



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

October 21, 2009

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Support Guilford Education Alliance

Guilford Education Alliance is dependent on donations

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

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

2009 Education Summit November 12th!

Register now to attend the 2009 Education Summit!

Education Matters...What Schools Need to Be and How Do We Get There?

Featuring Keynote Speaker Dennis Bega, US Department of Education Assistant Secretary

The Summit will be held on Thursday November 12th, 7:30 am at the Koury Convention Center. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

GCS Students Named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

Thirty-two Guilford County Schools (GCS) students are semifinalists in scholarship competitions held annually by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The students, who attend 13 of the district's high schools, will continue in the competition for one of about 8,200 National Merit Scholarships or 800 National Achievement Scholarships awarded next spring...[read more](#)

Is Decades Long Effort for Diversity Over?

Wake County's 38-year effort to keep its school system racially and economically balanced may have been living on borrowed time.

Since the late 1980s, the practice of busing children out of racially segregated neighborhoods has been in decline nationwide -- a result of white flight from the cities, more conservative attitudes among voters, courts that ruled against such efforts and

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](#)

Upcoming Events

Thursday Oct. 22: Guilford County Board of Education meeting; 6:00 pm at 712 N. Eugene St., Greensboro; [click here](#) for more info

Monday Oct. 26: 2009 Teen Summit "Dating, Drugs and Other Dilemmas"; 8:30 am to 4:00 pm; Greensboro Coliseum Special Events Center; for more info call 373-2934

Mondays Oct. through Nov. 2nd: Win-Win Resolutions Conflict Resolution Training Workshops for families, parents and students of all ages in Greensboro; dinner and child care provided; [click here](#) for more info

Tuesday Nov. 3rd through Dec. 8th: Win-Win Resolutions Conflict Resolution Training Workshops for families, parents and students of all ages in High Point; dinner and child care provided; [click here](#) for more info

Wednesday Nov. 4th: *Violence Against Women and Children: Public Health and Human Rights Perspective*, Dr. Jacqueline White at Greensboro Public Library, Central Library, 219 N. Church St., Greensboro; 5-7 pm; for more info, go to CFRN.UNCG.EDU; free and open to the public

Saturday Nov. 7: *Women's Entrepreneurial Leadership & Learning Conference*; 8 am to 5 pm; Dudley High School, 1200 Lincoln St, Greensboro; to register call 379-5001 or [click here](#)

questions about whether busing was aiding the black children it was intended to help...[read more](#)

2009 NC Child Health Report Card

The 2009 North Carolina Child Health Report Card, issued jointly by the North Carolina Institute of Medicine and Action for Children North Carolina, indicates that while the health and safety of the state's children and youth have improved in many areas, there is still cause for concern.

[Data from the Report Card highlight the following challenges facing North Carolina's children](#)

NC Students Show Progress; Outperforming Others Nationwide

The biennial National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) released Wednesday (October 14th) by the federal government shows North Carolina fourth-graders improving their average score from 242 in 2007 to 244 (on a 500-point scale). This is 5 points above the average score for public school students in the nation (239). While there was no change for eight-graders who scored an average of 284, they too were 2 points above the national average (282)...[read more](#)

Ed Oversight Hears Recession's Impact on Public Schools

State Superintendent June Atkinson addressed the Education Oversight Committee regarding the state's budget and the recession's impact on North Carolina public schools. Atkinson highlighted some of the reductions to the state's public school budget (9.5% total) by grouping them into four major areas: [read more](#)

JOBS Commission Holds First Meeting

The Joint Legislative Joining Our Businesses and Schools (JOBS) Commission held its first meeting. The Commission is charged in the legislation with studying issues related to economic development through innovative schools and through the recreation of measures and metrics that define the readiness of a community to deliver the services that equip the workforce to be competitive in a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) intensive economy...[read more](#)

Granville, Scotland High Schools Launch Technology Initiative

Two rural North Carolina high schools aim to graduate 100 percent of their students, employing technology to increase engagement and transform teaching and learning...[read more](#)

Tuesday Nov. 10:

Guilford County Board of Education meeting; 6:00 pm at 712 N. Eugene St., Greensboro; [click here](#) for more info

Thursday Nov. 12: 2009 Education Summit hosted by Guilford Education Alliance; 7:30 am to 12:00 noon, Koury Convention Center; [click here](#) for more info

Vote on November 3rd!

Natural Science Center Expansion Bond

Carolina SciQuarium

- * 250,000 Gallon Aquarium
- * Over 75 Species of Animals
 - * Stingray Touch Tank
 - * WeatherSphere
- * Total Immersion Experience
 - * Art Gallery,

Classrooms & more Museum Renovation

- * Prehistoric Passages - Dinosaur Gallery Renovation
 - * HealthQuest - Human Health and Biology Wing
- * OmniSphere - Upgrade to First Super Media Globe in US
- * Family restaurant, New bathrooms, New parking and more!

Animal Discovery Expansion

- * Red Pandas
- * Penguins
- * Naturally Fit Adventure Forest
- * SkyLife - Aviary and Flight Exhibit

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Guilford County Schools Regions

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

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

Guilford County Schools Yahoo

Failing to Learn From Failure

Failure often courts success. Learning from past mistakes informs future innovation and achievement. Transportation accidents, building collapses, business failures, natural disasters, and even deaths warrant investigations, commissions, and autopsies. Regulators and practitioners study the cause or antecedents of a dire event with the hope of preventing future failures by gaining knowledge that alters existing rules and procedures. But despite the inherent logic and benefit of such inquiries, the field of public education has yet to adopt similar practices...[read more](#)

Report Highlights Importance of Adolescent Literacy Instruction

According to a new report from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, adolescent literacy is a cornerstone of the current education reform movement, upon which efforts such as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) should be built...[read more](#)

Report Offers New Economic Data on Educational Attainment

The global recession is raising the stakes on postsecondary education, according to a new report that offers yet more evidence for the need for all students to graduate from high school prepared for college, careers and life...[read more](#)

Growing Up Scripted

I propose a brief experiment in citizenship: Find a teenager and ask her if she thinks she will grow up to lead a free life. The results might give you pause. When I asked this of my upper-middle-class high school students recently, nearly every one of these 11th and 12th graders said "no."...[read more](#)

Helping Our Teachers

Everyone from President Obama on down seems to agree that a good teacher can make a huge difference in a child's life. American schools have been trying for decades to improve teacher quality. The results are mixed. Over the next year, NPR will explore those efforts and take a look at the latest crop of teachers entering the profession...[read more](#)

Reading is Not a Skill - And Why This is a Problem for the Draft National Standards

A draft of the voluntary national standards for reading was just released, and at first glance the 18 standards sound quite sensible: students should be able to determine what a text says, make inferences from it, discern the most important ideas, and so forth...[read more](#)

Groups

Parents of Current and Potential GCS **Advanced Learners** are invited to join the GCS Advanced Learner Yahoo Group by sending an [email](#) and including the school where your child is enrolled

GCS parents interested in improved **School Bus Safety** are encouraged to join the GCS School Bus Safety Yahoo group by sending an [email](#) and including the school where your child is enrolled



Learn how you can help fund projects in Guilford County Schools' classrooms through donations on DonorsChoose.org.

[Click here to learn more](#)



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

[Click here to learn more](#)

Focus in Chicago

The new chief officer of the public schools here, Ron Huberman, a former police officer and transit executive with a passion for data analysis, has a plan to stop the killings of the city's public school students. And it does not have to do with guns or security guards. It has to do with statistics and probability... [read more](#)

The New Untouchables

Last summer I attended a talk by Michelle Rhee, the dynamic chancellor of public schools in Washington. Just before the session began, a man came up, introduced himself as Todd Martin and whispered to me that what Rhee was about to speak about - our struggling public schools - was actually a critical, but unspoken, reason for the Great Recession... [read more](#)

Hispanic Immigrants' Children Fall Behind Peers Early, Study Finds

The children of Hispanic immigrants tend to be born healthy and start life on an intellectual par with other American children, but by the age of 2 they begin to lag in linguistic and cognitive skills, a new study by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, shows... [read more](#)

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

NC Beautiful Offers Environment Education Grants to North Carolina K-12 Teachers

Deadline: November 10, 2009

NC Beautiful, a provider of environmental education and beautification opportunities in North Carolina, is accepting applications for its 2010 Windows of Opportunity Grants. Grants of \$1,000 each are available to certified, full-time K-12 teachers in North Carolina.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=268400010

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!

To become a sponsor of the Guilford Education Alliance, visit www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org/support/index.php

Join Our Mailing List!

Do Something Offers Grants to Support Youth-Led Projects Addressing Teen Dating Abuse

Deadline: November 15, 2009

Do Something and Liz Claiborne, Inc. seek to support young people across the United States who are taking a stand against teen dating abuse.

Do Something will award ten grants of \$250 each to help run projects started by young people that are fighting teen dating abuse.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=268400004

National Endowment for the Humanities and American Library Association Announce We the People Bookshelf Grant Opportunity

Deadline: January 29, 2010

Part of the endowment's We the People program, the bookshelf encourages young people to read and understand great literature while exploring themes in American history. This year's theme, "A More Perfect Union," invites reflection on the idea of the United States as a union and will complement library programs observing the sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=268400008

Youth Service America Seeks State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grant Applications

Deadline: November 9, 2009

Youth Service America is accepting applications for State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants to support service-learning projects that culminate on Global Youth Service Day, April 23-25, 2010.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=269300003

Fund for Teachers Accepting Applications for 2010 Summer Education Grants

Deadline: January 29, 2010

Fund for Teachers invites educators from across the United States to design and submit proposals for their own educational adventures next summer.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=269300007

Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries Accepting Applications From School Libraries

Deadline: October 15, 2009

In order to promote a love of reading, the Laura Bush Foundation

for America's Libraries works to provide books to the school libraries and students that most need them. The foundation makes grants of up to \$6,000 each to update, extend, and diversify the book collections of school libraries.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=269300009

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

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

Sincerely,

Guilford Education Alliance
