



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

April 1, 2009

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Support Guilford Education Alliance

Guilford Education Alliance is dependent on donations from the community for its operating expenses.

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

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!

Budget Reductions Possible for Guilford County Schools

As Guilford County Schools continues to prepare its 2009-10 budget, district leadership is discussing ways to cut expenses while accommodating anticipated budget reductions and to redirect resources to support the strategic plan. District leaders anticipate having to reduce or redirect approximately \$22 million in the 2009-10 budget. http://www.gcsnc.com/newsbriefs/archive/2009/3_27.html

Tdap Vaccine Required for Rising 6th Graders

Do you have a rising sixth-grader? If so, there is an important change in school entry requirements for tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap) that could result in Guilford County Schools and other districts being forced to suspend students from school. All rising sixth-grade students who have not had a Tdap vaccination since July 2004 must have a booster shot before school starts in August 2009.

<http://www.gcsnc.com/parents/tdap.htm>

The Guilford County Department of Public Health has multiple locations and dates where this vaccine is available. For a list of times and locations, go to <http://www.guilfordhealth.org/>

DMC in the Juvenile Justice System: Listening to the Voices of Our Youth

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

Friday April 3 - Saturday April 4: *Bridge to an Organic Future: Opportunities for Health and the Environment*; Conference in Carboro, NC; for more information, visit www.beyondpesticides.org/forum

Saturday April 4: Annual City-Wide Earth Day Celebration; 1-5 pm; Price Park/Kathleen Clay Edwards Library; 1420 Price Park Road, Greensboro; free and open to the public; for more information contact Yvonne Foust at 373-2053 or fousty@greensboro-nc.gov

Tuesday April 7: Guilford County Board of Education meeting; 6:00 pm; 712 N. Eugene Street, Greensboro; for an agenda, go to www.qcsnc.com

Saturday April 18: *Yes I Can Go to College!!*; 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm; New Light Missionary Baptist Church, 1105 Willow Road, Greensboro; Hosted by the NAACP

Tuesday April 21: Guilford County Board of Education Budget meeting 11:30 am; 712 N. Eugene Street, Greensboro; for an agenda go to www.qcsnc.com

Disproportionate minority contact (DMC) is a nationwide public health disparity, with minority youth comprising 34% of the juvenile population, but representing 62% of the nation's detained youth (Hsia, Bridges, & McHale, 2004). Multiple analytical approaches have been used to address DMC, but to bolster those findings, a qualitative approach is necessary. Using participatory action research embedded within a cultural bioecological framework, the current study explores the reflections and lived experiences of youth impacted by racial disparities in the juvenile justice system. Results are summarized under the themes of neighborhood influences, lack of positive adult role models, disengagement at home, school and community, experiences with law enforcement/court system, perceptions of racial inequality, and what the future holds. Youth-developed solutions for change are offered. http://repositories.cdlib.org/ucsb_ed/spaces/vol1/iss2/art3/

Perdue to Fight Big Classes

Gov. Beverly Perdue promised teachers Friday March 27th that she would fight proposals to deal with the state's budget shortfall by increasing the average number of students in public school classrooms. One more student to a classroom would eventually grow to two, three, or four more, Perdue said, giving teachers less time with each student. <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1461224.html>

Schools Plan Layoffs Out of Caution

Despite Gov. Beverly Perdue's assurances that the federal stimulus money is a lifesaver for schools, her promises haven't kept local school districts from planning hundreds of teacher layoffs. Wake County, for example, is preparing for a 5 percent cut and warning that it cannot rehire about 700 teachers whose contracts expire at the end of June. Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools may increase class size and cut as many as 350 teachers. <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/story/1452019.html>

Should We Have National Standards

The question of whether the United States should adopt national educational standards is all over the Internet. Countries like Finland, whose students always get top scores in international comparisons, have already adopted national standards for all subjects. (It is true that Finland has a more homogeneous population than we do, but the large-scale changes they made to their educational system are still impressive.) http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2009/03/18/031809tln_norton.h20.html?tkn=XZNF01jYcITScHuRNpJZDUzt6KDV7XMJQozC

Thursday April 23: Guilford County Board of Education meeting; 6:00 pm; 712 N. Eugene Street, Greensboro; for an agenda, go to www.qcsnc.com

Saturday April 25: Black Child Development Institute is hosting "Entering the College Zone"; a pre-college program that empowers middle school students and their parents by equipping them with the skills and resources that will allow them to navigate through the college preparation and admission process; for more information, visit

http://www.blackchilddevelopment.org/college_zone.html

Tuesday April 28 - Wednesday April 29:

The North Carolina Department of

Public Instruction (NCDPI) Raising Achievement and Closing Gaps Section

is hosting a two-day professional

development opportunity, "Ruby Payne's workshop, A Framework for Understanding Poverty," April 28-29, at the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh .

More information is available at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/racg/>

[training/rubypayne/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/racg/training/rubypayne/)

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

Wednesday May 6th - Wednesday June 10th: Win-

Special Education Stimulus Money Raising Cautions

For years, school officials have complained that the federal government hasn't met what they say is its obligation to fully fund the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, which governs the education of 6.7 million students with disabilities. Within the next few weeks, though, the federal tap will open up, releasing an extra \$6.1 billion for districts to use for special education, with another \$6.1 billion to come later this year. [http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/18/](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/18/25idea_ep.h28.html?tkn=TV[FO%2FHKOHXcCtpoUuNrVaj8Bbmg%2B%2Bj558AW)

[25idea_ep.h28.html?tkn=TV\[FO%2FHKOHXcCtpoUuNrVaj8Bbmg%2B%2Bj558AW](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/18/25idea_ep.h28.html?tkn=TV[FO%2FHKOHXcCtpoUuNrVaj8Bbmg%2B%2Bj558AW)

Title I Turnaround Programs Due for Big Cash Boost

In the seven years since enactment of the No Child Left Behind Act, the number of academically troubled schools identified for turnarounds has grown steadily. The federal money for the work of turning them around hadn't-until now. The change came last month when President Barack Obama signed the economic-stimulus measure into law. The \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will give states a previously unexpected \$3.4 billion to spend on improving the schools that are farthest from reaching the NCLB law's goal that all children be proficient in reading and math by the end of the 2013-14 school year.

[http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/18/](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/18/25improve.h28.html?tkn=[WUF0YM8545BQtKWXUO76U4I0613zrkUQHIM)

[25improve.h28.html?tkn=\[WUF0YM8545BQtKWXUO76U4I0613zrkUQHIM](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/18/25improve.h28.html?tkn=[WUF0YM8545BQtKWXUO76U4I0613zrkUQHIM)

Breaking Away from Tradition

As the world of online education continues to evolve, brick-and-mortar schools are incorporating digital curricula and virtual teachers into their classrooms in ways that have surprised even the advocates of the online education movement. Once mostly catering to advanced students who educators believed had the motivation to pursue education online, virtual courses are growing in popularity for struggling students, too. And school districts and teachers that once felt threatened by the surge of online education are embracing the technology, often in a hybrid model that blends face-to-face learning with digital teaching and curricula.

[http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/26/](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/26/26intro.h28.html?tkn=MYVFriRpi1muWW1THj52bWcKMS9g8Sz1ayB6)

[26intro.h28.html?tkn=MYVFriRpi1muWW1THj52bWcKMS9g8Sz1ayB6](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/26/26intro.h28.html?tkn=MYVFriRpi1muWW1THj52bWcKMS9g8Sz1ayB6)

Parents Wary of Their Finances Deciding Whether to Keep Their Kids in Private School

Caroline Hall was supposed to sign the contract a month ago guaranteeing a kindergarten spot for her son at an Upper East Side

Win Resolutions is hosting C.R.E.W., a free educational conflict resolution program for parents and their children; for more information or to sign up visit

<http://www.winwinresolutions.org/crew.html>

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

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 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.gcmuseum.com

private school. He had already spent two happy years attending its early-childhood program. But Ms. Hall, a corporate counsel, began ducking the school's calls. Where was her deposit toward the \$22,000 tuition? The school had an eager waiting list. Her son, 4, knew the answer: "I can't go here next year because Mommy didn't get a big enough bonus."

<http://atlefblog.org/?p=12>

Stimulus May Not Benefit Teachers

President Barack Obama promises his economic stimulus law will save hundreds of thousands of teaching jobs, but some states could end up spending the money on playground equipment or wallpaper -- and the president might not have the authority to stop them. Obama says nearly all of the education money in the Recovery Act, which will start going out to states this week, is designed to retain teachers.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/politics/story/1464813.html>

Duncan's Take on Teacher Prep and 'Union Jobs'

During our interview with Education Secretary Arne Duncan the other day, my colleagues Michele and Alyson pressed him on the assurances states need to fulfill in order to receive their second chunk of money from the economic-stimulus package. (This link includes a video of the interview) <http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/teacherbeat/>

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

Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation Announces Call for Teacher Award Application

Deadline: December 4, 2009

The Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation created the Terri Lynne Lokoff/Children's Tylenol National Child Care Teacher Awards to acknowledge the critical role of child care teachers in providing quality early care and education. Child care teachers from all fifty states and

the District of Columbia are invited to apply.
http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=246000035



Child Welfare Foundation Offers Support for Projects to t Children in the United States

Deadline: July 15, 2009

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

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation works to provide other nonprofit organizations with the means to educate the public about the needs of children across the United States.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=246000033

[Click here to learn more](#)

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

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!

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

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)