



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

January 28, 2011

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 1:

Bullied: A Student, A School and A Case that Made History; 7:00 - 9:00 pm; Carousel Cinemas Battleground Avenue; sponsored by GSAFE; contact@gsafe.org for more information

Wednesday, February 2:

GCS Science Fair; 1:00 - 5:30 pm; Four Seasons Town Centre

Thursday, February 3:

GCS College Tech Prep Showcase; 5:00 - 7:00 pm; Weaver Academy; An opportunity for students to learn more about the career and technical education courses available in Guilford County Schools.

Monday, February 7:

Anti-Bullying Speaker Keith Deltano; 7:00 pm; Page High School Auditorium; contact Rebecca Buffington for more information at 545.1103 or go online to www.DontBullyOnline.com.

Tuesday, February 8:

Board of Education Meeting; 6:00 pm; 712 N. Eugene Street

Sunday, February 13:

Open House; 2:00 - 4:00 pm; The Piedmont School, High Point; 883.0992 or info@thepiedmontsschool.com for more information.

Monday, February 14:

Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Summit; 10 am - 2:00 pm; Greensboro Airport Marriott; Free; The Summit will consist of a team of community leaders, clergy, media, health providers

Dear Jennifer,

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

For the most current news and events,

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Guilford Education Alliance Donates Books to Parkview Elementary Arts Magnet as Part of Guilford County Schools Challenge to Read 2 Million Books in 2011

Guilford Education Alliance is pleased to announce its contribution of books to Parkview Village Expressive Arts Magnet Elementary School. Through a partnership with the Barnes & Noble store at Friendly Center, over 600 elementary level books were contributed to Guilford Education Alliance for distribution to a school. Parkview was chosen because of the low ratio of books to students in its media center (20 books per child) and because of the high percentage of students eligible for Free Reduced Lunch (96.2%) and thus a great need for more books. These are books that will be distributed to individual classrooms for teachers to provide to students to take home to read, return them to school, and take another book home.

[Read more...](#)



and parents willing to have honest conversations about adolescent pregnancy and what must be done to make changes to the fact that every day in Guilford County three teens between the ages of 15 and 19 become pregnant, two teens give birth and one teen terminates or loses her pregnancy. In one year alone, adolescent childbearing cost Guilford County \$13.6 million.

Wednesday, February 16:

Housing Summit 2011; 8:30 am - 2:30 pm; Emerald Event Center, 2000 E. Wendover Avenue; www.guilfordnonprofits.org for more information

Saturday, February 19:

GCS Magnet/Choice Fair; 9:00 am - 12:30 pm; Greensboro Coliseum Pavilion; An opportunity for students to learn more about the magnet and high school choice options available in Guilford County Schools. Representatives will be available to discuss programs, schools, transportation and opportunities.

Monday, February 28:

Kick off to Kindergarten Parent Day; 11:00 - 1:00 & 5:00 - 7:00pm; Greensboro Children's Museum

CHARACTER CORNER

"Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

GREENSBORO --

Want to help out a great cause? Through January 28, Oak Ridge ACES students are participating in 'Cause 4 Paws.' The students' original goal was to collect 500 pounds of pet food to send to the Guilford County Animal Shelter. In only 3 weeks, they've collected more than 1,200 pounds and have raised the goal to 1, 500 pounds. If you'd like to help, you can drop off donations at the school.



Each newsletter, Guilford Education Alliance will showcase a local school's community service project. To submit a project to us, please email GEA@GuilfordEducationAlliance.org with a description of the project and picture.



PENC (Professional Educators of North Carolina), a professional association that serves as *THE Voice* for educators in policy-making, the forum for developing professional relationships and the

Obama Makes Education An State of the Union Centerpiece

President Barack Obama used his [State of the Union address](#) Tuesday night to put education front-and-center on the national agenda, and on the agenda of the newly divided Congress. And he tied his education proposals, including the long-stalled reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, directly to the nation's economic future. [Click here](#) to read more...

Obama Emphasizes STEM Education in State of the Union

In his [address](#) last night, President Obama repeatedly talked about the importance of STEM education to the nation's economic well-being, raised concerns about the quality of math and science instruction here, and reiterated his call for recruiting 100,000 new STEM teachers over the next decade.. [Click here](#) to read more...

What Happens When You Believe in 71,000 Students?

In Guilford County Schools, that belief results in achieving educational excellence. Last year, 91.4 percent of our schools met or exceeded ABCs. Remarkably, five district high schools were among only 12 statewide to achieve 100 percent graduation rates. The graduation rate grew for the fourth year in a row to 80.7 percent, and GCS' goal is to raise the rate to 90 percent by 2012. [Click here](#) to read more...

Guilford Parent Academy Launches

Guilford Parent Academy provides information and training on a variety of topics for parents, grandparents and family members caring for children and young people in Guilford County. Planned by parents and a diverse team of educators and community members, Guilford Parent Academy is designed to help parents help their children succeed at school and in life. [Click here](#) to learn more!

Guilford Schools Open Parent Academy

GUILFORD COUNTY - It's time for parents to go to school.

Guilford County Schools Superintendent Mo Green announced Wednesday the opening of a free Parent Academy this year to help parents support their children by connecting them with educational organizations and nonprofits.

The academy is part Green's strategic plan, which he updated during a State of Our Schools event at Carolina Theater in Greensboro.

[Read more...](#)

The Schools Challenge

Maybe the most fun moment of Wednesday evening's upbeat State of our Schools program came when Union Hill Elementary students took the stage to announce the results of the 2010 One Million Books challenge.

One by one, they turned posters to reveal the final number: 1,973,262. [Read more...](#)

advocate for improving the learning environment for every educator and student, is currently accepting electronic entries for its 5th annual Young Artists Competition. The goal of this project is to highlight the hard work of North Carolina's visual art teachers and their students. For more information, [click here](#).



The Teacher Supply Warehouse is open for shopping! New hours for the 2010-11 school year are 2:30-5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Now Guilford County Schools teachers can register to shop one of three days per week. To donate materials to Guilford County Schools Teachers visit the Teacher Supply Warehouse

[Click here to learn more](#)

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 over 150 projects for Guilford County classrooms listed on DonorsChoose.org. With the DonorsChoose.org gift cards you've given in the past, you helped spread the joy of supporting classrooms in need. We hope you'll [give gift cards](#) again this winter. Who needs a seasonal sweater when the joy of helping others warms you right up?



Wake School Board Agrees to Cooperate with AdvancED Review

RALEIGH, N.C. - Wake County school board members voted 6-2 Tuesday to cooperate with a national accreditation firm looking closely at how the board conducts its business.

Board members Chris Malone and Deborah Prickett voted against the motion that board member John Tedesco put forth in an effort to send "a unanimous message" that the board would be "fully engaged participants" in Atlanta-based AdvancED's review. [Read more...](#)

Berger: Budget, Education Are Top Action Items in New Session

When he was asked how this year's historic legislative session will be different, incoming Senate President Pro Tem Phil Berger couldn't resist a quip.

"Well, I've never had as many of you show up for something like this before," Berger laughed. "In fact, I couldn't even give tickets away." [Read more...](#)

Guilford County School Board OKs Early/Middle College at UNCG

GREENSBORO - Tom Martinek can exhale. An early/middle college of health sciences at UNCG, which he has lobbied for throughout the past five years, should finally become a reality. On Thursday, the Guilford County Board of Education approved the creation of a high school program at the university that will offer students college credit and internships in health-related careers. [Read more...](#)

Gray: IMPACT Teacher Evaluation System Has 'A Long Way to Go' For Fairness

As a candidate, Mayor Vincent C. Gray treaded cautiously when it came to questions about the [IMPACT teacher evaluation system](#), arguably former Chancellor Michelle A. Rhee's signature initiative. The Washington Teachers' Union, a major financial supporter, has big issues with the system, which uses growth in student test scores as part of the basis for assessing some educators. Rhee supporters -- including the philanthropic community that is [investing tens of millions](#) of dollars in DC schools -- see it as the heart of her program because it holds teachers more accountable than ever for what their students learn. Low IMPACT scores [led to the dismissal](#) of 126 teachers last year. [Read more...](#)

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Southeast Fuels

New Education Dashboard Brings Greater Transparency to Data

At an education stakeholders' meeting January 24, Secretary Duncan announced the launch of an online tool designed to help educators, parents, students, and policy makers "have a much more transparent conversation" about what is working-and what is not working-in American education today. [Read more...](#)

New Teachers Are the New Majority

We've reached a pivotal moment in the American teaching profession. For more than 40 years, baby boomers have made up the majority of the teaching force-many serving full, distinguished careers from the 1960s through today. National data from the [Schools and Staffing Survey](#) now reveal that the new millennium has ushered in a new majority. Teachers with 10 or fewer years' experience now constitute over 52 percent of our teaching force. This incoming group has the potential to shape how we educate children for the next several decades. Yet it remains to be seen whether this demographic tipping point will revolutionize what teaching is or go virtually unnoticed. [Read more...](#)

Science Test Scores Released for North Carolina

North Carolina fourth graders are on par with their national peers in science but eighth graders performed lower than the national average, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress' 2009 Science Assessment. [Read more..](#)

6 Schools to Lose Teacher Bonuses in Program Cuts

GREENSBORO - For several years, Guilford County Schools officials have counted on special bonuses to raise test scores and lower teacher turnover among the district's low-performing schools. Now, they hope educators at six schools can maintain their progress without the extra pay. [Read more.](#)

Quality Counts Report Released: Grades and Highlights Reports Issued for All 50 States and D.C.

WASHINGTON-Jan. 11, 2011-Although economists have officially declared the "Great Recession" to be over, the nation and states continue to struggle back from the most severe economic downturn in generations and face new challenges in delivering a high-quality education to all students, according to Education Week's annual report card. The nation receives a C when graded across the six distinct areas of policy and performance tracked by Quality Counts, the most comprehensive ongoing assessment of the state of American education. For the third year in a row, Maryland is the top-ranked state, earning the nation's highest overall grade, a B-plus. Massachusetts and New York follow close behind, each receiving a B. The majority of states receive grades of C-plus or lower. [Read more...](#)

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and how you can become involved in education
today!

Guilford County Council of PTAs newsletter

[Click here](#) for the most current edition of the newsletter

Grant Opportunities

Kenan Fellowships

Available online beginning December 15

<http://www.ncsu.edu/kenanfellows/>

NC Council for Teachers of Mathematics

http://ncctm.org/grants_scholarships.cfm

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Guilford Education Alliance