



Fall 2015

www.GuilfordEducationAlliance.org
336.841.4332

CORPORATE EDUCATION COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Say Yes Says Yes to Guilford!

In early 2014, Guilford County Schools and GEA – with the support and assistance of The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro and the High Point Community Foundation – launched an exploration of a potential partnership with Say Yes to Education.

With great fanfare on September 17, George Weiss announced that Say Yes to Education will expand to Guilford County. Lucy Ragsdale High School Auditorium was awash in a sea of green and



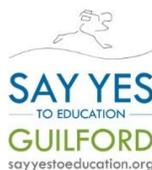
blue as more than 1000 students, educators, and community leaders celebrated this historic announcement.

This partnership with Say Yes will provide an unprecedented opportunity for our community to work together to ensure that every graduate of GCS can get a college education or post-secondary certificate. More than \$32.5

million has already been pledged to support this important work and scholarships will be awarded in 2016 to this year's graduating seniors.

The Operating Committee and Scholarship Board are beginning their meetings, staff is being hired and transitioning into their new roles, leases on office space in Greensboro and High Point are being finalized. In the meantime, helping our community understand what all this means is ongoing. Like we do with GCS and on education issues in general, if you aren't sure where to plug in or get the information you are looking for, call us. GEA can be a connector with Say Yes for you and your organization, if needed. We can answer questions, provide information for your employees and colleagues, even work with Say Yes to provide a speaker. Don't hesitate to call or email!

You can get more information at sayyesguilford.org or on GEA's website.



Career Technical Education Study

Exploration of existing CTE offerings to help develop a new vision and plan for first class CTE program in GCS

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Programs and Ways to Engage

How you can help get the school year off to a good start for students and teachers

Pages 3-4

What Will You Be When You Grow Up?

There are not enough highly skilled workers for technical jobs in our area. Guilford County needs to recruit more such jobs/employers to the Triad to improve our economy/community for all. In order to entice companies to relocate and stay in Guilford County, we need to train our students to be their future employees.

To help with this effort, GEA has worked with CFGG's Triad Workforce Solutions Collaborative and GCS to produce a baseline report on the history and current status of GCS Career and Technical Education. The study informs a process to develop a new vision and plan for a first class CTE/Career Pathways program.

For a copy of this report, please contact GEA. We can send you an electronic copy or are happy to print a hard copy and send it to you.

WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS EXPLORATION?

Contact GEA or the Triad Workforce Solutions Collaborative to be a part of the Career Pathways Working Group.

Triad Workforce Solutions Collaborative
Donna Newton - dnewton@cfgg.org

GEA
Winston McGregor
wmcgregor@GuilfordEducationAlliance.org



Many thanks to GEA Corporate Education Council Members for your ongoing support!

Your investment in GEA makes it possible for us to engage our whole community in the support of our students, teachers and schools.

AT&T	Lenovo
Advanced Home Care	Lincoln Financial Foundation
Allen Tate Realtors	Lincoln Financial Group
Bank of America	NewBridge Bank
Bank of Oak Ridge	News& Record
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices	Qorvo
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Brady Services	PPG Industries
Brown Investment Properties	Procter & Gamble
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Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro	Rentenbach Constructors Inc.
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Gentry Air	Quest Diagnostics/Solstas Lab Partners
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HAECO Americas	Tuggle Duggins
Hanes-Lineberry Funeral Homes	United Guaranty
High Point Bank	VF Corporation
Honda Aircraft Company	Volvo Financial Services
Ice Age Management	Wal-Mart
ITG Brands	Weaver Foundation
Joseph M. Bryan Foundation	Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
LabCorp	

2015-16 GEA PROGRAMS



Education Leadership Academy

Explore questions and dig into hot education topics with experts and leaders in our community, teachers, principals and peers. October - March



Principal for a Day

Go behind the scenes and get an up close and personal view of what it is really like in schools every day. February 16



Education Summit

Community gathers to focus on education issues and celebrate students and teachers. March

GCS READS 20

9,000,000

Minutes of reading by GCS students this summer

9,500,000

Minutes of reading by GCS students in September

90%

Since 2014, GCS has challenged students to read 20 minutes per day, every day, to help build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Studies have shown that students who read 20 minutes per day are more likely to score in the **90th percentile on standardized tests.**

Our Schools, the Money & the Data - What the Say Yes Analysis Reveals



Join business leaders for breakfast and discussion with **Mark Strickland of Schoolhouse Partners** – the top flight experts who recently completed a deep dive into Guilford County Schools financial and student achievement data.

Friday, November 13

7:45 am – 9:00 am

Grandover Resort & Conference Center

The Budget analysis report reviews the district's finances for the last several years. The report confirms that GCS "runs lean" and that the "District spends nearly all of its annual revenues on program activities." According to the report, "From 2011 to the budgeted expenses for 2015, program expenses did not fall below 95.9% of total district spending."

Schoolhouse Partners also notes that "there is broad consensus that leaders has done, and is doing, what it can to g resources into the classroom, but also t many supports have been cut in the pa few years, and that the District suffers from those cuts." Within that extreme tight budget context, the district's operating budget helps GCS more effectively address the focus areas no in the Pathways Report.



Join us on the 13th to learn more!

Reserve a ticket through the electronic invitation you received or email Louise Courts at lcourts@GuilfordEducationAlliance.org

The TSW Needs You!

The Teacher Supply Warehouse (TSW) was created to give teachers and students supplies they need for success in the classroom. This resource has been valuable to thousands of teachers and has galvanized the community in direct support for our schools. In this environment of increasingly complex education issues, it is more important than ever to find methods to connect with students in a tangible and helpful way. Providing necessary supplies to classrooms is perhaps the most direct way to accomplish this connection.

Why do we need this resource?



- More than 67% of the students in Guilford County Schools receive Free/Reduced lunch and the unemployment rate in our county hovers around 6%. Many families cannot afford to purchase the supplies their children need for class.
- 82% of teachers think it is their responsibility to ensure students have the best learning experience possible -- no matter the price tag, spending an average of \$700 of their own money on supplies for their students each year. Through a survey of teachers in Guilford County, this fact has been verified for our local teachers. For those in schools with low resources or in their first year of teaching, the personal investment is even greater.

In 2014, GEA instituted a program to offer Title I schools the opportunity to order items from the TSW via email. The number of teacher shoppers more than doubled! Clearly the system is a welcome addition to an already valuable resource.

With a capacity building grant from the Hillsdale Fund we are putting new systems in place to help us sustain the growth and expansion. We have new tracking and ordering systems and more volunteers than ever before helping us fill orders and meet demand.

What we notice most is how appreciative teachers are. The supplies make a difference and the knowledge that our community supports our classroom teachers means the world.

Here's where you come in...

You've got three great opportunities to help students and the TSW:

- Make a contribution to keep enough supplies on hand to continue to fill the increasing number of orders. It takes at least \$2500 worth of supplies to fill orders each week.
- Host a supply drive. Most requested supplies include pencils, dry erase markers and erasers, colored pencils and markers, glue sticks, and two-pocket folders. Make it a competition between locations/departments to make it a little more compelling for folks to bring in donations.
- Share a few hours with us to fill orders. It is very fulfilling to put bags of supplies together, knowing they will make a difference for children and their teachers at schools all across Guilford County. Bring along some friends or colleagues and make it even more fun!



WAYS TO BE INVOLVED ALL YEAR



Be a Community Reader

An initiative to bring community and business leaders into elementary classrooms for about 30 minutes. A quick, easy and fun way to engage with schools and students!



We Need Some Space!

Our Teacher Supply Warehouse lease is ending soon and we are looking for a new home. If you know of 3500-5000 square feet of available warehouse space or a store-front with a storage area, please contact Jennifer Reavis at

841-433