



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

January 21, 2009

In This Issue

- Upcoming Events

- The Public School Forum's Ten To Watch 2009
- Update on 2008 Bond Projects
 - Teacher Supply Effort
 - State to Count Pupils' Retest
- School Districts Want Their Money
- Joint Ed Oversight Committee
- Redouble High School Improvement
 - Best Practices: Students in the Driver's Seat
- Never a Teacher, Duncan's Life Work is Kids
- Immigrants See Charter School as Haven

Upcoming Events

Thursday January 22: Guilford County Schools' Safe & Drug-Free Schools S.M.A.R.T. program is sponsoring a workshop for parents on "The Truth about Tobacco and Marijuana"; 6:30 to 8:00 pm; Kathleen Clay Edward Branch of the Greensboro Public Library, 1420 Price Park Road; for more information, call 621-4001

Saturday January 24: "Finding Money for a College Education" 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Central Library, 219 N. Church Street, Greensboro; for more information go to www.greensborolibrary.org

Monday January 26: "Kickoff to Kindergarten: Parent Days", come learn how to help your child be ready for Kindergarten; High Point Museum, 1859 E. Lexington Avenue, High Point; 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 7:00

Welcome to the Guilford Education Alliance newsletter. We hope you find this informative and helpful! Also, be sure to visit our newly renovated website, which will be available on February 1st.

Teacher Supply Effort Appreciates your Help

The Guilford Education Alliance and our community partners say thank you to the businesses, organizations and individuals who have donated office and school supplies to the Teacher Supply Warehouse since it opened in 2007. Contributions of new, slightly used or outdated supplies are recycled back into classrooms through the teachers shopping for free at the warehouse...

http://blog.news-record.com/opinion/letters/archives/2009/01/teacher_supply_effort_apprecia.shtml

Update on 2008 Bond Projects

Guilford County Schools received great news on Jan. 13. Guilford County notified the district that it sold \$130 million in school bonds. This figure includes \$45 million for Eastern High. With the sale of these bonds, Guilford County Schools will proceed with projects already under construction, including Jamestown Middle. A groundbreaking ceremony for Jamestown will take place on Jan. 23 at 10 a.m. The district also will continue land acquisition efforts for this year, including sites for the following projects:

http://www.gcsnc.com/newsbriefs/archive/2009/1_16.html

The Public School Forum's Ten To Watch 2009

Below is a link to the Public School Forum's list of top 10 issues facing education in 2009.

http://www.ncforum.org/doclib/2008_1223.pdf

State to Count Pupils' Retest

pm; for more information, call 885-1859

Tuesday January 27: Guilford County Schools Strategic Plan presentation to the community; 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm; GTCC Campus Jamestown, Koury Auditorium, 601 High Point Road, Jamestown

Saturday February 7: Guilford County Schools will host a Magnet/Choice Fair from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at the Greensboro Coliseum Pavilion; for more information visit www.gcsnc.com/magnet

Thursday February 12: Dr. Pedro Noguera will discuss his book "The Trouble with Black Boys...and Other Reflections on Race, Equity and the Future of Public Education"; 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Smith High School auditorium, 2407 South Holden Rd, Greensboro; the event is open to the public; for more information, contact the Guilford County Schools Diversity Office at 370-3284

Monday February 23: "Kickoff to Kindergarten: Parent Days", come learn how to help your child be ready for Kindergarten; Greensboro Children's Museum, 220 N. Church Street, Greensboro; 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm; for more information, call 885-1859



To learn how you can help fund school projects, visit

<http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/search.html?zone=301&community=749:1>

The state will count results of student retests this year when it figures out how effectively schools are doing their jobs. The State Board of Education voted unanimously Thursday January 8th to allow the state to count retests in third through eighth grade reading and math tests this year. Retests on end-of-course tests will count next year...

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1360071.html>

Joint Ed. Oversight Presents Finding, Recommendations

The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee met Wednesday January 14 to review and adopt their report to the members of the 2009 regular session of the General Assembly. The following eight findings and recommendations including the related draft legislation can be found in their report:

http://www.ncforum.org/doclib/2009_0116.pdf

School Districts Want Their Money

Local school districts don't have a chance at getting the \$747.9 million the courts say the state owes them any time soon, but the schools want at least \$18 million. School boards Tuesday January 13th asked Wake Superior Court Judge Howard Manning to order state universities to turn over \$18 million they've collected in parking fines and have socked away in the state Treasurer's Office. Last year, Manning ruled that the state must turn over millions collected in civil fines that had been withheld illegally from local schools for years. School boards first sued for the money in 1998...

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/story/1366289.html>

Redouble High School Improvement Push, States Told

Despite tougher coursework requirements and other improvements, states need to do much more to make sure that U.S. high school students are poised for success, including better defining what constitutes readiness for career and college, according to a national report released Jan. 13...

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/01/13/18readiness.h28.html>

Best Practices: Students in the Driver's Seat

There is great value in learning the basics. We cannot write without an alphabet, or understand chemistry without the Periodic Table of Elements. But Henri Poincaré said, "Science is built upon facts much in the same way that a house is built with bricks, but the mere collections of facts is no more a science than a pile of bricks is a house!" I think our students get bored with the



To donate materials to Guilford County Schools Teacher visit

http://www.gcsnc.com/teacher_warehouse/index.html

Our Sponsors

Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, High Point Community Foundation, the Cemala Foundation, the Weaver Foundation, the Tannenbaum Sternberger Foundation, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, and Duke Energy Corporation, Lincoln Financial Group Foundation, Allen Tate Realtors, and The News & Record, as well as many individuals.

Please join in thanking them for their support!

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collecting of facts, but when they get to build for themselves, engagement grows...

http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2009/01/14/011409tln_cody.h20.html?tmp=1497524230

Never a Teacher, Duncan's Life Work is Kids

Arne Duncan, Barack Obama's choice to lead the Education Department, has never been a teacher or school principal. He was educated at elite private schools. Duncan, now Chicago public schools chief, appears for his confirmation hearing Tuesday January 13th before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. Yet Duncan has spent his life among poor and minority children, those needing the most help from public education...

http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2009/01/13/011309duncanbio_ap.html?tmp=1485970346

Immigrants See Charter School as a Haven

Fartun Warsame, a Somali immigrant, thought she was being a good mother when she transferred her five boys to a top elementary school in an affluent Minneapolis suburb. Besides its academic advantages, the school was close to her job as an ultrasound technician, so if the teachers called, she could get there right away. "Immediately they changed," Ms. Warsame said of her sons. "They wanted to wear shorts. They'd say, 'Buy me this.' I said, 'Where did you guys get this idea you can control me?' " Her sons informed her that this was the way things were in America. But not in this Somali mother's house. She soon moved them back to the city, to the International Elementary School, a charter school of about 560 pupils in downtown Minneapolis founded by leaders of the city's large East African community. The extra commuting time was worth the return to the old order: five well-behaved sons, and one all-powerful mother.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/10/education/10charter.html?scp=2&sq=Charter%20Schools&st=cse>

Grant Opportunities

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 and click on the Education Link to fill out an

application

Saucony Run For Good Foundation Offers Funding for Children's Running Programs

Deadline: June 13, 2009

Established to help end childhood obesity by providing financial support to nonprofits across the United States that support children's running and fitness programs, the Saucony Run For Good Foundation (<http://www.sauconyrunforgood.com/>) is accepting applications for its grant program.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016381/sauconyrun>

For additional RFPs in Athletics/Sports, visit:

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_athletics.jhtml

Do Something Offers Young People Grants for Disaster Preparedness Projects

Deadline: Rolling

Do Something (<http://www.dosomething.org/>) and the Dunkin Brands Community Foundation (<http://www.dunkinbrands.com/foundation>) have partnered to offer \$500 Disaster Grants to young people across the United States and Canada.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016382/dosomething>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_children.jhtml

Students Invited to Submit Their Creative Energy Project Entries

Deadline: March 13, 2009

Johnson Controls (<http://www.johnsoncontrols.com/>), a global multi-industrial leader in energy efficiency and sustainability, invites kindergarten through 12th grade students across North America to enter the Igniting Creative Energy competition. The challenge, a program developed and funded by Johnson Controls and the National Energy Foundation (<http://www.nef1.org/>), is designed to encourage students to learn more about energy and the environment.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016379/ignite>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml

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

<http://www.guilfordnonprofits.org/donations/index.html>

Sincerely,

Guilford Education Alliance