



## Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

March 18, 2009

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### 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

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

Also, please visit our newly re-designed website, [www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org](http://www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org). Let us know of any suggestions or comments that will help enhance the website and make it more useful for the community.

### On Stage! 2009

*On Stage!*, the Guilford Education Alliance's talent showcase featuring more than 400 Guilford County Schools students, will be held Thursday, April 30 at 7:00pm at War Memorial Auditorium. Tickets are available at TicketMaster.com, at the Coliseum box office or by phone at 1-800-745-3000. All tickets are \$15, so reserve your seats now!

### Arts Education Call to Action

On Wednesday, March 25th, at 10am in Room 643 in the Legislative Office Building, the Senate Committee on Education/Higher Education is scheduled to hear and discuss Senate Bill 66, requiring all students to have one unit in arts education for graduation. In order for the bill to be heard and voted on by the full Senate, it must be favorably adopted by the Education/Higher Education Committee. Packing the room with arts education requirement supporters is absolutely critical. Please mark your calendars and make your plans to be in Raleigh on March 25th. For more information, contact Altina Layman at [alayman@uacarts.org](mailto:alayman@uacarts.org).

### Teachers' Jobs, Class Sizes May Fall to Budget

Teachers in Guilford County could lose jobs depending on the state budget, school board members and county commissioners heard again Thursday March 12th. Superintendent Maurice "Mo" Green told schools and county officials in a budget discussion that he might have to cut jobs and increase class sizes if state education funding is cut as deeply as has been warned. [http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/03/12/article/teachers\\_jobs\\_class\\_sizes\\_may\\_fall\\_to\\_budget](http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/03/12/article/teachers_jobs_class_sizes_may_fall_to_budget)

### Guilford County Principal Highlighted in Publication

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 March 26:

Guilford County Board of Education meeting, 6:00 pm, 712 N. Eugene Street, Greensboro; for an agenda, go to [www.gcsnc.com](http://www.gcsnc.com)

**Thursday March 26 and Friday March 27:** The 4th Annual Youth Violence Prevention Conference; for more information and to register, visit [www.charlotteahec.org](http://www.charlotteahec.org) or call 704-512-6091

**Tuesday March 31:** Tommy Watson will be speaking at Windsor Recreation Center, 1601 E. Lee Street, Greensboro from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm; the event is free and open to the public; for more information, call 337-2771

**Tuesday March 31:** "Surviving the Teen Years without Murder, Mayhem, and Misfortune" presented by Dr. Michie Dew & Dr. Heath McCain; 7:00 pm; The Piedmont School, 815 Old Mill Road, High Point; for more information or to RSVP, email [info@thepiedmontschool.com](mailto:info@thepiedmontschool.com) or call 883-0992

**Thursday April 30:** On Stage! Showcase of Student Talent; 7:00 pm; War Memorial Auditorium; for more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.guilfordeducationallian](http://www.guilfordeducationallian)

Northern Guilford High School Principal Joe Yeager is one of several principals nationwide who will be highlighted in the Southern Regional Education Board's High Schools That Work newsletter, "Competent Leaders Make the Difference in Achieving School and Student Goals." This publication is available online at <http://www.sreb.org/publications/2008/newsletters/08SummerConferenceNewsletter.asp>

### Education Gains in Budget

Education will make out best in a recession-era budget proposal Gov. Beverly Perdue will present today. It looks bad for everything else. Perdue said Monday, March 16th, she wants a 2.5 percent increase in the education budget paid for with money from the federal stimulus and from state funds. The increase would amount to \$350 million more spread across all education levels, from kindergarten through college. <http://www.newsobserver.com/politics/story/1445949.html>

### More NC Students Succeed on AP Exams

Thousands more North Carolina students now take and succeed on Advanced Placement (AP) exams than in 2003, according to a report released by the College Board on February 4th. In the "5th Annual AP Report to the Nation," North Carolina is identified as one of 17 states in which the percentage of students in the class of 2008 that scored a 3 or higher on at least one AP exam exceeds the national average. <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/newsroom/news/2008-09/20090204-01>

### Report Praises State's Improved Graduation Rate

North Carolina is among the top 10 states where high school graduation rates dramatically improved between 2002 and 2006, according to a report released Thursday March 12th. The report from researchers at Johns Hopkins University said North Carolina's graduation rate improved from 68 percent in 2002 to 72 percent in 2006, ranking the state eighth among states that saw gains. The state had a net gain of 3,900 graduates during that time span. [http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/03/12/article/report\\_praises\\_states\\_improved\\_graduation\\_rate](http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/03/12/article/report_praises_states_improved_graduation_rate)

### Harrison Elected State Board of Education Chairman

Former Cumberland County Schools, Superintendent Bill Harrison was elected Chairman of the State Board of Education by his fellow Board members as part of their regular March meeting. "Dr. Harrison is strongly committed to improving our public schools and giving every child a chance to succeed," said Gov. Bev Perdue. "As CEO and Chairman there will be a clear line of accountability and efficiency as North Carolina strives to make our schools the best they can be." <http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/newsroom/news/2008-09/20090305-02>

ce.org  
/alliance/stage.php

**Thursday May 7: Children's Mental Health Community Resource Fair;** 2-6 pm; for more information contact Lisa Salo at 389-6091 or [lsalo@quilfordcenter.com](mailto:lsalo@quilfordcenter.com)

## Summer Programs

**The Piedmont School** offers Traditional Summer School and One-on-One Tutoring; register by June 15 by calling (336) 883-0992 or visiting [www.thepiedmontschool.com](http://www.thepiedmontschool.com)

**Youth First Teen Summer Camp** will take place at the Folk Teen Center (3910 Clifton Road, Greensboro) Monday - Friday from June 15th to August 7th; the day camps last from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm and is \$42 per week; Pre-registration begins on March 8th at the Sportsplex Summer Camp expo from 1-6 pm; for more information, go to

<http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Parks/programs/youthfirst/>

**Greensboro Children's Museum Summer Camp Buzz!** Weekly camps will take place June 15th - August 14th; morning camps are 8:30 - 12:30 and afternoon camps are 1:30 to 5:30; also a full day option; scholarships are available; for more information call 574-2898 x 305 or go to [www.qcmuseum.com](http://www.qcmuseum.com)

## NC-DPI Web Highlights

Below is a link to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction web highlights that include:

- PBS Initiative Report for 2006-07 Online
- Academic Support and Instructional Services (ASIS) Launch New Site
- Site Reflects Changes to Curriculum, Instruction and Technology
- NC Healthy Schools Offers New Lessons for Elementary Educators
- "Got Geography?" Examines Geography Lessons with 21st Century Flare
- E-Newsletter for Student Support Services Now Online

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

## Assistive Technology for Individuals

Assistive technology (AT) has the potential to enhance the quality of life for students with learning disabilities (LD) by providing them with a means to compensate for their difficulties, and highlight their abilities. Because students with learning problems have individual strengths, limitations, interests, and experiences, a technology tool that is helpful in one situation or setting may be of little use under different circumstances. <http://www.quilfordeducationalliance.org/news/documents/assistivetechology.pdf>

## Obama on Education: "Dropping Out...is No Longer an Option"

In his address to a joint session of Congress, President Obama made a strong case for improving the educational outcomes of all children. His words bear repeating verbatim, particularly his call for all Americans to commit to at least one year of postsecondary education or training -- education for which every high school graduate must be ready: "In a global economy where the most valuable skill you can sell is your knowledge, a good education is no longer just a pathway to opportunity -- it is a prerequisite.

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs045/1102230245795/archive/1102486494427.html#LETTER.BLOCK14>

## The 3 Rs? A Fourth is Crucial, Too: Recess

The best way to improve children's performance in the classroom may be to get them out of it. New research suggests that play and down time are as important to a child's academic experience as reading, science, math, and that regular recess, fitness or nature time can influence



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

[Click here to learn more](#)

### **Teacher Supply Warehouse**

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

[Click here to learn more](#)

### **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!

behavior, concentration and even grades. A study published this month in the journal Pediatrics studied the links between recess and classroom behavior among about 11,000 children age 8 and 9.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/24/health/24well.html?\\_r=1&emc=eta](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/24/health/24well.html?_r=1&emc=eta)

### **Bills Call for Amendments to Graduation Requirements**

HB 149 and SB 66, both filed earlier this month, call for an act directing the State

Board of Education to require one arts education credit for graduation from high school as

recommended by the Joint Select Committee on Arts Education.

[http://www.ncforum.org/doclib/2009\\_0227.pdf](http://www.ncforum.org/doclib/2009_0227.pdf)

### **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](http://www.nczoo.org) and click on the Education Link to fill out an application

#### **VSA arts and Volkswagen Announce Arts Competition for Young Artists With Disabilities**

**Deadline: June 19, 2009**

VSA arts (<http://www.vsarts.org/>), an international nonprofit organization working to help create a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts, and Volkswagen Group America (<http://www.volkswagengroupamerica.com/>) are now accepting entries for Accelerate, a juried exhibition of young emerging artists with disabilities.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017064/vsaarts>

For additional RFPs in Arts and Culture, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_arts.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_arts.jhtml)

#### **Do Something Announces New Group Grant Program for Young Community Service Volunteers**

**Deadline: March 9, 2009 Phase 1; April 6, 2009 Phase 2**

Do Something (<http://www.dosomething.org/>) and Mountain Dew Voltage (<http://www.energizeyourcommunity.com/>) have announced a new grants program for groups of young volunteers working to improve their communities.

To become a sponsor of the Guilford Education Alliance, visit [www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org/support/index.php](http://www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org/support/index.php)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017067/dosomething>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_children.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_children.jhtml)

#### **Nominations Invited for Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes**

**Deadline: April 30, 2009**

The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders in the United States and Canada who have made a positive difference to people and the planet.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017068/barronprize>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_children.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_children.jhtml)

#### **Earth Island Institute Invites Applications From Young People for Brower Youth Awards**

**Deadline: May 15, 2009**

The Earth Island Institute's (<http://www.earthisland.org/>) annual Brower Youth Awards honor young people between the ages of 13 and 22 living in North America for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017070/browerawards>

For additional RFPs in Environment, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_children.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_children.jhtml)

#### **American Library Association Offers Literacy-Related Gaming Grants**

**Deadline: March 20, 2009**

With support from Verizon Communications

(<http://www.verizon.com/>), the American Library Association's Office for Literacy and Outreach Services

(<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/olos/index.cfm>)

is offering grants to public, school, or academic librarians who have found a creative way to connect literacy and gaming. Grants are designed to help librarians expand and further develop innovative literacy gaming services for children and youth between the ages of 10 and 18.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017168/librarygaming>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_education.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml)

#### **Dominion Foundation Accepting Grant Applications for 2009-10 School Year from Elementary and Secondary School Teachers**

**Deadline: May 1, 2009**

Energy company Dominion and the Dominion Foundation

(<http://www.dom.com/about/community/foundation/index.jsp>) provide elementary and secondary educators with funding to encourage the development of new programs that strengthen math and science education through the study of energy or the environment.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017170/edugrants>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:  
[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_education.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml)

**Teens for Planet Earth Invites Entries for Service Awards**

**Deadline: April 15, 2009**

The Wildlife Conservation Society (<http://www.wcs.org/>) invites Teens for Planet Earth (<http://teens4planetearth.com/teenshome>) teams to submit applications for its 2009 Teens for Planet Earth Service Awards. The awards recognize teenagers around the world for service-learning projects that demonstrate their commitment to the environment.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017251/planetearth>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_children.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_children.jhtml)

**North Carolina Science and Mathematics Teachers Invited to Apply for Career Award**

**Deadline: September 15, 2009**

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund (<http://www.bwfund.org/>) and the North Carolina State Board of Education have launched the Career Award for Science and Mathematics Teachers, a new grant program to support and encourage the work of science and mathematics teachers in North Carolina's K-12 public schools.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017253/bwfund>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

[http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat\\_education.jhtml](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_education.jhtml)

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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

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