



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

August 26, 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 education

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

Also, be sure to join our new Facebook page!

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Jamestown-NC/Guilford-Education-Alliance/57559838156>

2009 Education Summit November 12th!

Save the date for 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. Look for information in September on how to purchase tables and tickets.

Principals Say Cuts Not as Bad as Feared

Guilford County received about \$20 million less than anticipated from the state this year. Despite that, most principals say impact to the classrooms is minimal. http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/08/22/article/principals_say_cuts_not_as_bad_as_feared

Harvest for Teachers Helps Ease School Supply Needs

School supplies or supper?

It's a difficult decision for lots of parents, fifth-grade teacher Debra Hufschmitt said.

But for many families at Sedgefield Elementary, that struggle eased when \$1,300 in donated supplies showed up in the school's cafeteria.

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 August 27: Guilford County Board of Education Meeting; 6:00 pm; 712 N. Eugene St., Greensboro; for an agenda, go to www.gcsnc.com

Saturday August 29: Know your legal rights as parents and community advocates; Parents Supporting Parents will be hosting a free Legal Educational Training; 10 am to 3 pm; for an appointment call Lissa Harris at 508-1356 or Linda Mozell at 674-8940

Saturday September 26: Building Bridges II: Empowering Parents Institute; 8:00 am to 4:00 pm; Kernodle Middle; lunch is provided; for more information call 370-2319 or email antkows@gcsnc.com

Tuesday September 29: Southeast Educational Forum at Southeast High School Auditorium; send questions you would like answered to seguilfordcommittee@gmail.com; questions to 674-6609 or dlg924@bellsouth.net

Guilford County Schools Regions

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

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

http://www.news-record.com/content/2009/08/20/article/harvest_for_teachers_helps_ease_school_supply_needs

Back-to-School By the Numbers: 2009

Click the link below and scroll to the 4th story to see some fun facts about Guilford County Schools, such as:

- This year, GCS is expecting to enroll approximately 71,079 students in grades K-12 in 120 schools.
- GCS has 1,430,000 books in media centers, which means there are 18.3 books per student.
- This year, each student will spend approximately 72,900 minutes in school. http://www.gcsnc.com/newsbriefs/archive/2009/8_21.html

Mission Low Performing in Guilford County Schools?

Guilford County Schools' Mission Possible program is often cited by school board critics in Wake County who argue that intensive funding is a better way than busing to help high-poverty schools. Well, the newly released state ABCs test results may put a dent in that idea.

<http://blogs.newsobserver.com/wakeed/mission-low-performing-in-guilford-county-schools>

Wake Schools to Get Award for Diversity

The National School Boards Association's Council of Urban Boards of Education announced this week that the Wake County school system will receive an award for its school diversity efforts.

Wake got the recognition for its "outstanding achievements and continued progress" after being nominated for the Annual Award for Urban School Board Excellence. <http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1646724.html>

Urban Education Secretary in Rural Hamlet, NC

It goes without saying that U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan, who spent his educational career in big-city settings, is not as attuned to the needs of rural districts as the needs of urban ones. Duncan appeared at a town hall meeting with Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack (the former Democratic governor of Iowa), in the small town of Hamlet, N.C.

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/arne_duncan/

State's SAT Score Drops a Point

North Carolina students' average score on the SAT college entrance exam dropped a point this past school year, mirroring a nationwide decline. The state's high school seniors in the 2008-09 school year had a



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](#)

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

ained math and reading average score of 1,006, down from 1,007 ear before.

[//www.newsobserver.com/news/](http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1661610.html)

[education/story/1661610.html](http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1661610.html)

Gates, Viacom TV Special to Kick Off Major Education Initiative

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has announced that a national education initiative it co-developed with Viacom will launch formally on September 8 with a thirty-minute special aired simultaneously across all of Viacom's U.S. television networks, including BET, MTV, VH1, CMT, Comedy Central, Spike TV, and Nickelodeon.

<http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/news/story.jhtml?id=262500018>

Dangling Money, Obama Pushes Education Shift

Holding out billions of dollars as a potential windfall, the Obama administration is persuading state after state to rewrite education laws to open the door to more charter schools and expand the use of student test scores for judging teachers.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/17/](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/17/education/17educ.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=race%20to%20the%20top&st=cse)

[education/17educ.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=race%20to%20the%20top&st=cse](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/17/education/17educ.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=race%20to%20the%20top&st=cse)

Research Doesn't Offer Much Guidance on Turnarounds

Ever since U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan called for turning around 5,000 of the nation's worst-performing schools, the phone has been ringing steadily at the University of Virginia's School Turnaround Specialist Program. Most of the calls are from educators looking for expert advice on how to go about transforming failing schools into success stories. [http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/08/04/37turnresearch.h28.html?tkn=NOPFE3KxLY%2BYi%2BkcPKUKBAqsRveQySgovB5R)

[2009/08/04/37turnresearch.h28.html?tkn=NOPFE3KxLY%2BYi%2BkcPKUKBAqsRveQySgovB5R](http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/08/04/37turnresearch.h28.html?tkn=NOPFE3KxLY%2BYi%2BkcPKUKBAqsRveQySgovB5R)

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

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!](#)

application

North Carolina Teachers Invited to Apply for Bright Ideas Grants

Deadline: September 18, 2009

The Bright Ideas education grant program awards funds to North Carolina teachers for innovative classroom-based projects. North Carolina's Touchstone Energy cooperatives will provide a total of more than \$580,000 to state teachers through the program.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=263200016

UnitedHealth Group Offering Grants to Help Combat Childhood Obesity

Deadline: October 22, 2009

UnitedHealth Group and Youth Service America are offering children the opportunity to become "Health Heroes" by learning about childhood obesity, designing programs to address it, and implementing the programs in their communities.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=262100014

Applications Invited for State Farm's Youth Advisory Board Service-Learning Grants Program

Deadline: October 2, 2009

Grants are available for projects that address the issues of environmental responsibility, natural and societal disaster preparedness, driver safety, financial education, and accessing higher education/closing the achievement gap.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=263200002

Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grant Program Accepting Applications From Public Schools and Libraries

Deadline: September 15, 2009

Created by the children's book author and illustrator, the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation is accepting applications from public schools and libraries anywhere in the United States and its protectorates for program or event mini-grants of \$500 each.

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=263300022

Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge Invites Students and Teachers to Address Environmental Issues

Deadline: Various

The second year of this national sustainability challenge - now expanded to include elementary school students - encourages students in kindergarten through eighth grade to team up with their classmates to create replicable solutions to environmental issues in their classroom

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=263200014

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

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