



## Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

January 20, 2010

### In This Issue

- Support Guilford Education Alliance
  - Upcoming Events
    - GCS Regions
  - Board of Education and Board of Commissioners Meeting
  - Federal Grant Program Catches Guilford's Eye
  - Gov. Perdue's Education Agenda
  - NC Applies for Federal Education Money
    - They've Earned A+
- Southern Schools Mark Two Majorities
- \$7 Million in Stimulus Will Help Build Babies' Brains
- White House Launches \$250 Million Public-Private STEM Initiative
  - Study Examines Civic Engagement Among Teach for America Graduates
  - Dropout Factories: New Strategies States Can Use
- Studies Explore Secrets of Principals' Success
  - Grant Opportunities

### 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

Welcome to the Guilford Education Alliance newsletter. We hope you find this informative and helpful!

Also, be sure to join our [Facebook page!](#)

### Board of Education and Board of Commissioners Meeting

The county budget season is warming up and school resource officers could be on the chopping block again this year. Several county commissioners encouraged the school board to look at the cost of SROs during a joint meeting of the two boards Wednesday morning (January 20th)... [read more](#)

When Guilford County's Board of Commissioners and Board of Education convene a rare joint meeting this morning (January 20th), it likely will set the tone for relations between the groups for 2010. Commissioners Chairman Melvin "Skip" Alston has said he would like this to be a year of tightening both belts and relationships between commissioners and the county's various boards... [read more](#)

### Federal Grant Program Catches Guilford's Eye

Guilford County Schools could look to Washington for a major cash injection. President Barack Obama announced Tuesday (January 19th) he intends to push Congress for another \$1.35 billion for his Race to the Top grant program to fund major initiatives proposed by school districts. That's on top of the \$4.35 billion Congress already has approved to fund state-level education reform initiatives... [read more](#)

### Gov. Perdue Announces New Education Agenda

Gov. Perdue announced on January 13th her education agenda, Career and College - Ready, Set, Go!, in a speech to a Joint Session of North Carolina's Educational Governing Boards in Kannapolis. Gov. Perdue outlined a framework to take on the

support education for our students and our future.

[Click here to donate](#)

### Upcoming Events

**Tuesday January 26:** Guilford County Schools *State of Our Schools*; 5:30 pm at the Hayworth Fine Arts Center at High Point University; [click here](#) for more information

**Thursday January 28:** *Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult Health Care Workshop for Youth with Special Needs and their Families*; 6:30 to 8:30 pm; GTCC Jamestown Campus; Medlin Center Rooms 41 and 45; for more info call 334-5601 x 217 or [email](#)

**Thursday January 28:** Guilford County Board of Education meeting, 6:00 pm; 712 N. Eugene Street, Greensboro; [click here](#) for an agenda

**Thursday February 18:** The 2010 National Smart Start Conference Online, *From Vision To Reality: Essential Elements of State Early Childhood Systems*; [click here](#) for more info

### Guilford County Schools Regions

[Click here](#) to view map of the new regions of GCS

[Click here](#) to view the organization chart of superintendents



Learn how you can help fund projects in Guilford County Schools' classrooms

educational challenges facing our state with the goal of preparing every student to be college or career ready after graduating from high school... [read more](#)

### NC Applies for Federal Education Money

Teachers could see major changes in how they are paid if North Carolina wins its bid for nearly \$470 million from Washington. Gov. Bev Perdue submitted the state's application for a Race to the Top grant. Race to the Top is a program included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will provide states with a four-year grant to fund major education reform efforts... [read more](#)

### They've Earned A+

It is a pretty big day when a public school teacher from Wake County goes to the White House at the invitation of the president. Carol Wooten, a fifth-grade teacher at Hunter Elementary in Raleigh, had that day recently. Wooten is a science teacher, and President Obama was honoring such educators while expanding a national program, a public-private partnership, to find more of them... [read more](#)

### Southern Schools Mark Two Majorities

The South has become the first region in the country where more than half of public school students are poor and more than half are members of minorities, according to a new report. The shift was fueled not by white flight from public schools, which spiked during desegregation but has not had much effect on school demographics since the early 1980s. Rather, an influx of Latinos and other ethnic groups, the return of blacks to the South and higher birth rates among black and Latino families have contributed to the change... [read more](#)

### \$7 Million in Stimulus Will Help Build Babies' Brains

Business leaders are paying attention to a new effort to help infants and toddlers, even if hiring them is at least 15 years away. Two local agencies will receive more than \$7 million in federal money to begin Early Head Start programs in Wake, Durham and Chatham counties.

The money, doled out over two years, will provide health, medical and nutrition services, parenting workshops and other help at home and in child-care centers to poor families to better prepare children, from newborns to 3 year olds, for school... [read more](#)

### White House Launches \$250 Million Public-Private STEM Initiative

through donations on  
DonorsChoose.org.

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To donate materials to  
Guilford County Schools  
Teachers visit the  
Teacher Supply Warehouse

[Click here to learn more](#)

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The White House has launched a \$250 million public-private initiative to improve science and mathematics instruction with the goal of helping the nation compete in key fields against global economic rivals, the Washington Post reports.

With funding from high-tech businesses, universities, and foundations, the program will work to prepare more than 10,000 new math and science teachers over five years and provide on-the-job training for an additional 100,000 in science, technology, engineering, and math... [read more](#)

#### Study Examines Civic Engagement Among Teach for America Graduates

While Teach for America has managed to recruit thousands of recent college graduates to commit to teach in the nation's most troubled schools for two years, their dedication does not necessarily extend to other areas of society, a new study finds... [read more](#)

#### Dropout Factories: New Strategies States Can Use

Amid a welcome surge of investments in education, President Barack Obama and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan have put a priority on turning around the 2,000 high schools known as the nation's "dropout factories." These schools routinely graduate 60 percent or fewer of their students, and together account for half of America's dropouts. For years, they have appeared to be impervious to efforts toward change, with a decade's worth of piecemeal reforms and incremental school improvement strategies failing to produce the results many had hoped for... [read more](#)

#### Studies Explore Secrets of Principals' Success

Although principals have long been seen as important to the success of schools, a new set of working papers from some prominent education researchers aims to promote a better understanding of the extent to which school leaders matter and why... [read more](#)

#### Grant Opportunities

**United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro Arts Education  
Teacher of the Year Award**

**Deadline: February 5, 2010**

To be eligible, a nominee's primary role must be as an arts educator -- one who teaches the visual or performing arts including drama, music, dance and visual art. This year's winner will receive \$1,000 to use for professional development

<http://www.uacarts.org/whats happening/awards.html>

### **NEA Foundation - MENC Teaching Improvisation Grants**

**Deadline: February 1, 2010**

The NEA Foundation, in a collaborative effort with MENC: The National Association of Music Education, is now offering Teaching Improvisation Grants, earmarked to support public educators' work to teach improvisation to middle- and high-school music students.

<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/grant-application/nea-foundation-menc-teaching-improvisation-grants>

### **Sprint Character Education Grant Program Announces 2010 Application Period**

**Deadline: February 5, 2010**

Now in its third year, the program awards Sprint Foundation grants to school districts and individual schools to fund resources that facilitate and encourage character education among K-12 students. The program is open to all U.S. public schools (K-12) and U.S. public school districts.

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp\\_item.jhtml?id=281200009](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=281200009)

### **Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes Accepting Nominations**

**Deadline: April 30, 2010**

The Barron Prize honors young people between the ages of 8 and 18 who "have shown leadership and courage in public service to people and our planet."

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp\\_item.jhtml?id=280500006](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=280500006)

### **Keepers in the Classroom - NC Zoo**

\*Bring a NC Zookeeper to your classroom to present a fascinating program!

\*Programs meet Standard Course of Study objectives and the zoo pays all the cost!

\*If you want to implement a classroom environmental project- ie: a butterfly garden, bird feeding station, arts display around nature themes, compost site, recycling program- we will pay up to \$500.00 to support your efforts if you have a Keeper program.

Go to [www.nczoo.org](http://www.nczoo.org) and click on the Education Link to fill out an application.

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To make a contribution to support the valuable programs of Guilford Education Alliance, visit

<http://www.guilfordeducationalliance.org/support/index.php>

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