



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

October 29, 2008

In This Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Vote Yes for Property Tax Relief
- 2008 Education Summit
- NC Graduation Requirements
- Program in Education, Afterschool and Resiliency
- Sixty Second Parent
- Absences in the Early Grades
- Teachers College Debate
- Predicting Dropouts
- ACE Reports a Widening of the Attainment Gap
- Teacher Grants
- Grant Opportunities

Upcoming Events

Tuesday November 11: Presentation by the Achievement Gap Committee; 6:00 pm at the Beloved Community Center 417 Arlington Street, Greensboro; the presentation is free and open to the public

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

Saturday November 15: The UNC-G Dept. of Advanced Learning invites parents Creativity, Organization and Foldables workshop on Nov. 15th 12:30 -2:30 at Dudley High School; 1200 Lincoln St, Greensboro; for more information, email teaguek@qcsn.com; or call 370-2316 by Nov. 8th

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

2008 Education Summit

Pulitzer prize-winning columnist Leonard Pitts headlines the Guilford Education Alliance's Education Summit to be held Thursday, November 13 at the Koury Convention Center. Doors open at 7:00 AM with breakfast and program beginning at 7:30 AM.

The summit will explore "Educating Our Children: What Works." Important information will be shared on what we must do as a school district and as a community to make certain our children are prepared for the globally competitive 21st century world.

Tickets to the breakfast are \$25 and reservations must be received by November 10th. For more information contact the Guilford Education Alliance by calling (336) 841-4332 or emailing info@guilfordeducationalliance.org.

NC Graduation Requirements Website

Over the past few years, the State Board of Education has changed graduation requirements to better reflect the skills and knowledge students need for success in the workplace, and in community colleges, colleges and universities. This Web site was created to help parents and students better understand what is required to receive a high school diploma in one easy to access location...

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/gradrequirements/>

Program in Education, Afterschool and Resiliency

The Program in Education, Afterschool, and Resiliency (PEAR) has published a new report that reviews the state of assessments in informal, afterschool, and summer science programs. Funded by the Noyce Foundation, the report, Toward a Systematic Evidence-Base for Science in Out-of-School Time: The Role of Assessment (87 pages, PDF), found a need for foundations and leaders in the field to support the creation of

Tuesday November 18: UNCG's 3rd annual Business Summit focusing on the relationship between higher education and the business community. The event will be held from 8:00 -11:30 a.m. in Cone Ballroom of Elliott University Center. The cost to attend the summit is \$25. To register, call Diane Levine at 256-1284. For more information, call David Arneke at 334-5001 (david_arneke@uncg.edu) or Diane Picciuto at 256-1280 (dmpicciu@uncg.edu).

Thursday November 20: College Tech Prep Showcase at Weaver Academy, 300 S. Spring Street, Greensboro; 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm; for more information call 370-8282

Vote Yes for Property Tax 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.propertytaxrelief.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 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!

valid and reliable assessment tools that can be used across programs. The report also advocates for the development of a quantitative tool consisting of student surveys to assess participant outcomes and an observation-based "qualitative-quantitative" tool to assess program quality...

<http://www.pearweb.org/emails/noyce%20august%202008.html>

Sixty Second Parent

Sixty Second Parent offers a unique and fresh approach to obtaining practical parenting advice. We understand that the expectations and pressures put on parents today are more complex than ever before and thus the need for a simpler support system for parents and families. We have brought together experts in child development, child health and parenting to provide sound, practical parenting information within an online community network...

<http://www.sixtysecondparent.com/about>

Absences in the Early Grades

The National Center for Children in Poverty and the Annie Casey Foundation have released Present, Engaged and Accounted for: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grade which is now available at www.NCCP.org. This applied research project focuses on chronic early absence (children missing 10% of the school year during grades K-3rd).

This report also served as the basis for the article, Absences in the Early Grades Tied to Learning Lags appearing in the October 1st issue of Education Week...

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/10/01/06absent_ep.h28.html?tmp=154292744

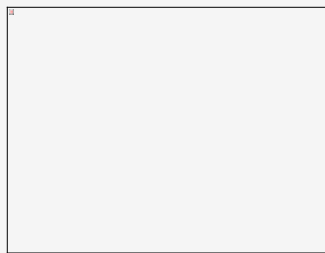
Teachers College Debate

On Tuesday, October 21, Lisa Graham Keegan, education advisor to Republican nominee John McCain and Linda Darling-Hammond, education advisor to Democratic nominee Barack Obama - met at Teachers College, Columbia University, to debate key education issues. Education has not received as much attention in the 2008 national election as many educators and reformers would have hoped. For 90 minutes on Tuesday, however, Keegan and Darling-Hammond shared the views held by their respective candidates and drew distinct differences between the two candidates. The spirited debate covered familiar yet controversial education territory. Issues on the table included teacher quality, the necessity for more research, the role of money, and assessment... www.ncforum.org, Friday



To learn how you can help fund school projects, visit

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



To donate materials to Guilford County Schools Teacher visit

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

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Report for 10/24/08

Predicting Dropouts

In its issue brief "Developing Early Warning Systems to Identify Potential High School Dropouts" the National High School Center (NHSC) finds that more students fail the ninth grade than any other grade in high school, and students who are held back in their freshman year are especially likely to drop out. The brief assesses findings collected from research performed in Chicago; Fall River, MA; and Philadelphia outlining for local educators and policymakers the importance of establishing early-warning systems for preventing dropouts... www.ncforum.org, Friday Report for 10/24/08

ACE Reports a Widening of the Attainment Gap

According to a new report from the American Council on Education (ACE), for the first time educational attainment of younger generations is not higher than previous generations. The report, Minorities in Higher Education 2008 Twenty-third Status Report, found that 35 percent of young adults aged 25 to 29 had at least an associates degree in 2006. Roughly the same percentage was found in adults aged 30 and older... www.ncforum.org, Friday Report for 10/24/08

Teacher Grants

1. The Junior League of Greensboro is funding \$7,500 worth of classroom projects in Guilford County for the 2008-09 school year. GCS projects listed on DonorsChoose.org will be considered for funding. To be eligible for a grant, teachers must place their proposal on DonorsChoose.org by Friday, November 28. For more information on how to submit a proposal, go to www.donorschoose.org or e-mail JLG.Projects@gmail.com.

2. The Enrichment Fund is funding field trip scholarships up to \$250 and teacher mini grants up to \$300 for teacher projects and \$1,000 for group projects. The deadlines for the field trip scholarships are January 7th and April 16th. The dealine for a teacher grant is November 14th. For more information visit www.enrichmentfund.org.

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

Inclusion Champion Award to Honor Efforts on Behalf of Youth With Disabilities

Deadline: December 1, 2008

The Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation (<http://meaf.org/>), which works to help young people with disabilities to lead full and productive lives, is accepting nominations for the MEAF Inclusion Champion Award. The award honors individuals who have made significant efforts to promote the full inclusion of youth with disabilities in society.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015456/meafgrant>

For additional RFPs in Disabilities, visit:

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

Olympus Launches 2009 National Innovation Awards Program

Deadline: November 21, 2008

Olympus (<http://www.olympusamerica.com/>), a precision technology leader creating innovative opto-digital solutions in healthcare, life science, and consumer electronics products, has announced the Olympus Innovation Awards Program for 2009. Executed by Olympus in partnership with the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (<http://nciia.org/>), the program recognizes individuals who have fostered or demonstrated innovative thinking in education.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015457/nciia>

Surdna Arts Teachers Fellowship Program Invites Applications From Public Arts High School Teachers

Deadline: November 14, 2008 (Letter of Intent to Apply)

The Surdna Foundation (<http://www.surdna.org>) has announced the ninth year of the Surdna Arts Teachers Fellowship Program, a national initiative to support the artistic revitalization of outstanding arts teachers in public arts high schools.

Participating teachers will design individualized courses of study that will provide both immersion in their own creative work and the opportunity to interact with other professional artists in their fields.

Visit the Surdna Foundation Web site for complete program information.

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15014671/surdna>

=20 For additional RFPs in Arts and Culture, visit:
http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_arts.jhtml

Student Volunteers Invited to Apply for Prudential Spirit of Community Awards

Deadline: October 31, 2008

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, sponsored by Prudential Financial (<http://www.prudential.com>) and administered by the National Association of Secondary School Principals=20 (<http://www.nassp.org>), are designed to honor middle and high school students for volunteer community service. Eligible applicants include any young person in the United States who is in grades five through twelve and who has engaged in a volunteer activity that occurred at least partly during the twelve months prior to the date of application.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15014741/prudential>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

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

Stonyfield Teams with KaBOOM! to Fund Play Spaces for Two Communities

Deadline: December 31, 2008

Organic yogurt maker Stonyfield Farm (<http://stonyfield.com/>) is teaming with KaBOOM! (<http://kaboom.org/>), the national non-profit dedicated to bringing play back to the lives of children, to provide much-needed places to play for two deserving schools or youth organizations.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015326/stoneyfield>

For additional RFPs in Athletics/Sports, visit:

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

Middle School Sustainability Challenge

Deadline: March 15, 2009

Middle school students across the United States are invited to submit their solutions to environmental problems in their communities for the Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, a national sustainability education initiative.

RFP Link: <http://www.wecanchange.com/>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

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

Application Period Open for Toyota Tapestry Grants for Science Teachers

Deadline: January 21, 2009

A partnership between Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. , Inc. (http://www.toyota.com/about/our_commitment/philanthropy/index.html) and the National Science Teachers Association (<http://nsta.org/>), the Toyota Tapestry Grants for Science Teachers program offers grants to K-12 science teachers for innovative projects that enhance science education in the school and/or school district.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15015005/tapestry>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

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

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 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

Big Read Offers Support for Community Reading Projects

Deadline: February 3, 2009

The Big Read (<http://www.neabigread.org/>) is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts (<http://www.nea.gov/>) designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. Presented in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (<http://www.imls.gov/>) and in cooperation with Arts Midwest (<http://www.artsmidwest.org/>), the initiative brings together partners across the United States to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

RFP Link:

<http://www.neabigread.org/guidelines.php>

For additional RFPs in Arts and Culture, visit:

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

NEA Foundation Offers Funding for Public School Library Books

Deadline: November 20, 2008

The NEA Foundation (<http://www.neafoundation.org/>), in collaboration with the National Education Association (<http://nea.org/>), is accepting applications for Books Across America Library Books Awards. The program will make awards of \$1,000 each to public schools working to provide economically disadvantaged students with new books in their school libraries.

RFP Link:

<http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/BAAawards2008.htm>

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