



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

March 4, 2009

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday March 10:

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

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

Community Members See the Challenges Principals Face

Compared to a high school principal, UNCG Chancellor Linda Brady's job entails overseeing a much larger population of students and educators. But Brady recently discovered she has more in common with her peers in education than she realized. "I was impressed with the shared values and challenges facing secondary education and facing universities," said Brady, who spent Wednesday February 25th shadowing Page High School principal Marilyn Foley as part of the Guilford Education Alliance's third annual Principal for a Day initiative...More than 50 corporate and community members participated in Principal for a Day, which gives participants a first-hand look at what Guilford County is doing to improve instruction and lets them experience what is demanded of principals. Participants spent the morning following principals through the normal routines of the day, such as bus duty and visiting classrooms.

"This is a way for us to bring people into schools who normally aren't there," said Margaret Arbuckle, executive director of the Guilford Education Alliance.

"Everyone has an opinion about how we can improve our schools."

http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/02/26/article/community_members_see_the_challenges_principals_face

On Stage! 2009

On Stage!, the Guilford Education Alliance's talent showcase featuring over 300 Guilford County Schools students, will be held Thursday, April 30 at 7:00pm at War Memorial Auditorium. Tickets will be available starting March 2nd at TicketMaster.com or by phone at 1-800-745-3000.

Two Worlds in Guilford Public Education

I don't know what theoretical physicists say about the existence of parallel universes, but I do know there are two different worlds in public education. In the "world" of Guilford County School officials, things are fine. This is the news the public gets through school system public relations efforts and the media. Programs with cool names such as Mission Possible and Andrews Aviation Academy are established and may help some students.

Thursday March 26:

Guilford County Board of Education meeting, 6:00 pm, 712 N. Eugene Street, Greensboro; for an agenda, go to www.qcsnc.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 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

Thursday April 30:

On Stage! Showcase of Student Talent; 7:00 pm; War Memorial Auditorium; for more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.guilfordeducationalliance.org/alliance/stage.php

[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

Youth First Teen Summer Camp will take place at the Folk

<http://www.carolinapeacemaker.com/news/Article/Article.asp?NewsID=94229&SID=16>

Perdue Taps into NC Lottery Funds Early in Term

During her campaign for governor, Beverly Perdue often said she wanted take extra steps to ensure profits from the North Carolina Education Lottery were spent solely on education. She was worried lawmakers might tap the ready source of cash for something else. And less than two months in office, faced with a brutal economy that's sapping the state of revenue, both lottery critics and allies say she's become the prime example of her own fears. Perdue said last week she would use \$87.6 million in lottery profits to ensure there's money available in the state's day-to-day operating accounts to pay the bills through mid-April.

http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/03/03/article/perdue_taps_into_nc_lottery_funds_early_in_term

Wake, Charlotte Schools Test Even

A newly released report on academic performance says there's not much difference in student test scores in the Wake County and Charlotte-Mecklenburg school systems despite their different policies on the assignment of low-income pupils.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1419640.html>

A Lesson in Who's in Charge

The leadership structure for public education in North Carolina should be similar to models used by the university and community college systems, leaders of an education think tank said on February 10th. The Public School Forum of North Carolina proposed getting rid of the position of state superintendent of public instruction and requiring the legislature to appoint six members to an expanded State Board of Education. The board would choose an education commissioner, just as the UNC Board of Governors elects a president to run the university system. The forum added its recommendations to other proposals for changing the public education hierarchy.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1401579.html>

Puriefoy Meets with Secretary of Education Arne Duncan

On February 2nd, PEN's president and CEO met with newly confirmed US Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, in one of the first meetings with education organizations that Duncan has scheduled since taking over the Education Department. Puriefoy pushed the importance of public engagement, the importance of sufficient funding to sustain and support the progress made in reform, the work of local education funds, and the need to more effectively integrate the various federal categorical programs into linked to student

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/>

achievement.

http://campaign.constantcontact.com/render?v=001tHFhGWfDXilgkmzrY11R7sufvNrOSlyiGGHPi8LBPp8YJtKFEDxLhhEEitR3vwZZ3TJwvNDMZTDEIfaEru_rImK9V8J6xmCvIRI7zsdVngX5uRHTW2gltzBhAxcS36DVzo0XpRb-YZ8%3D#Article0

Backers of '21st-Century' Skills Take Flak

The phrase "21st-century skills" is everywhere in education policy discussions these days, from faculty lounges to the highest echelons of the U.S. education system. Broadly speaking, it refers to a push for schools to teach critical-thinking, analytical, and technology skills, in addition to the "soft skills" of creativity, collaboration, and communication that some experts argue will be in high demand as the world increasingly shifts to a global, entrepreneurial, and service-based workplace.

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/04/23pushback_ep.h28.html?tm_p=1318171410



Spotlight on Education Deficit

In Washington -- President Obama on Tuesday February 24th laid out a set of challenges for the nation to meet in job training and college attainment, part of an effort to give every child a "complete and competitive education." The president, in his first address to a joint session of Congress, said his administration would provide the support needed to give the U.S. the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by 2020. He said there was a vital need for Americans to complete more years of education if the nation is to compete globally.

http://www.latimes.com/news/education/la-na-obama-education25-2009feb25_0,2871040.story?track=rss

To learn how you can help fund school projects, visit

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

Thanks to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, DonorsChoose.org is offering a "Double Your Impact" challenge for all college preparatory projects submitted from high-need and/or rural classrooms. Submit your

National Standards Gain Steam

National standards--once the untouchable "third rail" of American education policy--now have the backing of the nation's governors, a growing number of education leaders, and the U.S. secretary of education. The National Governors Association last week adopted a policy statement endorsing a process to develop common academic standards by comparing student performance on international tests.

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/04/23nga_ep.h28.html?tmp=238117495

What Arne Duncan Thinks of No Child Left Behind

Newly minted Education Secretary Arne Duncan has big plans for improving the nation's schools. His first order of business is drumming up support for a stimulus measure that includes an unprecedented \$140 billion for education. The 44-year-old former leader of Chicago Public Schools says the money will modernize schools, help stave off teacher layoffs, and spur meaningful reforms. "The fact is that we are not just in an economic crisis; we are in an educational crisis," he says. "We have to educate ourselves to a better economy." The subsequent item on his agenda will be fixing the Bush Administration's No Child Left Behind

proposal to DonorsChoose.org by February 22nd; for more information visit www.donorschoose.org

To donate materials to Guilford County Schools Teacher Supply Warehouse visit the Teacher Supply Warehouse <http://www.gcsnc.com/teacherwarehouse/index.html>

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.

law. His opinion of it: "I think we are lying to children and families when we tell children that they are meeting standards and, in fact, they are woefully unprepared to be successful in high school and have almost no chance of going to a good university and being successful."

<http://www.usnews.com/articles/education/2009/02/05/what-arne-duncan-thinks-of-no-child-left-behind.html>

High School Innovation Continues to Stem Exodus of Dropouts

Innovative high schools in North Carolina continue to show strong evidence of success in keeping students engaged in school and on track to graduation. Students who are enrolled in the pioneering small schools are significantly less likely to drop out than their peers in larger, traditional high schools.

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs045/1102230245795/archive/1102248052663.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

Safety Makes Cents

The Guilford County Child Fatality Prevention Team and Community Child Protection Team is offering a monetary citation for outstanding work in the field of childhood injury prevention. Please contact Terri Whitt at 641-6696 or twhitt@co.guilford.nc.us for details or any additional concerns or questions about "Safety Makes Cents".

ESA Foundation Offers Funding for Youth Programs

Deadline: April 15, 2009

The ESA (Entertainment Software Association) Foundation (<http://www.theesa.com/foundation>) is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the quality of life, health, and welfare of America's youth. The foundation seeks to harness the collective power of the interactive entertainment industry to create positive social impact in our communities.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016984/theesa>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

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

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!](#)

**Invent Your World Challenge Invites Young People to Submit Invention Ideas
Deadline: March 15, 2009**

Through the Invent Your World Challenge, Ashoka GenV (<http://www.genv.net/>) and the Lemelson Foundation (<http://www.lemelson.org/>) will help fifty young inventors use their creations to address a local or global challenge and create positive change.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016985/genvinvent>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

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

**Honeywell and National Center for Missing and Exploited
Children Announce Fourth Annual Search for America's
Safest Teachers**

Deadline: March 23, 2009

Honeywell (<http://www.honeywell.com/hhs>) and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (<http://www.missingkids.com/>) have announced the launch of the fourth annual Got 2B Safe! Awards program, which is designed to encourage teachers at elementary schools across the U.S. to help their students learn valuable and potentially life-saving lessons.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15016987/got2bsafe>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

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

Healthcare Initiative Launched to Combat Childhood Obesity

The New York City-based Alliance for a Healthier Generation (<http://www.healthiergeneration.org/>), a joint initiative of the American Heart Association (<http://www.americanheart.org/>) and the William J. Clinton Foundation (<http://www.clintonfoundation.org/>), has announced the creation of the Alliance Healthcare Initiative, a collaborative effort by national medical associations, leading insurers, and employers to provide comprehensive health benefits to children and families for the prevention, assessment, and treatment of childhood obesity.

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15017010/story>

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