



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Weather Watch

Keep an eye on inclement weather with Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) Weather Watch. Whether it is a hurricane, blizzard or other weather systems (remember that windstorm last year?) the school system has its procedures posted for how it will ride out the storm. Go to <http://www.ccboe.com/index.php/weather-alert> to learn how decisions are made and how you can keep up to date with delays and closures. See a fact sheet for staff at <http://www.ccboe.com/images/administrator/WeatherAlertsStaff2018.pdf>.

Volunteer opportunities

As part of Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) safety and security guidelines, the process for volunteering has been updated. While not paid members of CCPS staff, volunteers are expected to follow the school system's policies, rules and procedures. CCPS employees who volunteer in their child's school also will have to undergo training and a background check in order to volunteer. There is no cost to the volunteer for a background check, which is valid for one school year. For more information, go to <http://www.ccboe.com/index.php/volunteers>.

Give it the college try

The 21st annual Charles County Public Schools College Fair is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 17 at North Point High School. Students will visit the fair — featuring more than 150 colleges and universities — during the day and can come back with their folks from 6 to 8 p.m. that evening. Financial aid workshops will be held at 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Students and parents can follow up with the college and career advisor at the student's school to learn more about applying to college and other need-to-know information.



Welcome back

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) teachers returned to school Aug. 28 and were ready to welcome students on the first day, Sept. 4. Top, Christopher Kirby, PE teacher at Malcolm Elementary School, walks with fifth graders Christian Proctor, left, Kamara Washington and Elizabeth Jewett. Middle, Piccowaxen Vice Principal Erin Kaple welcomes sixth grader Kiersten Yake to school. Bottom, Zohra Cherif, vice principal at Maurice J. McDonough High School, gives Amber Minor, a junior, a hug before the start of the 2018-19 school year. More back-to-school photos are in the CCPS online gallery at www.ccboe.com.

Belmore honored for commitment to CCPS, school safety

In his role as Risk Manager for Charles County Public Schools (CCPS), Glenn Belmore is the ultimate multi-tasker. Not only does he oversee water operations, building inspections and pest management programs,

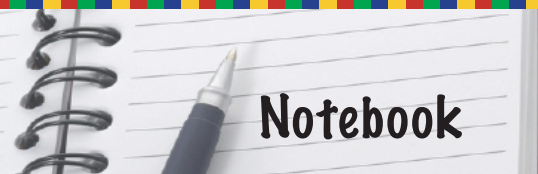
Belmore manages loss prevention, disaster response, fire safety and ADA compliance, and liability insurance for CCPS.

These responsibilities are just a few that Belmore oversees on a daily basis for CCPS.

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Belmore

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On the cover

John Hanson Middle School employees are featured on the cover including Stefanie Buzby, an ESOL teacher at Hanson and Benjamin Stoddert Middle School; Michael Enrico, administrative intern; and Nyesha Lanes-Sherman, a seventh-grade English/language arts teacher.

It's show time at the center

Fulldome movies are showing at the James E. Richmond Science Center this month and in October. "Wonders of Arctic," "We are Stars" and "D-Day Normandy 1944" are on the slate. For more information or tickets, go to <http://www.ccboe.com/sciencecenter/schedule-now-showing/>.

Paging high school seniors

Know a high school senior with an interest in government and history? Encourage them to apply to be part of the Maryland General Assembly Student Page Program. Seniors who attend a Maryland public high school can apply for the page program at <http://www.ccboe.com/images/students/StudentPageApplication.pdf>. The application deadline is Oct. 1.

Eaglets take flight at NPHS

The North Point High School Early Childhood Training Program has openings in the afternoon session of its First Flight Program. The program is for 3 to 5 year olds and operates Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 12 to 2 p.m., October through April. Interested parents/guardians can go to www.npectp.org and select the Contact Us tab to provide contact information. Contact Lisa Willett at lwillett@ccboe.com or 301-944-0184.

New AP exam process

The College Board is piloting a new Advanced Placement (AP) exam registration process in Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) this school year. As part of the new process, any student enrolled in an AP class this year who is interested in taking the accompanying exam in May 2019 must register and pay for the exam by Nov. 15, 2018. Any student who decides to take an AP exam after the Nov. 15 deadline will be charged a late fee of \$40 per exam. The form is at <http://www.ccboe.com/images/students/APCTEReimbursementForm2017-18.pdf>.

He demonstrates a strong commitment to the school system and the work he manages for the Office of Safety and Risk Management. For his dedication to school safety and longtime commitment to CCPS, Belmore was honored recently with a 2018 Maryland Center for School Safety/Security Director of the Year award.

Belmore was surprised with the news during a staff meeting, and said he is honored to be chosen for a recognition that highlights his passion for school safety.

"I am humbled and grateful for the recognition. I was truly unaware that I was being considered for such an esteemed nomination by my fellow directors," Belmore said.

The award is one of few annual recognitions presented by the Maryland Center for School Safety. Belmore was honored with the award during the 2018 School Safety Summer Conference held in Annapolis Aug. 13 and 14. Jason Stoddard, director of safety and security for CCPS, spearheaded his nomination. Stoddard joined CCPS earlier this year and has an extensive background in law enforcement, and safety and security. He said Belmore's commitment to safety and security has been instrumental to the operation of CCPS.

"Glenn Belmore has 29 years of risk management experience and has been instrumental in spearheading safety and security for Charles County Public Schools for many years. He is dedicated to his profession, community and cause for a safe community and school system," Stoddard wrote in an award nomination.

On a daily basis, Belmore manages several projects and tasks that range from overseeing water control compliance standards, chemical use in system buildings, and maintaining fire drill reports to investigating CCPS-related accidents and helping to implement disaster recovery response and emergency plans. A recent project of significance for Belmore includes the implementation last year of a new application for administrators and school resource officers called Crisis Manager.

Crisis Manager is an app that stores emergency response related information, such as evacuation plans and facility maps, to utility plans and shelter locations. The



Superintendent Kimberly Hill, left, congratulates Glenn Belmore for being named the 2018 Maryland Center for School Safety/Security Director of the Year award.

app also can be used to send mass text message notifications to groups of users. Stoddard said the tools in the program would allow an ease of electronic communication during a crisis.

"The new unified communications network integrates data but also allows a method to receive and send data texts to all involved, thus creating a central platform for keeping an open line of communication during an event," Stoddard wrote in his nomination letter.

In addition to the honor from the Maryland Center for School Safety, Belmore was also recently honored by the Association of School Business Officials, Maryland and District of Columbia division, for his efforts in launching the Crisis Manager app for the school system. For Belmore, school safety for students and staff is of the utmost importance and requires commitment and teamwork. "School districts across Maryland and especially here in Charles County are making commitments to school safety for all of our students and staff. Working together, we truly are making a difference," Belmore said.

The Maryland Center for School Safety was established to provide a comprehensive, coordinated approach to school safety for schools. The Center coordinates its work with the Maryland State Police (MSP), the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and other agencies.

Stoddard comes aboard as director of school safety and security

Jason Stoddard, a retired lieutenant with the Charles County Sheriff's Office, is bringing his 24 years of law enforcement experience to Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) as director of school safety and security.

Stoddard started working with CCPS on May 7 and split his time between the two agencies until late July when he retired from the sheriff's office.

Stoddard most recently served as the commander of the homeland security and intelligence section of the sheriff's office. He oversaw investigations that involve groups with ties to terrorism, hate groups, extremist cells, gangs and organized crime. Additionally, he provided special events planning and threat assessments and facilitated after-action reviews for critical incidents.

"This job is an amazing opportunity for me to continue to serve Charles County and its citizens. When parents drop their children off at school, they should be able to trust that it is a safe place for learning. Safety fosters learning. I look forward to working with students, staff and community as we focus on improving school safety and emergency preparedness," Stoddard said.

As director of school safety and security, Stoddard is responsible for developing a new school system safety and security plan, executing the plan and serving as advisor to Superintendent Kimberly Hill and other school personnel on school safety. Stoddard once served as a school resource officer (SRO) and now collaborates with the SROs, who provide daily school-based policing, safety and crime prevention through a long-standing, successful partnership between the sheriff's office and school system.

"We're excited about the creation of this new position. Jason Stoddard has the skills and experience to bring together the efforts of several different offices to sharpen our focus on safety and security," Hill said.

Before joining the sheriff's office, Stoddard served as a security police officer with the U.S. Air Force between 1994 to 1998. Between 1998 and 2007, Stoddard's assignments with the sheriff's office included patrol operations, criminal justice instructor, school resource officer, crime prevention, community policing, Explorer advisor and Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Stoddard served as a sergeant in the patrol division between 2007 and 2012. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2012 and worked as commander of the special operations sections and commander of the northern patrol division before being assigned in 2017 as commander of the homeland security and intelligence section.

Stoddard has served as a peer reviewer and assessor for the Department of Justice and a senior faculty member with the Leadership Development Institute of the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission. He holds numerous certifications and has been presented the annual Sheriff's Award four times, awarded as Police Officer of the Year by the Greater Waldorf Jaycees and presented a Bronze Medal of Valor from the sheriff's office for showing exceptional courage at unusual personal risk in capturing five armed subjects. Most recently, Stoddard received a Governor's Award for outstanding work in helping to create the Charles County Sheriff's Office Citizens Police Academy.

Stoddard holds a Master of Arts in Organizational and Executive Leadership from Liberty University and a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland, University College.



Stoddard

Innocence Stolen: Protecting our Children Online set for Sept. 25 at Craik ES

A free internet safety presentation for parents and teens 16 and older will be held later this month to provide information on keeping children safe on the internet.

Guest speaker Vincent DeVivo, community outreach specialist with the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maryland, will present Innocence Stolen: Protecting our Children Online from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Sept. 25 at Dr. James Craik Elementary School.

The presentation will help parents learn how to protect young people from negative and criminal influences online while providing prevention and intervention strategies, and internet safety resources for parents and families to use.

"Technology provides benefits, but it also presents dangers. Parents educate their children about personal safety — look both ways before you cross the street, don't talk to



strangers. We must be just as vigilant about children's safety online where predators can take advantage of our tendencies to share our lives through GPS-tracked photos and messages," Superintendent of Schools Kimberly Hill said.

"Cyber security is a tenet of CCPS's See Something, Say Something safety program and the Innocence Stolen presentation is one tool the school system is using to ensure our

community is educated about how to protect themselves online," Hill said.

The presentation will discuss topics related to cyberbullying, internet predators, sexting and social networking. The content is not suitable for those younger than 16, according to event organizers.

"While technology is a great tool for learning and communicating, it also poses dangers that kids may be naive to," said Charmaine Thompson, chief of instructional technology for CCPS. "This presentation is a great opportunity to come and learn from a legal expert, and get tips on how to protect your children online."

Craik is hosting the program, but it is open to the general public. Additional internet safety presentations will be held during the school year at schools around the county. Craik is at 7725 Marshall Corner Road in Pomfret.

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Eva Turner receives \$10K from Burlington, AdoptAClassroom

Eva Turner Elementary School teachers thought they were attending a Sept. 6 back-to-school pep rally, but instead received a \$10,000 surprise from Burlington Stores.

Burlington Stores Inc. through its partnership with AdoptAClassroom.org, donated \$10,000 to Eva Turner in celebration of its new store opening in Waldorf. Burlington opens this week at its new store location in the former Sports Authority space in Shoppers World. The money, said Turner Principal Ingrid Williams-Horton, will be divided equally among classroom teachers so they can buy classroom supplies through AdoptAClassroom.org.

Members of the Thomas Stone High School marching band drumline and cheerleading squad created a pep rally atmosphere in the school gymnasium as they welcomed teachers and staff. "Boys and girls, teachers and staff, I am so excited to be back at Eva Turner Elementary School again," Williams-Horton said before thanking the Stone students and introducing honored guests. Williams-Horton then admitted to the audience that the pep rally was a ruse, and she had told a tiny fib to keep the surprise secret. She begged forgiveness as she invited Burlington Store's Waldorf Manager Robert Spencer to reveal the real reason for the assembly and to present an oversized \$10,000 donation check.

"On behalf of Eva Turner Elementary School, I would like to thank Burlington Stores and AdoptA-



Eva Turner Elementary School Principal Ingrid Williams-Horton, left, gets into the celebration spirit with the help of Thomas Stone High School cheerleaders junior Sydney Snow, left, and sophomore Diamond Crooks, and \$10,000 for Turner's teachers.

Classroom.org for adopting our entire school," Williams-Horton said. "Our teachers look forward to using the funds to enhance learning in our school and in their classrooms." During the 2017-2018 school year, Burlington Stores and AdoptAClassroom.org adopted more than 70 schools across the nation. Locally, Burlington has also adopted a classroom at John Hanson Middle School. "Every year we pick a school and class to support. This year, it is John Hanson and we ask for donations at our store, telling customers what it is for," Spencer said. "Burlington Stores and AdoptAClassroom.org are thrilled that you have agreed to partner with us to conduct a school adoption assembly at your school," Spencer said.

Personnel

Apply for positions online at www.ccboe.com/jobs/currentopenings.php. All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and MSDE certification requirements.

Job Fair — A building service floater and food service substitute job fair is 9-11 a.m. Sept. 20 at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 5980 Radio Station Road, La Plata. Candidates must have a GED or high school diploma, and apply online at <http://www.ccboe.com/index.php/application>.

Special Education Instructional Assistant — Milton M. Somers Middle School, 10-month position. Applicants should have an interest in and aptitude for working with school-aged children, excellent human relations skills, and good oral and written communication skills. A high school diploma is required. Apply by Sept. 18.

Technology Facilitator — Malcolm Elementary School, 10-month position. An Associate of Arts degree, 48 college credit hours or

a passing score on the ParaPro Assessment is required. The ability to learn new software programs and familiarity with the internet, internet searching and using it for instructional purposes is required. Apply by Sept. 21.

Building Service Worker — Location to be determined, 12-month position. Applicants must have the ability to read and write effectively, be physically capable of performing manual labor and work overtime if required. Position open until filled.

Food and Nutrition Services Development and Training Specialist — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. An associate's degree in culinary arts and at least 5 years of experience is preferred. Applicants should have a working knowledge of institutional or contract food service programs, or restaurant management. Credentialed as a School Nutrition specialist (SNS) from the School Nutrition Association is preferred, but not required. Position open until filled.

PreK Special Education Instructional Assistant — 10-month position, all elementary schools. The ability to work in an instructional support role with prekindergarten children and work effectively with students with special needs is required. Position open until filled.

Instructional Assistant — 10-month position, all high schools. Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in and aptitude for working with secondary school-aged children and have excellent human relations skills. Position open until filled.

Purchasing Assistant — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position (hourly). Knowledge of state and local purchasing/procurement guidelines and excellent personal computer and mainframe computer skills are required. Applicants must have the ability to work effectively with all levels of school personnel, employees, vendors and the public. Position open until filled.