



Guilford Education Alliance Newsletter

September 3, 2008

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Upcoming Events

Saturday September 6 - Sunday September 7:
Donate old computers, monitors and printers at Earthfare from 11 am to 3 pm to HandyCapable, an organization that refurbishes old computers and donates them to children in need in our local schools; for more information call 255-7488 or visit www.handycapable.org

Monday October 13: Candidate Forum including candidates for the Board of Commissioners and Board of Education; 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the College Auditorium, Koury Hospitality Careers Center GTCC Jamestown; for more info contact the Guilford Education Alliance at 841-4332 or info@guilfordeducationalliance.org

Monday October 20: State Superintendent Candidates Debate featuring Dr. June Atkinson and Richard Morgan; 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the SAS Institute Auditorium at 100 SAS Campus Drive, Cary, NC 27513; for more information or to RSVP go to <http://www.eboardsolutions.com/ncsba/emembership/getRegistrant.asp?E=2235>

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

Sales-Tax Increase Would go to Schools

With a quarter-cent sales-tax increase before voters for the second time in a year, Guilford County commissioners passed a resolution Thursday August 28th promising the money would be used for school construction. Yet as the Board of Commissioners, by a 7-4 margin, pledged to the county's residents how they would spend that money, several commissioners spoke strongly against the tax and made their case that the board could change a vote on a whim. Revenue from the sales tax would add up to about \$15 million a year, if voters approve it in the fall election...

http://www.news-record.com/content/2008/08/28/article/sales_tax_increase_would_go_to_schools

Tough Test Beginning for Magnet Programs

Jackay Haywood tried for three weeks to teach her 5-year-old daughter, Ashia, how to spell her name. But Ashia could only nail the first three letters. "I was getting frustrated, because I told her school is about to start and you have to spell your name," Haywood said. Then Ashia started kindergarten at the transformed Washington Montessori on Monday. Four days later, she knew how to spell not only her name, but the names of some classmates, as well. The mother wondered what her daughter would learn by the end of the semester...

http://www.news-record.com/content/2008/08/23/article/tough_test_beginning_for_magnet_programs

Wake Schools Miss State Test Goal by A Lot

Monday October 27: *Youth First Teen Summit 2008*
at the Greensboro Coliseum Special Event Center

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!

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

New results presented Tuesday August 19th show that the Wake County school system fell far short of its goal of having 95 percent of students passing state tests by this year. The passing rate was 78 percent on the end-of-grade math exams used in elementary and middle schools, up from 76.1 percent the previous year. Passing rates on high school end-of-course exams ranged from 60 percent to 87.7 percent...

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1185523.html>

Policies Governing Services for Children With Disabilities

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction's Exceptional Children Division will hold a public hearing to receive comments regarding the Department's proposed amendments to Sections NC1504-2.1(d) and NC1504-2.9(b) of "Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities" pursuant to Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA).

The Public Hearing will be held Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 5:30-7 p.m., in Room 150N of the Education Building, 301 Wilmington Street, Raleigh. Parents, teachers and other educators, community service representatives and all others with an interest in education are encouraged to attend the hearing. You do not have to register to attend or speak at this public meeting.

For more information:

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

An iPod Touch for Every Student

A Chapel Hill middle school could become the first in the country to give an iPod to every teacher and student, an experiment that would challenge teachers and administrators to ensure the hand-held devices are used as learning tools, not toys. It's still not clear how the iPod Touches would be used at Culbreth Middle School. And school officials know that students may use the iPod Touches more to download the new Jonas Brothers single than to tap the riches of human knowledge. But Principal Susan Wells says that to dismiss the technology as a distraction or a gimmick ignores today's tech-driven world...

<http://www.newsobserver.com/news/education/story/1191389.html>

Campaign K-12

EdWeek Update's Convention Daily is now at the Republican National Convention. EdWeek reporters will be on the ground in Minneapolis-Saint Paul, and our readers will continue to get up to the minute education news via Twitter, our Campaign K-12 blog, and our second-to-none news stories. The daily alerts will continue Monday thru Friday, Sept. 5.

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/educationweek>

Blog: <http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/>

The Future of Children Webcasts

The Future of Children now has webcasts featuring summaries of the research found in many of their volumes and policy briefs. Use the following link to find these half hour presentations on Poverty, Marriage, Social Mobility, Childhood Obesity and School Readiness...

http://www.futureofchildren.org/newsletter2861/newsletter_show.htm?doc_id=695926

Education Foundation Steps in to Fill Funding Gaps

As state budget cuts in California force school administrators to trim or eliminate art, theater, music, and other programs, public school districts increasingly are looking to education foundations to pick up the slack with "mini-grants," the Modesto Bee reports.

In Stanislaus County, for example, where such funding is relied on to supplement student learning through field trips, playground equipment, and other forms of enrichment, La Rosa Elementary School transformed a classroom into an open-microphone poetry café with a \$200 grant from the Ceres Unified School District Foundation...

<http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/news/story.jhtml?id=23000006>

Officials Tracking Down Illegal Migrants at Head Start

Immigration enforcement officials are now targeting migrant and seasonal Head Start centers in some states as part of efforts to track down illegal immigrants, the

executive director of the National Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Association says. Yvette Sanchez, president of the Washington, D.C.-based association, was in Milwaukee for a meeting of the national board of directors at United Migrant Opportunity Services Inc...
<http://www.miamiherald.com/872/story/662335.html>

Grant Opportunities

Pay It Forward Foundation Offers Mini-Grants for Youth

Deadline: September 15, 2008

A program of the Pay It Forward Foundation (<http://payitforwardfoundation.org>), Pay It Forward Mini-Grants are designed to fund one-time-only service-oriented projects identified by youth as activities they would like to perform to benefit their school, neighborhood, or greater community.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15014740/payitforward>

For additional RFPs in Children and Youth, visit:

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_children.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 (<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

Maybelline New York Invites Nominations for Beauty of Education Awards

Deadline: October 10, 2008

Maybelline New York (<http://www.maybelline.com>) seeks to honor outstanding women who have made a difference in their communities by working to support educational causes.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15014746/beautyeducation>

For additional RFPs in Education, visit:

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

**William T. Grant and Spencer Foundations Seek Proposals for the Development and Improvement of the Measurement of Classroom Quality
Deadline: November 3, 2008 (Letters of Inquiry)**

The William T. Grant Foundation

(<http://wtgrantfoundation.org/>) and the Spencer Foundation (<http://www.spencer.org/>) have announced their joint 2009 Request for Proposals for the Development and Improvement of the Measurement of Classroom Quality. This RFP is part of the foundations' broader effort to build theory and evidence about how classrooms affect youth and how to improve those effects.

RFP Link:

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/15014822/wtgrant>

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