

*It's All About Teaching  
and Learning.*



*Charles County Public Schools*

# School News

## Important Dates Coming Soon

### *Imaginations run wild*

The annual Charles County Public Schools Destination Imagination tournament is Saturday, March 14, at North Point High School. The event starts at 7:30 a.m., and the awards ceremony is at 5:30 p.m.

### *SECAC to meet this month*

The Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) will meet on Tuesday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building.

### *Two-hour early dismissal*

The next two-hour early dismissal for students is Thursday, March 19. Morning prekindergarten students attend.

### *Spring has sprung*

The first day of spring is Friday, March 20.

### *Calling all history buffs*

The annual Charles County Public Schools History Day event is Saturday, March 21 at Westlake High School. Judging begins at 9:30 a.m., and the awards ceremony is at 6 p.m.

### *Airing now*

Airing now is a new episode of NewsBreak, a bi-monthly news show that highlights Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) students and staff. This episode highlights Youth Art Month and student artwork, student achievement at the March Board of Education meeting and calendar changes made as a result of inclement weather. Episodes of NewsBreak can be viewed on Comcast Channel 96 or Verizon FiOS Channel 12. For a programming schedule, visit the CCPSTV section of the website at [www.ccboe.com/ccboetv/](http://www.ccboe.com/ccboetv/).



## Staff recognized for being the difference

The Board of Education on March 10 recognized four outstanding staff members during the recognition portion of the meeting. Pictured, from left, are Nancy Jeffrey, German teacher, Thomas Stone High School; Jacqueline Stancliff, fourth-grade teacher, William A. Diggs Elementary School; Anita Riggans, special education teacher, General Smallwood Middle School; and Jennifer Jenkins, special education instructional assistant, J.P. Ryon Elementary School. The Board honors students and staff monthly.

## Schools open for three days during spring break

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) will open for students and teachers for three days during spring break – Monday, March 30; Tuesday, March 31; and Wednesday, April 1. Wednesday, April 1 will be a two-hour early dismissal day for students and afternoon prekindergarten students attend that day.

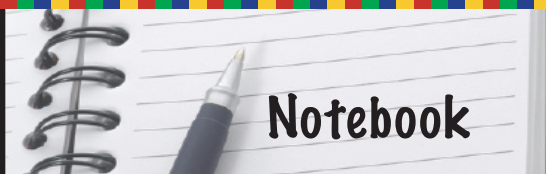
The school system has used seven inclement weather days so far this school year, of which only four are built into the school calendar. The use of spring break days for lost instructional time is outlined in the *CCPS Parent Handbook/Calendar*.

The Board of Education generally approves the school calendar two years in advance, and has already approved the use of spring break for make-up days this school year. CCPS will not submit a waiver of inclement weather days to the Maryland State Board of Education, as waivers are generally granted only in extreme cases and

when school systems have made efforts to make up missed days.

Schools will be closed for spring break April 2-6 (unless more inclement weather days are used), and reopen on Tuesday, April 7. Administrative offices are closed on Friday, April 3 and Monday, April 6. Maryland law requires school to operate 180 days for students each school year. The school system builds four inclement weather days into its calendar each year, which are deleted from the end of the year if not used. All days have been used this school year, making Tuesday, June 16 the last day of school for students.

Information regarding inclement weather make-up dates is also published on the CCPS website, [www.ccboe.com](http://www.ccboe.com) and on page 10 of the *2014-15 Charles County Public Schools Parent Handbook/Calendar*. Schools were closed due to snow and ice storms on Jan. 14, Jan. 27, Feb. 17, Feb. 18, Feb. 26, March 5 and March 6.



### On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are staff members from William A. Diggs Elementary School. Pictured from left, are Bethanie Kern, art teacher; Spencer Feeney, physical education teacher; and Alesia McWillis, technology facilitator.

### 24-hour information line

Charles County Public Schools posts school news, employee and student accomplishments, inclement weather closures and delays, and calendar information on a 24-hour information line. Call 301-932-6656 or 301-934-7410. The line is updated twice a week and immediately when inclement weather decisions are made.

### Follow us on Twitter

Did you know that Charles County Public Schools maintains a Twitter page? Follow us on [www.twitter.com/CCPS](http://www.twitter.com/CCPS) for system updates, news, facts and more. The school system also announces weather-related closings on Twitter. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kimberly Hill also maintains a Twitter page. Follow her @ccpsupt.

### Employees can buy, rent or sell

CCPS maintains an employee-only website, InsideCCPS. Staff can post classified ads on the website for free. Employees are responsible for deleting their ad. Directions for posting are listed on the page. To access InsideCCPS, visit the school system website, [www.ccboe.com](http://www.ccboe.com), and select InsideCCPS located in the lower right-hand side of the page. To access the website, users will need to use their CCPS email account address and password.

### Community Connection news

CCPS recently launched a community electronic newsletter, "Community Connection," for students, staff, parents and the community. The goal of the newsletter, which will be published on a quarterly basis, is to provide updates about school system information and news in an easily accessible and viewable format. The e-newsletter is also posted on the CCPS website at [www.ccboe.com/enews/](http://www.ccboe.com/enews/).

The Community Connection newsletter is published by the school system's communications department. Call 301-392-7504 with questions.

## National Board Certified Teachers



Lynn Nathan



**National Board Certification Area**  
**Generalist/Middle Childhood**

**Position held:** Learning resource teacher at T.C. Martin Elementary School

**Years of teaching experience:** 37

**Years with Charles County Public Schools:** 16

#### Education:

Bachelor of Arts in Dramatic Art, University of Maryland, College Park  
Master of Arts in Education, The American University, Washington, D.C.  
Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, University of Maryland, College Park  
Gifted and Talented Specialist Certification, University of North Georgia

#### Memorable Moment:

I taught a fourth-grade boy who was usually sullen and withdrawn. One day, I held auditions for a mini-play that we were going to perform in class. When he got up to read, it was with such passion that the entire class burst into applause. He stood there and grinned, and we were all amazed. He got the part, and from then on it was as if a light bulb had switched on and he became a new person. He was pleasant and was more outgoing; he had become a "star" to us and had a new identity. That memory has stayed with me, making me realize that every student has that special talent or skill that makes him/her unique, and it is our role as teachers to discover and nurture it.

## Nominate a vice principal for annual award

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is seeking nominations for its Outstanding Vice Principal of the Year Award. Teachers, parents, students and administrators can submit nominations, but employees cannot nominate themselves. The recipient will be honored at the June 9 Board meeting.

Nominees must be full-time employees, employed by CCPS 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 – implements strategies to improve teaching through effective programs; involves teachers and other staff members in achieving goals of the school; assists in ensuring school climate is positive; and functions effectively as a member of the school leadership team.
- Resolving complex problems – maintains awareness of current and emerging issues; resolves issues, manages time and tasks efficiently, and utilizes technology to address educational situations.

- Developing self and others – committed to continued professional growth, teaches, coaches and helps others, and demonstrates and fosters creativity and imagination.

- Community service – involves the community in school events, uses community resources for students, establishes partnerships with community groups to strengthen programs/support school goals.

Nomination materials must be submitted in a presentation binder and include:

- A nomination cover page including a contact person and committee members;
- A maximum of 20 support statements, including one from the school principal;
- A brief career summary; and
- A description of contributions in each of the nomination criteria.

Nomination packets should be sent to Pamela Mucciolo in the office of human resources by Friday, April 24. Contact Mucciolo at 301-934-7242 or [pmucciolo@ccboe.com](mailto:pmucciolo@ccboe.com) for more information.



# A class a day keeps the doctor away; register now for free health classes

As part of Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) wellness program for employees, two courses are available for registration for the spring session. Beginning on Monday, March 23, free personal training and yoga classes will be available at nearby 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 located in the table below. Space is limited to 20 participants per course.

Course sign ups begin on March 13. Employees must use the InsideCCPS web page to sign up for a class. To access the system, visit [www.ccboe.com](http://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 featured link located on the right-hand side of the page (see photo to the right). The link takes users to a sign-up page.

The program is sponsored by CareFirst, which is covering the cost of classes and instructors. The two courses available are open for enrollment by CCPS staff only and regardless if they are enrolled in the CareFirst health insurance program. The majority of classes run for six weeks.

The screenshot shows the 'Inside CCPS' website. At the top is the 'CHARLES COUNTY Public Schools' logo with the tagline 'It's all about teaching and learning'. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links: 'Inside CCPS', 'CCBOE Home', 'CCPS TV', 'Classified Ads', and 'In the News'. On the right side, there is a 'Featured Link' section with a red circle around the text 'Sign up for Spring 2015 Wellness classes'. Below this are sections for 'News to know', 'Staff Services', and 'Training Programs'. The 'News to know' section includes articles about tutor training, school openings during spring break, and staff inclement weather info. The 'Staff Services' section lists various forms and policies. The 'Training Programs' section lists computer training, e-mail instructions, and other professional development courses.

## Health and wellness classes

| Classes           | Location                                       | Time                          | Instructor | Start date                           |
|-------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Personal Training | Benjamin Stoddert Middle School                | 3:30-4:30 p.m.                | Melissa    | Wednesday March 25                   |
|                   | North Point High School                        | 3:30-4:30 p.m.                | Kelly      | Thursday, March 26                   |
|                   | Arthur Middleton Elementary School             | 4:15-4:45 p.m./4:45-5:15 p.m. | Melissa    | Monday, March 23                     |
|                   | Berry Elementary School                        | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Moanne     | Monday, March 23                     |
|                   | Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Randi      | Thursday, March 26                   |
|                   | Mary H. Matula Elementary School               | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Jim        | Wednesday, March 25                  |
|                   | Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School            | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Kelly      | Wednesday, March 25                  |
|                   | F.B. Gwynn Educational Center                  | 5-6 p.m.                      | Randi      | Tuesday, March 24                    |
| Yoga              | Henry E. Lackey High School                    | 3-4 p.m.                      | Laura      | Thursday, March 26                   |
|                   | William B. Wade Elementary School              | 3:30-4:30 p.m.                | Cathy      | Monday, March 23/Wednesday, March 25 |
|                   | Malcolm Elementary School                      | 4:05-5:05 p.m.                | Laura      | Monday, March 23                     |
|                   | Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School           | 4:15-5:15 p.m.                | Dawn       | Thursday, March 26                   |
|                   | Berry Elementary School                        | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Cathy      | Thursday, March 26                   |
|                   | F.B. Gwynn Educational Center                  | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Kimberly   | Wednesday, March 25                  |
|                   | Mary H. Matula Elementary School               | 4:30-5:30 p.m.                | Cindy      | Tuesday, March 24                    |
|                   | Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School | 5-6 p.m.                      | Brittany   | Tuesday, March 24                    |

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## Board of Education Members

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# School system seeks outstanding classified personnel staff

Charles County Public Schools is looking for award nominees for the 2015 Outstanding Classified Personnel Awards program. Awards are given in six categories: building service, food service, instructional support, secretary, maintenance and information technology. Award winners will be announced and recognized at the June 9 Board of Education meeting.

Staff, students and parents can submit nominations. Employees may not nominate themselves. Nominees must meet the following criteria: works full-time, has been employed with the school system for a minimum of three school years in the area for which they were nominated, and not have received this award within the past five years. Nominees must also meet criteria in the following areas:

- Resourceful in seeking and completing job duties;
- Seeks new knowledge and skills;
- Knows and understands all aspects of their assigned jobs;
- Utilizes technology where appropriate;
- Fosters cooperative relationships with students, colleagues and the community; and
- Demonstrates outstanding leadership.

Nomination materials must be included in a presentation binder and should not exceed 15 pages. All binders must include a cover page, career summary, description of contributions in the nomination criteria areas and statements of support. Nomination binders for the building service, food service, instructional support and secretary awards must include a minimum of 10 letters of support, including one from the principal/supervisor, three from co-workers and six from students, staff or the community. Binders for the maintenance and information technology award nominations must include a minimum of eight letters of support, including one from the division supervisor and immediate supervisor, three from other department supervisors, and three from co-workers or staff.

Binders are due to the office of human resources by Friday, April 24. Contact Pamela Mucciolo at 301-934-7242 or pmucciolo@ccboe.com for more information. Nominations submitted with incomplete binders will not be considered. Nomination information is also posted on the CCPS site at [www.ccboe.com](http://www.ccboe.com), under the jobs section.

## Personnel

Apply for positions online at [www.ccboe.com/jobs/currentopenings.php](http://www.ccboe.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. Apply by March 16.

**Food Service Workers** – Openings at J.C. Parks Elementary School and La Plata High School, 10-month positions. Apply by March 23.

**Financial Secretary** – Westlake High School, 10-month position. Apply by March 23.

**Teacher Candidates** – Locations to be determined, 10-month positions.

**Special Education Teachers** – Openings at Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer and Eva Turner elementary schools, 10-month positions.

**Mathematics Teachers** – Openings at Milton M. Somers Middle School and North Point High School, 10-month positions.

**Elementary School Teacher** – Location to be determined, 10-month position.

**French Teacher** – St. Charles High School, 10-month position.

**Instructional Resource Teacher for Life Skills** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 10-month position. Master's degree, advanced professional certificate with endorsement in special education and a minimum of three years teaching experience with the Life Skills population required.

**Spanish Teacher** – Location to be determined, 10-month position.

**Technology Education Teacher** – North Point High School, 10-month position.

**Food Service Substitute** – Location to be determined, hourly position.

**School Bus Attendant Substitute** – Annex I, hourly position.

**Reading Recovery Teacher** – Location to be determined, 10-month position. Master's degree in early childhood education or reading,

evidence of completion of a Reading Recovery training program and three years teaching experience at the primary level required. Experience with Reading Recovery preferred.

**Science Teacher** – North Point High School, 10-month position.

**Bus Driver Substitute** – Location to be determined, hourly position.

### Extra pay positions

**North Point High School** has the following opening:

- Girls' lacrosse assistant coach

Contact Andy Shattuck, athletic director, at 301-753-1759 to apply.

**La Plata High School** has the following opening:

- Junior varsity girls' soccer coach

Contact Cliff Nagle, athletic director, at 301-753-1754 to apply.