



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Strike up the band

The U.S. Navy Concert Band will perform at Henry E. Lackey High School Thursday, April 14 at the school at 3000 Chicomuxen Road in Indian Head. The concert begins at 7 p.m. and admission is free. The U.S. Navy Concert Band, the premier wind ensemble of the Navy, will present marches, patriotic selections, orchestral transcriptions and modern wind ensemble repertoire. As the original ensemble of the Navy Band, the concert band has been performing public concerts and participating in high-profile events for more than 85 years. Recognized as one of the finest wind ensembles in the world, the concert band is in demand by the nation's musical education organizations, such as the American Bandmasters Association and the Midwest Clinic.

Public hearing date changed

The Charles County Commissioners revised the date of the public hearing for the constant yield and FY17 operating/CIP budget to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19.

Sing a song of freedom

The Show Choir of Maurice J. McDonough High School will hold a "Songs of America" concert 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 28 and Friday, April 29 at the school at 7165 Marshall Corner Road in Pomfret. Admission is \$5 per person. Call 301-934-2944.

Walden Univ. to hold events

Walden University will hold tuition reduction and dinner events this spring. The partnership between Walden and Charles County Public Schools has benefits that can help jump start professional development. An event will be 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 21 at the Dutch Daughter restaurant in Frederick and 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 3 at McCormick & Schmick's in Baltimore. For information or to RSVP, contact 443-286-3196 or Katie.hykes@waldenU.edu.

Reading the signs



Superintendent of Schools Kimberly Hill, above, uses Plickers, an online assessment tool, to collect answers during a recent meeting of the Middle School Superintendent Advisory Committee. A group of students from the eight public middle schools gave their opinions on subjects ranging from what they like about their school to if they believe their teachers expect them to go to college. Jordan Watson, left, a Matthew Henson Middle School seventh grader, holds up her sign to be read by Hill's cell phone.

Additions being built for all-day kindergarten classes

Two elementary schools are undergoing additions to make room for all-day kindergarten classes. When the state transitioned to all-day kindergarten in the 2007-2008 school year, classroom space was lost in area schools.

On the first day of school, Monday, Aug. 29, all-day kindergarten additions will open at Mary H. Matula and Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer elementary schools.

At Matula, five classrooms are being constructed off of the school's main hallway, where the playground and basketball court

were. Play areas and the fire lane are being relocated to make way for the addition. Each classroom will have an exterior door and on the interior, each room will open to a shared activity area which has a kitchenette.

One of the rooms will be an inclusion classroom. The 3.3 million project is being headed by Scheibel Construction and includes new ceiling tiles and carpet in two prekindergarten rooms.

At Jenifer, four classrooms are being built with one being an inclusion room, along with an activity area. The \$2.3 million project

See ADDITIONS, page 2

Additions

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Notebook

On the cover

Pictured at the top of the front cover are employees from Henry E. Lackey High School. Pictured, from left, are: Heather Neely, high school resource teacher; Crystal Sailor, mathematics teacher; and Jason Warren, English teacher.

Like these green apples

The Community Foundation of Southern Maryland is making grants available again to elementary and middle schools through the Green Apple Fund for teachers who purchase supplies for their classrooms. Grants ranging from \$25 to \$100 are available. Educators who teach in private and public schools in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties, grades one through eight, are invited to apply. The Green Apple Grant Fund was established with donations from the foundation's Community Grant Fund, by an anonymous retired teacher, the Kimble Family and the Chaney Team Fund to help support teachers who spend their own money on supplies for their classrooms. Grant applications must be submitted by 4 p.m., April 4, and grant awards will be announced in May. Awards will be distributed in the order they are received until the allocated funds have been exhausted. Only one application per teacher will be accepted. Funds are awarded for the current school year. Applications are available online at www.cfsomd.org/grants. For more information, call Gretchen Hardman at 240-670-4483. Applications may be submitted electronically in pdf format to donorservices@cfsomd.org or mailed to Community Foundation of Southern Maryland, P.O. Box 716, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622, by 4 p.m. Monday, April 4.

Preventative care

Athletics coaches can sign up for a Care and Prevention of Athletic Injuries course Aug. 5. It's months away, but organizers urge early registration because space is limited. The course will cover knowledge and basic skills to recognize athletic injuries and treat them appropriately. The course fulfills the basic requirement for coaches in any public school in Maryland, and is specifically designed for athletic coaches. To register, go to <http://registration.ccboe.com>. For questions, contact Annemarie Murphy at amurphy@ccboe.com or 301-934-7365.



Workers with Scheibel Construction work on classroom additions at Mary H. Matula Elementary School.

is being handled by Hess Construction, which built Mary B. Neal Elementary and St. Charles High schools. In addition to the kindergarten addition, improvements

to a bathroom in a Life Skills classroom will be complete and a covered porch near the portable classrooms will be built at Jennifer.

Learn more about National Board Certification

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) teachers and specialists who hold a Standard Professional or Advanced Professional Certificate and have a minimum of three years of successful teaching experience in Charles County on a Maryland professional certificate (SPC or APC) are eligible to apply for National Board Certification (NBC).

Applicants must submit a candidate packet, which includes a letter of interest indicating the certification area they wish to pursue and why they want to pursue National Board Certification; a writing prompt activity (distributed by CCPS) in conjunction with NBC standards; a letter of recommendation from their principal or supervisor; and a current resume.

CCPS is holding an information session on Thursday, April 14 at 4:30 p.m. The session is at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building in rooms 121/122, and current NBC teachers will be available to speak about the application process.

Those planning to attend should RSVP by email to Barbara Simmons at bsimmons@ccboe.com by Friday, April 8.

Applicants must submit completed candidate packets by Friday, May 6 to Simmons in the office of human resources. Candidates are screened by a review committee to determine who will represent the school system in the 2016-17 program. Educators interested in pursuing National Board Certification must complete a demanding demonstration of their knowledge and skills by developing a portfolio component that reflects aspects of their teaching. Candidates are also required to attend an assessment center.

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) limits the number of applicants for the school system to 10 candidates, and the application fee is funded by MSDE and CCPS. There are 25 certification areas and educators who earn National Board Certification earn six approved professional development credits and may receive an annual stipend (pending funding/negotiated agreement approval).

For more information, visit the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards website at www.nbpts.org or call 301-934-7239.

Getting healthy starts with one step, or one downward-facing dog yoga pose

As part of Charles County Public Schools wellness program for employees, several courses are available for registration for the spring session. Beginning on Monday, April 18 free fitness classes will be available at schools and centers.

Class schedules, including dates, times and locations, are available on the employee section of the school system website, InsideCCPS. A complete schedule of classes is also in the table below. Space is limited to 30 participants per course.

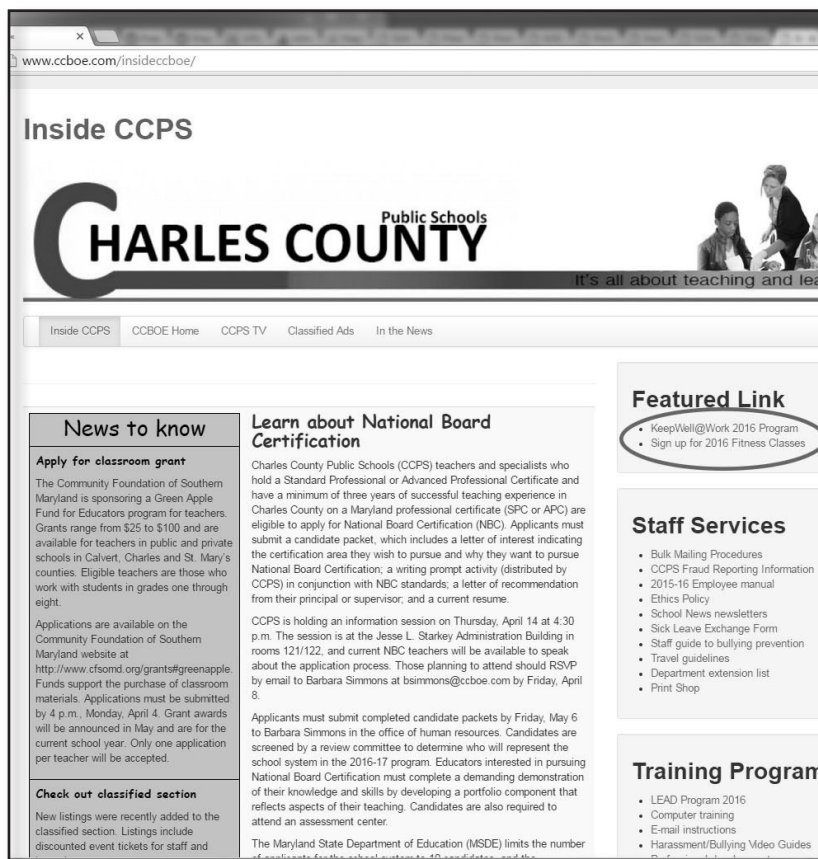
Course sign ups begin on April 4. Employees must use the InsideCCPS web page to sign up for a class. To access the system, visit www.ccboe.com and click on the words InsideCCPS located in the bottom, right-hand corner of the page.

Employees with school system e-mail accounts will need to enter their e-mail address as their user name, and their password associated with their work account to access InsideCCPS.

Employees without a system e-mail account can access InsideCCPS by using the guest login of charlescounty (all one word, no spaces) as the user name, and welcome as the password. Once you are logged into the site, select the "Sign Up for 2016 Fitness Classes" link on the right-hand side of the page. The link takes users to a sign-up page that features a listing of classes being offered.

The program is sponsored by CareFirst, which is covering the cost of classes and instructors.

The courses are open for enrollment by CCPS staff only and regardless if they are enrolled in the CareFirst health insurance program. Classes are held once a week for one hour.



Fitness classes

Class	Location	Time and day
Pilates*	J.C. Parks Elementary School	4:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Zumba	Indian Head Elementary School	4:15 p.m. Tuesdays
Yoga*	Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School	4 p.m. Wednesdays
Zumba	Milton M. Somers Middle School	3:15 p.m. Mondays
Personal training	F.B. Gwynn Educational Center	4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 6 p.m. Thursdays
Zumba	Gale-Bailey Elementary School	4:15 p.m. Wednesdays
Boot camp	Berry Elementary School	4:30 p.m. Mondays
Yoga*	Berry Elementary School	4:30 p.m. Thursdays
Pilates*	J.P. Ryon Elementary School	4:15 p.m. Thursdays
Personal training	Benjamin Stoddert Middle School	3:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Dance fusion	North Point High School	4:30 p.m. Tuesdays

* participants must bring a mat to each class

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Outstanding vice principals to be honored by CCPS

Charles County Public Schools is looking for outstanding vice principals.

The school system is accepting nominations for its 2016 Outstanding Vice Principal Award to be presented to a vice principal who has exemplified excellence.

Teachers, parents, students and administrators may submit nominations, and employees cannot nominate themselves.

The winner will be announced at a ceremony during the Board of Education's June 14 meeting.

Nominees must be full-time employees, employed by Charles County Public Schools as a vice principal for at least three years, and have not received this award in the past five years.

Nominees must meet criteria in the following areas:

- Educational leadership – Nominee implements strategies for improving teaching by putting programs and improvement efforts into action; involves teachers and other staff members in achieving the goals of the school; and assists in ensuring school climate is positive and functions effectively as a member of the school leadership team.
- Resolving Complex Problems – Nominee maintains awareness of current and emerging issues, manages time and tasks

efficiently, and utilizes technology to address educational situations.

- Developing Self and Others – Nominee is committed to continued professional growth, teaches, coaches and helps others and demonstrates and fosters creativity and imagination.
- Community Service – Nominee involves the community in school events and uses community resources for students, and establishes partnerships with community groups to strengthen programs and support school goals.

Nomination materials must be submitted in a three-ring binder and include:

- the nomination cover page;
- a maximum of 20 statements of support (must be current), including one for the school principal;
- a brief career summary; and
- a description of contributions in each area of the nomination criteria.

Nomination packets should be forwarded to the office of human resources by Monday, April 18.

For more information, contact Ramona DiBenedetto at 301-934-7242 or rdibenedetto@ccboe.com. Nomination materials are also posted on the school system Web site at <http://www.ccboe.com/jobs/emprec.php>.

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 openings

Secondary School Counselor — location to be determined, 11-month position.

Applicants must have a master's degree in school counseling and eligibility for certification in school counseling as determined by the Maryland State Department of Education. A minimum of a 600-practicum or experience teaching or counseling in a school setting is required. Human relations skills and knowledge of appropriate counseling skills needed. School counselors assist with designing and implementing an outcome-based counseling program that is aligned with the ASCA model and addresses the identified needs of the school community and implement a school guidance curriculum using effective instructional skills and carefully planned

structured activities to address academic achievement, personal-social skills and career development. Apply by Sept. 1.

ESOL Teacher — location to be determined, 10-month position. Bachelor's degree and certification of requirements established by the Maryland State Department of Education required, as well as knowledge of subject matter and appropriate instructional methodologies. Evidence of exemplary human relation skills, exemplary organizational and planning skills and ability to work effectively with students, parents and staff required. Job functions include planning and providing for appropriate learning experiences for children, supervising students in school-related settings and interacts with students, parents, staff and members of the community. Apply by Sept. 1.

Automotive Technology Instructional Assistant — North Point High School,

10-month position. An interest in and aptitude for working with secondary school-aged children required. Excellent human relations skills, good oral and written communication skills needed and ability to communicate effectively with staff, students and parents a must. Apply by April 11.

Prekindergarten Instructional Assistant — Eva Turner Elementary School, 10-month position. Ability to work in an instructional support role with pre-kindergarten children required. Excellent human relations, organizational and communications skills. Applicants must have knowledge of developmental stages of children. The instructional assistant will assist the teacher in planning instructional activities and maintaining a safe and orderly environment.

Extra pay positions

Assistant basketball coach — Maurice J. McDonough High School. Call 301-934-2944.