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Contact: Margaret Arbuckle, Executive Director
Address: 902 Bonner Dr.
Jamestown, NC 27282

Phone: 336-841-4332

E-mail: info@GuilfordEducationAlliance.org

Guilford Education Alliance Will Release Report on Gifted Education

Guilford County, North Carolina: Guilford Education Alliance is proud to release its *Report on Gifted Education* on Thursday, September 24th at Jamestown Elementary School, 108 Potter Drive, Jamestown, NC, at 10:30 in the morning. This report is part of Guilford Education Alliance's *Education Matters...* report series funded by the Lincoln Financial Foundation.

The presentation of the report will include data on Gifted Education in Guilford County and the state, issues of concern regarding Gifted Education and discussion of the recently approved State Board of Education Standards for Academically/Intellectually Gifted Education. Members of the Board of Education, the Board of County Commissioners, the Guilford Legislative Delegation, civic and business leaders, educators and parents are invited to attend this presentation. Members of the public are invited.

"Our community, state and nation has been challenged by the federal No Child Left Behind legislation to attend to the educational needs of our low performing students, and certainly they deserve and need the attention they receive to support their reaching grade level proficiency. However, as a result, attention has been diverted from the students who have exceptional academic gifts who qualify for programs as Advanced Learners/Gifted students," states Dr. Margaret Arbuckle, Executive Director of Guilford Education Alliance, upon announcing the release of this important report. "The purpose of this *Report on Gifted Education* is to bring focus on the needs of these students, inform the community of educators, parents and civic leaders of their needs, and challenge all of us to commit to nurturing their creative and intellectual capabilities so they are prepared for solving problems in the future that are beyond today's imagination!" stated Dr. Arbuckle.

The presentation will include comments from our Superintendent of Guilford County Schools, Maurice Green, and Chief Academic Officer Beth Folger. The report includes a Foreword written by Dr. James Gallagher, Professor Emeritus of UNC whose professional leadership has been at the forefront nationally in establishing programs and laws to better serve gifted students.

The mission of the Guilford Education Alliance is that education will be the TOP priority of citizens of Guilford County so that each resident can reach his or her educational potential. Activities sponsored by the Alliance include *On Stage!*, Education Summit, Rookie Teacher of the Year Breakfast, Principal for a Day Program, the Education Leaders Academy, and other advocacy programs focused on the Guilford County Schools budget and other education issues. Guilford Education Alliance issues data reports such as Education Matters, an annual report on academic achievement of our students as compared to other urban school districts in North Carolina, the School Readiness Report Card, and an in-depth analysis of

Guilford County's Teacher Working Conditions. Guilford Education Alliance also has a partnership with DonorsChoose.org which provides a way for businesses, civic clubs and individuals to make direct tax deductible contributions to purchase materials teachers need in their classrooms and the Teacher Supply Warehouse where teachers can "shop" for free donated materials from businesses that can be recycled back into classroom use. These and a bi-weekly newsletter regarding current education issues are posted on the website www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org.

For more information, please call (336) 841-4332 or email info@GuilfordEducationAlliance.org