



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

College fair set for Sept. 21

The Charles County College Fair will be Wednesday, Sept. 21 at North Point High School. While juniors and seniors can visit during the school day, the fair will be open from 6 to 8 p.m. for parents and community members to attend. Financial aid workshops will be held at 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. North Point is at 2500 Davis Road in Waldorf.

Homecoming games, dances

Homecoming season is here. First up Henry E. Lackey and Maurice J. McDonough high schools will host games on Sept. 23 with their dances on Sept. 24. On Sept. 30, Thomas Stone and Westlake high schools will hold homecoming games. The dances are on Oct. 1. North Point and St. Charles high schools will host games on Oct. 7 and have dances on Oct. 8. La Plata High School's homecoming game is on Oct. 21 and the dance is Oct. 22.

Workshop scheduled

Creative Discipline, a workshop where participants will explore cultural competence, restorative practices and alternative discipline strategies in the classroom, will be 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 15 and Nov. 12 at North Point High School. The workshop is open to all teachers and administrators. Participants will view video modules, read articles, post on discussion boards via Moodle and attend six hours of face-to-face Saturday workshop sessions. Participants will share, reflect upon and engage in dialog with other participants after implementing their chosen strategies. Most of workshop will take place online, via Moodle, with two meetings at North Point. The cost is free for members of the Education Association of Charles County and \$10 for those who are not EACC members. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/2cDNdAg>. For help with registration, email dschaeffer@cc-boe.com. For questions about the workshop, email lmclaughlin@mseanea.org.



Sharing a laugh before class

Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School fourth graders Jameer Hill, left, and D'Shawn Burton crack up at a friend's joke before heading to class.

Westlake's Shook named Boys' Track Coach of the Year

Motivator. Kind hearted. Motherly. Sup-
porter. These are characteristics a group of
Westlake High School student athletes re-
cently used to describe Beth Shook, a special
education teacher and coach at the school. If
you are a Westlake student athlete, chances
are pretty high that Coach Shook not only
knows who you are, but knows your acad-
emic status, too.

Shook is a longtime high school track
and field coach in Charles County and well
respected among the student body. She also
is highly regarded among the academic and
athletic community. So much so that a com-
mittee of her colleagues from the U.S. Track
& Field and Cross Country Coaches Associa-
tion selected her as the 2016 Maryland Boys'
Coach of the Year.

Shook said she learned of her award se-

lection through a phone call from the local
newspaper. "I had no idea until a local report-
er called me and told me about it," she added.
According to an award letter Shook received,
her selection for the honor is based on the
performance of the track and field team dur-
ing the 2016 season and reflects the hard
work and dedication of the athletes, coaches
and school administration. As Maryland's
state award winner, Shook was a semifinalist
for an award at the national level.

Shook has coached both the indoor and
outdoor track teams at Westlake for the past
15 years and has led the groups to several lo-
cal, regional and state championship events.
She said in a typical school year she coaches
more than 100 students and also monitors the
academics for athletes, including the school's
football team.

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Shook

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Notebook

On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are Berry Elementary School educators who are new to the school this year. Pictured from left are Ki'Tira Shorter, a first grade teacher; Paul Quade, a fourth grade teacher; and Tara Zeier, Berry's vice principal.

New websites all around

Charles County Public Schools recently launched new websites for all schools. The new sites feature a school specific events calendar, photo slideshow and up-to-date news for parents, students and the school community. The new sites replace all school Edline websites and include a link to the Edline/Grade Book portal where teachers and school staff, as well as parents and students, can log in to view their class assignments and grades. The new sites are managed by the school system's Communications Department and staff at each school.

All County concerts coming up

All County Middle and High School Honors Chorus will hold a concert 7 p.m. Oct. 27 at Westlake High School at 3300 Middletown Road in Waldorf. All County Middle and High School Honors Orchestra concert will be 7 p.m. Nov. 15 at Thomas Stone High School at 3785 Leonardtown Road in Waldorf. The All County Middle and High School Honors Band concert is set for 7 p.m. Nov. 16 at St. Charles High School at 5305 Piney Church Road in Waldorf.

Join the conversation

Stay connected with what's going on with the Charles County Board of Education on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com and search for the Charles County Board of Education, give the page a "like" to find out inclement weather notices, as well as information about closures, events and what's happening in schools around the county. Charles County Public Schools also is on Twitter. Follow @CCPS to see pictures of fun stuff going on in the schools, as well as breaking "need to know" information.



Westlake High School track coach Beth Shook, pictured second from left in the back row, was honored as the 2016 Maryland Boys' Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. She is pictured with some of her athletes, Talore Forrest, back row left, Will Moten and Pearson Benson. Thomas Alcorn is seated.

Last school year, Shook helped the boys' indoor and outdoor track teams secure championship titles at the regional level and across Maryland.

Westlake senior Thomas Alcorn is a member of the track teams and said he was not surprised that Coach Shook was honored for her support of students.

"The best thing I can say about Coach Shook is how much she cares about her athletes ... how much she motivates you to do your best. She pushes you to always do your best," Alcorn said. Shook is also helping Alcorn, as she does with several other student athletes, research college scholarship opportunities and schedule recruiter visits.

Alcorn is hoping to secure an athletic scholarship and plans to study athletic training after he finishes high school.

Westlake junior Talore Forrest participates in track and field and is also a cheerleader. As a student athlete, Forrest is on top of her academics and strives for honor roll grades each quarter.

She said Shook is well known among her classmates as a person who looks out for the best interests of students, whether it is their academic performance or their general well-being.

"She has a motherly quality to her. She is constantly looking out for us. She is an awesome coach ... everyone should experience her as a coach," Forrest added.

This is not the first award Shook has received in recognition of her commitment to students and athletic programs.

She has received the Coach of the Year award from the Southern Maryland Athletic Conference (SMAC) 13 times throughout her coaching career and has been recognized by the Washington Post as the 2004 All-Met Girls Coach of the Year and the 2015 All-Met Boys Coach of the Year.

Shook said her recognitions are about the students. "They are the reason I received this award. I don't really do anything special," she said.

Shook began her career with Charles County Public Schools at Thomas Stone High School and also taught at Milton M. Somers Middle School.

She has been teaching at Westlake since 2012.

She has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree, both from California University, with a specialization in mental and physically handicapped.

School system celebrates Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports teams

Teams from 37 Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) attended training for the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports program in August.

"We are very excited to finally have all 37 schools and centers trained as PBIS schools this year," Jennifer Conte, coordinator of Student Intervention Programs with CCPS, said.

"St. Charles, La Plata and Westlake high schools and Mary B. Neal Elementary School were all trained this past year and make Charles County 100 percent PBIS schools. PBIS is so important in schools because it gives each school a framework for teaching students and staff the school wide expected behaviors and provides a system for reinforcing those expectations," Conte said.

"PBIS encourages the positive interactions between students and staff on a regular basis," she added. "We know that if students have a positive relationship with staff, they will come to school regularly, perform better academically and live up to higher expectations."

The following are Gold PBIS schools:

- Benjamin Stoddert Middle School;
- C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School;
- Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School;
- Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School;
- Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School;
- Eva Turner Elementary School;
- Gale-Bailey Elementary School;
- General Smallwood Middle School;
- Henry E. Lackey High School;
- Indian Head Elementary School;
- J.C. Parks Elementary School;
- Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School;
- John Hanson Middle School;
- J.P. Ryon Elementary School;

- Malcolm Elementary School;
- Mary H. Matula Elementary School;
- Mattawoman Middle School;
- Matthew Henson Middle School;
- Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- Arthur Middleton Elementary School;
- Milton M. Somers Middle School;
- Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School;
- North Point High School;
- Piccowaxen Middle School;
- T.C. Martin Elementary School;
- Thomas Stone High School;
- Theodore G. Davis Middle School;
- Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School;
- William A. Diggs Elementary School; and
- William B. Wade Elementary School.

The following are Silver PBIS schools:

- Berry Elementary School; and
- Dr. James Craik Elementary School.

The following is a Bronze PBIS school:

- Robert D. Stethem Educational Center

The following are schools who earned a Green PBIS banner:

- La Plata High School;
- Mary B. Neal Elementary School;
- St. Charles High School; and
- Westlake High School.

Speaker schedule set for segregation, desegregation program held at the fair

Over two days at the Charles County Fair, community members will discuss the history of school segregation and desegregation in the county through the eyes of students and educators who lived it.

The McConchie One-room Schoolhouse at the fairgrounds will host more than 10 guest speakers Sept. 16 and 17.

The presentation is part of the 100th anniversary celebration of the Charles County Board of Education.

Friday, Sept. 16 speaker schedule:

- 10:30 a.m. — Anna Kephart will present "A History of Segregation in Charles County Public Schools."
- 11:30 a.m. — Cecelia Spinks will present "1952-1965: Segregation — The Early Years" and "1965-2000: Integration Post High School."
- 12:30 p.m. — Harold Watts will present "Mr. Watts, Pomonkey High School Band Director."
- 2 p.m. — Margaret Marshall will present "My Story."
- 3 p.m. — Russell Lee will present "Would You Believe?"
- 4 p.m. — Mary Louise Webb will present "The Way It Was."

- 5:30 p.m. — Marlene Jamieson will present "I Never Knew What Segregation Meant Until I Moved to Charles County."

Saturday, Sept. 17 speaker schedule:

- 10 a.m. — Dorothea and George Smith will present "Segregation in Charles County Public Schools Through the Eyes of a Former Student (1946-1958) and a Former Teacher (1965-1968)."
- 11 a.m. — Russell Lee will present "Would You Believe?"
- 11:30 a.m. — Conchita Walls will present "Grow Where You Are Planted."

The presentations are part of a lecture series celebrating 100 years of the Board of Education. "Education: Then and Now" was held earlier this month at the historic Port Tobacco Courthouse where teachers taught a group of elementary school students based on lesson plans from 1916 and today. "When Disasters Strike, We are Ready ..." will be 6:30 p.m. Oct. 1 at the James E. Richmond Science Center at St. Charles High School. The fairgrounds are at 8440 Fairground Road in La Plata. The Science Center is at 5305 Piney Church Road in Waldorf.

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301-932-6610
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Slow down. CCSO to set up two new speed cameras near schools

The Charles County Sheriff's Office Automated Speed Enforcement Unit is adding two new school zones to the automated speed enforcement program in October.

The new locations are T.C. Martin Elementary School at 6315 Oliver Shop Road in Bryantown, and St. Charles High School at 5305 Piney Church Road in Waldorf.

The sheriff's office currently has four mobile cameras that are moved every two weeks to approved school zones including:

- Thomas Stone High School, 3785 Leonardtown Road, Waldorf
- Westlake High School, 3300 Middletown Road, Waldorf
- Maurice J. McDonough High School, 7165 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret
- General Smallwood Middle School, 4990 Indian Head Highway, Indian Head
- William B. Wade Elementary School, 2300 Smallwood Drive West, Waldorf
- Berry Elementary School, 10155 Berry Road, Waldorf
- Dr. James Craik Elementary School, 7725 Marshall Corner Road, Pomfret
- Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School, 2820 Jenifer School Lane, Waldorf
- Malcolm Elementary School, 14760 Poplar Hill Road, Waldorf



Charles County Sheriff Troy Berry, right, speaks with La Plata English department chair Denise Childers during We Care, an initiative to help teen drivers be safe while driving.

- Grace Christian Academy, 13000 Zekiah Drive, Waldorf.

As a courtesy, the locations of the cameras are posted weekly on the sheriff's office Facebook page.

Cameras are activated Monday through Friday, all year long, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. with the exception of Wade Elementary School which operates from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Citations are issued to the registered owner of the vehicle and only if the speed is 12 mph or more over the posted speed limit.

A school zone speed camera violation is a \$40 fine with no points.

Personnel

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

Job openings

Food Service Assistant Manager — location to be determined, 10-month position. High school diploma or equivalent required and a minimum of three years of experience in food service. Ability to maintain confidential information and a knowledge of meal production, planning, scheduling, safety and sanitation required. Ability to complete the functions of the manager in his/her absence, or when needed. Good communication skills are required. Apply by Sept. 22.

Instructional Assistant — location to be determined, 10-month position. Applicants must have demonstrated interest in and aptitude for working with secondary school aged children. Excellent human relations skills, good oral and written communication

skills and ability to communicate effectively with staff, students and parents required. IAs assist the teacher in planning instructional activities and maintaining a safe and orderly environment and work with individuals or small groups to provide instructional reinforcement after the classroom teacher delivers the instruction. Apply by Nov. 30.

ESOL Teacher — location to be determined, 10-month position. Bachelor's degree is required. Applicants must meet certification requirements as established by the Maryland State Department of Education for certification in English for Speakers of Other Languages, Prek-12 (ESOL). Knowledge of subject matter and appropriate instructional methodologies and evidence of exemplary human relation skills is required. Position will be open until filled.

Early Childhood Evaluator — F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position. Master's degree in education required and

APC with Special Education endorsement. Applicants must have a minimum five years of classroom teaching experience. Early childhood teaching experience is preferred. Job candidates should have a knowledge in current research and best practices for curriculum and instruction and knowledge of current data collection methods required. Position will be open until filled.

Extra pay positions

Assistant Boys Lacrosse Coach — Thomas Stone High School. Call Brad Criss, athletic director, at 301-843-0074.

Head Coach for Indoor Track — La Plata High School. Call Richard Pauole, athletic director, at 301-934-1100.

Unified Track Coach — Maurice J. McDonough High School. Call Pamela Van Bellen, athletic director, at 301-934-2944.

Head Girls Basketball Coach — Henry E. Lackey High School. Call Tony Mast, athletic director, at 301-743-5431.