



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

October 1, 2008

In This Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Teacher, Principal of the Year Named
 - Gov. Easley Announces Learn and Earn Wins National Award
- No Child Left Inside Act Passes on the Floor of the House
- INNOVATOR Report
- Performance Pay for Teachers
- Special Schools for Special Needs
- One-in-Five and Growing Fast
- Leading Education Indicators
 - Grant Opportunities

Upcoming Events

Thursday October 2: NC Theatre for Young People will host an *Educators' Evening* from 6:00 to 8:30 pm at the Alumni House on UNC-G's campus; it is open to teachers from all disciplines and experience levels; free childcare provided; for more info, call 334-4015 or email nctyp@uncg.edu

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

Interview with Maurice "Mo" Green

Click the link below to watch an interview with Mo Green, the new Superintendent of Guilford County Schools.

<http://www.news-record.com/multimedia?category=multimedia&playNowId=3001&pluid=646&pllimit=25&ploffset=0&plkws=&plterms=&plsort=&plclass=&plstart=&plend>

Teacher, Principal of the Year Named

During one of her advance placement biology classes a few years ago, LaToy Kennedy overheard her students saying they liked her much more than another teacher. "Why?" Kennedy asked. "She does the same thing I do." "But you really care about us," the students replied. Kennedy, now the principal at Wiley Elementary, said that was the moment in her 14-year career as an educator when she realized how much she loved teaching. It paid off for her Monday night when Guilford County Schools named Kennedy principal of the year. They also named Aycock Middle School math teacher Rodney Morgan Jr. teacher of the year...

http://www.news-record.com/content/2008/09/22/article/teacher_principal_of_the_year_named

Gov. Easley Announces Learn and Earn Wins National Award

Gov. Mike Easley announced that North Carolina's Learn and Earn high school reform initiative has received the 2008 Innovations in American Government Award. The annual awards competition is sponsored by the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. "North Carolina is the first and only state in America to offer a free college education to every student..."

<http://newschoolsproject.org/images/stories/pdf/harvard%20award%20release.pdf>

Selling Title I Parents Short

October 12-18:
Give Kids Good Schools Week; for activities, go to www.givekidsgoodschools.org

Monday October 13: Candidate Forum including candidates for the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the College Auditorium, Koury Hospitality Careers Center GTCC Jamestown; for more info contact the Guilford Education Alliance at 841-4332 or info@guilfordeducationalliance.org

Tuesday October 28: "Visual Process in Childhood Learning" Community Forum at The Piedmont School; 7:00 to 9:00 pm; RSVP by calling 883-0992 or emailing info@thepiedmontschool.com

Thursday November 13: Education Summit 7:30 am to 12:00 noon at the Koury Convention Center; Leonard Pitts will be the Keynote Speaker; for more information contact the Guilford Education Alliance at 841-4332 or info@guilfordeducationalliance.org

Vote Yes for Property Tax

When a group of parents requested an expenses-paid trip to an out-of-town conference for 41 people, it was hard not to be skeptical. The total bill would have run upwards of \$74,000 and there are lot of meaningful things schools can do with 74 grand right here in River City. School board member Garth Hebert called the proposed trip a "junket." This editorial page agreed, huffing that the trip didn't make much practical or fiscal sense. I should know. I wrote it... http://blog.news-record.com/staff/outloud/archives/2008/09/selling_title_1.shtml#more

No Child Left Inside Act Passes on Floor of the House

ASLA is pleased to announce that H.R. 3036, the No Child Left Inside Act (not to be confused with No Child Left Behind) has passed by a vote of 293 - 109 on September 18 in the U.S. House of Representatives...The No Child Left Inside Act, sponsored by Representative John Sarbanes (MD), offers states incentives to develop Environmental Literacy Plans and integrate environmental education across their K-12 curriculums. It also increases funding for teacher training to ensure that teachers have the skills and knowledge necessary to deliver high quality environmental education... <http://capwiz.com/asla/issues/alert/?alertid=11956546>

INNOVATOR Report

TheINNOVATOR is a bimonthly report on high school change in North Carolina from the North Carolina New Schools Project. INNOVATOR informs practitioners, policy makers, and friends of public education about high school innovation in North Carolina as well as success stories and research from across the nation.

In This Issue

Laptops tap student interests, instincts to drive learning
Learn and Earn praised by Harvard as exemplary solution
College catch-up: Report raises alarm about remediation
National group issues policy guide for 21st Century skills
<http://newschoolsproject.org/images/stories/publications/innovator%209-19-08.pdf>

Performance Pay for Teachers: Increasing Student Achievement in Schools with Critical Needs

In 2006, in recognition of the need to attract and retain experienced administrators and teachers who teach subjects (Math and English/Language Arts) that are part of the state and federal accountability requirements, Guilford County Schools, the third largest school system in North Carolina, initiated Mission Possible. The program offers recruitment and performance incentives for teachers and administrators who teach in the county's low-performing and low-income schools. The initial evaluation of the program by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro suggests that the recruitment and performance incentives are

Relief

In May, 2008, voters approved more than \$530 million to build and improve public schools and the community college in Guilford County.

Now County Commissioners must find a way to pay for these improvements to our education system.

Commissioners have put a ¼-cent sales tax on the ballot this November to help defray the costs of school

construction. The alternative would be a steep increase in the property tax paid by all property owners in Guilford County. Go to the following website for more information

<http://www.properlytaxrelief.info/>

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

working... <http://www.johnlocke.org/site-docs/policyreports/missionpossible.pdf>

Special Schools for Special Needs

The Arrowsmith Program uses intensive therapy to correct cognitive difficulties; it uses targeted exercises to stimulate specific parts of the brain to teach it to overcome identified deficits.

Ms. Young says the program grew out of neuroscience, not education. Students do specific cognitive development skills for at least half their school day. Once they develop the necessary cognitive ability and are able to retain concepts, they work on catching up with curriculum.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20080922.campusPRIVSPECIAL0922/BNSStory>

One-in-Five and Growing Fast: A Profile of Hispanic Public School Students

The number of Hispanic students in the nation's public schools nearly doubled from 1990 to 2006, accounting for 60% of the total growth in public school enrollments over that period. There are now approximately 10 million Hispanic students in the nation's public kindergartens and its elementary and high schools; they make up about one-in-five public school students in the United States. In 1990, just one-in-eight public school students were Hispanic...

<http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=92>

Leading Education Indicators: Trends in Education

The following is a link to a chart with indicators such as achievement, achievement gap, High School Graduation, College Readiness and College Completion...

<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/accountability/results/trends/index.html>

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

Public and School Libraries Invited to Apply for We the People Bookshelf Grant Opportunity

Deadline: January 30, 2009

The National Endowment for the Humanities (<http://neh.gov/>) and the American

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!

Thank You to First Citizens Bank

Congratulations to Juan Chen for winning the "Cruisin Cooler" from First Citizens Bank at the New Teacher Reception on September 4th!

Join Our Mailing List!

Library Association's Public Programs Office (<http://www.ala.org/publicprograms/>) have announced that applications are now being accepted for the sixth annual We the People Bookshelf project. Part of the NEH's We the People program, the bookshelf program encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015097/nehgov>

For additional RFPs in Arts and Culture, visit:

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

Youth Service America Invites Applications for Global Youth Service Day Minnie Grants

Deadline: October 30, 2008

The Walt Disney Company (<http://corporate.disney.go.com/outreach/>)

and Youth Service America (<http://www.ysa.org/>) are accepting applications for grants of up to \$500 to support child-led service projects.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015101/ysaawards>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

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

National Center for Family Literacy Invites Entries for Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year

Deadline: December 5, 2008

The National Center for Family Literacy (<http://famlit.org/>) and

Toyota (http://toyota.com/about/our_commitment/philanthropy/education) are accepting applications for the 2009 Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year.

Family educators from across the United States are eligible for the award. Nominees must work primarily in children's education, adult/ESL education, parenting education, or other educational services and must be able to demonstrate an impact on intergenerational learning between parents and children.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015102/toyotateacher>

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