent grades, high test scores, and ultimately getting into good colleges.

What we often lose in this conversation is something else-the need to

Cornerstone Health Care  
Cross Company  
Culp, Inc.  
D.S. Miller, Inc.  
Duke Energy  
Ellison Family Foundation  
Ernst & Young  
First Citizens Bank  
Gilbarco Veeder-Root  
Greensboro Grasshoppers  
Guilford Mills Foundation  
Hanes Lineberry Funeral Homes  
High Point Bank  
High Point Community Foundation  
Joseph M Bryan Foundation  
Lincoln Financial Group  
McDonald's / DeJas Management  
Michel Family Foundation  
Moses Cone Health System  
News & Record  
Our State Magazine  
Partnership Property Management  
Piedmont Natural Gas  
Precision Fabrics  
Premier Commerical Bank  
Procter & Gamble  
Quaintance-Weaver Restaurants & Hotels  
R. Steve Bowden & Assoc.  
Rentenbach Constructors, Inc.  
Richardson Properties LLC  
Rooster Communications  
Samet Corporation  
Shamrock Corporation  
Simpson, Schulman & Beard  
Southeast Fuels, Inc.  
Sprinkle Family Foundation  
Stearns Financial Group  
SunTrust Foundation  
Thomas Built Buses  
TIMCO Aviation Services  
Time Warner Cable  
United HealthCare  
VF Corporation  
Volvo Financial Services  
Weaver Foundation  
WFMY  
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice  
YMCA of Greensboro

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Corporate Education Council and how you can become involved in education today!

### NCDPI Publications Available Online

NCDPI Publication Sales sells books, CDs, DVDs, bookmarks, brochures, posters and more to schools, universities, parents and education associations every year. We carry only resources that are developed by NCDPI staff from areas such as curriculum, school business and healthy schools. You can find out what's available and how to order by visiting our Publication Sales Web site at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/publications>.

teach kids how to fail. Yes, that four-letter word. [Read more...](#)

### The School-Internet 'Relationship' and Online Learning

Online learning and blended learning are here to stay, and here to expand. As shown in the latest publications by the [International Association for K-12 Online Learning](#), or iNACOL, and *Education Week's* own continuing coverage in its *Digital Directions* magazine and its recent special report on the emerging policy debates in virtual education, the possibilities and opportunities include multiple new pathways for students to access courses "anytime, anywhere." [Read more...](#)

### New Rating System Targets Media's Education Potential

A nonprofit group aimed at helping educators and parents shape children's media consumption will move beyond rating movies, video games, and websites for appropriateness and begin evaluating those same media offerings' educational potential.

San Francisco-based [Common Sense Media](#), a frequent adviser to the U.S. Department of Education on matters of media and digital literacy, announced the launch of its new education ratings and review program last week. The program will be financed through a partnership with the [Susan Crown Exchange](#), a Chicago-based philanthropy founded by its namesake that is focused on finding "innovative ways of driving social change," according to its website. [Read more...](#)

### Teaching Beyond the Test, to Make Room Again For Current Events

FARMINGTON, Conn. - To Robert Barry, a senior at Farmington High School, it seems normal to have a war or two going on while you're growing up. "Afghanistan started when we were in third grade," he said. "We heard about it, but it's in the background - we stopped noticing it."

Julia Morrow, also a senior in this upscale suburb of Hartford, said that she and her friends "grew up not following the war and got used to not following it." [Read more...](#)

Sincerely,

Guilford Education Alliance