

The Public School Forum's Friday Report

PDF versions can be found at www.ncforum.org

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Forum Closed Monday for MLK Holiday

In honor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, the Public School Forum office will be closed on Monday, January 18th, 2010 and will reopen on Tuesday.

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires the passionate concern of dedicated individuals... This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action.”

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in *Stride Toward Freedom*, 1958

Governor Perdue Shares New Education Agenda

Speaking to a joint session of the state's educational governing boards in Kannapolis, Governor Perdue outlined a framework to take on the state's educational challenges with a focus on the goal of preparing every student to be ready for college or career after graduating from high school.

Rallying educators, business leaders and the public to the charge of better preparing North Carolina and its workforce for the challenges of the 21st century, the Governor urged everyone to do their part to ensure that North Carolina continues to lead the way in educational innovation and improving educational access, attainment and the development of new skills needed in the economy of today and the future. She addressed members of the State Board of Education, the UNC Board of Governors, the NC State Board of Community Colleges and the NC Independent Colleges & Universities Board of Directors.

For more information about the governor's agenda and to see specifics of policy proposals related to school, college and work readiness, innovative uses of technology and assessments as well as supports for high school and college success, visit the education page of the governor's website at <http://www.governor.state.nc.us/GovOffice/education.aspx> .

News 14 to Highlight NC STEM Initiatives

In partnership with Time Warner Cable, News 14 Carolina is beginning a new weekly series that will highlight STEM initiatives across the state, with an emphasis on STEM in afterschool programs serving middle-school aged youth. STEM initiatives across the state will be featured each week throughout 2010. While most news segments will focus on STEM in the classroom and afterschool settings, News 14 is also interested in conducting issue-oriented segments highlighting major state initiatives and collaborations.

News 14 Carolina is collecting nominations for afterschool programs, schools, and other STEM initiatives to highlight in the coming weeks and months. Filming of the first sites will begin at the end of January. Programs must be located in the News 14 coverage areas. Select Western counties and several counties in the Northeastern part of the state are not eligible for the initiative at this time.

News 14 will contact nominated sites directly to conduct filming for a news segment. Please note that there is opportunity to conduct multiple segments at a particular site, such as a general segment on the program, along with other in-depth features on youth or volunteers.

To nominate a site, News 14 Carolina has created an email address for correspondence, which is cam@news14.com. You may also contact Alan Mason, VP & General Manager, at (919) 882-4010 or alan.mason@twcable.com.

Nomination Period for Class of 2012 Kenan Fellows is Open

The Kenan Fellows for Curriculum and Leadership Development Program, established in 2001, grew out of a community effort to address math and science teacher retention and recruitment. Classroom teachers selected as Kenan Fellows represent the most outstanding and committed educators across the state. As Fellows, they engage in a two-year fellowship in partnership with distinguished scientists and university faculty to develop innovative curricula for use in classrooms all across N.C.

Recipients will:

- Receive a \$10,000 stipend
- Work with a mentor/researcher in a laboratory to develop new and innovative STEM-related curriculum
- Earn six graduate credits from NC State University

2012 Kenan Fellows (cont'd)

The Kenan Fellows Program is accepting applications for Fellowships through January 29, 2010. K-12 public school teachers from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. School administrators, community leaders, parents of students, and former Kenan Fellows may nominate candidates online. For a map of the eligible counties and more information on how to nominate a candidate, visit the Kenan Fellows Program website at: www.kenanfellows.org.

Forum News...

Seeking Jay Robinson Award Nominations

The Jay Robinson Leadership Award was established by the Public School Forum Board of Directors in recognition of outstanding leaders in the field of public education. The award may be given to anyone who has displayed innovative, creative, effective leadership for the public schools of North Carolina.

Past winners include Laura Bilbro-Berry, the first Teaching Fellow to be named North Carolina Teacher of the Year; Tom McNeel, superintendent of Caldwell County schools; Jim Causby, two-time state Superintendent of the Year and executive director of the NC Association of School Administrators; Robert Bridges, former superintendent of Wake County Schools and former chair of the state's Raising Achievement and Closing Gap Commission; Superior Court Judge Howard E. Manning, Jr., the trial court judge in the *Leandro* school finance case; Dr. Ann Denlinger, former superintendent of Durham Public Schools and Wilson County Schools and currently President, Wake Education Partnership; Phillip J. Kirk Jr., Vice President for External Relations at Catawba College; Bill Harrison, former superintendent Cumberland County Schools and Chairman of the State Board of education; and Dr. Dudley Flood, retired educator and consultant.

The nominations must be postmarked by March 1, 2010. Nominations postmarked after that date and nominations delivered in person will not be accepted. The award ceremony will be held on June 21, 2010, at the Raleigh Crabtree Marriott Hotel. Admission will be by invitation only. The honor includes a cash award sponsored by BB&T.

To obtain an application, contact Claire Ancelet (cancelet@ncforum.org) at 919-781-6833 or you can download a copy at www.ncforum.org.

NC CAP Announces SYNERGY Scholarships

Thanks to the NC Division of Child Development, NC CAP is pleased to announce the availability of \$2,000 in scholarships to attend the statewide afterschool SYNERGY Conference, scheduled for March 1-2, 2010, at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. Afterschool programs licensed by the NC Division of Child Development are eligible to apply. Scholarships will cover the \$100 early bird conference registration fee. The optional Pre-conference by nationally renowned Foundations, Inc., will remain an additional \$35.

SYNERGY will feature over 30 workshops, vendors, networking receptions, and a special Youth Forum on Afterschool. Scholarship forms will be available early January 2010, by visiting the NC CAP website at <http://www.nccap.net/about/conference.cfm> or by contacting Katie Biggerstaff, NC CAP Program Officer at kbiggerstaff@ncforum.org or 919-781-6833 ext. 132.

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