



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Schools/offices closed

Schools and offices are closed on Monday, Sept. 2, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Pre-K and Three's program

Students enrolled in the Three's and pre-kindergarten programs start school on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

Three pay dates this month

There are three pay dates this month. The only deductions taken from the third paycheck are taxes and retirement. Other deductions, such as health insurance, are not deducted from the third paycheck in months with three pay dates.

Teacher in-service day

Schools are closed for students only on Friday, Sept. 13, for a teacher in-service day. An in-service schedule will be posted on the school system website by Sept. 6.

Receive system releases

Staff members can sign up to receive Charles County Public Schools press releases electronically to their e-mail accounts. To register, visit www.ccboe.com. Click on the About section in the top menu, then choose Press Releases located under the Public Info/Media section. The subscribe feature is located on the right-hand side of the home page. Subscribers who signed up to receive press releases from the old website will have to follow these steps to register on the new website.

Live Board meetings

Board of Education meetings are streamed live on the new school system website. Visit www.ccboe.com and select the CCPS TV section on the bottom of the home page. To access live broadcasts, choose the live broadcast tab.



Pictured above is Adrianna Rodriguez, a sixth-grade math teacher from John Hanson Middle School, as she readies her classroom for the 2013-14 school year.

CCPS welcomes students, staff back to school

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) opened for the 2013-14 school year Monday, Aug. 26, with first day jitters, excitement and messages of safety.

Superintendent Kimberly Hill joined Sheriff Rex Coffey at North Point High School Monday morning to remind students to drive safely. Along with sheriff's officers, Hill and Coffey handed student drivers safety flyers and reminders to stow telephones before driving a car.

Police officers at the five other high schools also stopped student drivers to provide the flyer, which is part of a six-year-old "We Care" program, a safe driving initiative for teens by teens with guidance from the sheriff's office and CCPS. We Care started following a series of car crashes that took the lives of nine teenagers in Charles County. The campaign continues to engage students in conversation about safe driving while promoting safety through a series of checkpoints

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System launches employees only web section

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) has launched an employee-only section of the new website called Inside CCPS. The section includes employee-related information previously found on the Staff Services page of the former site. Employees with school system e-mail accounts can access the system by following the steps below.

- Visit www.ccboe.com.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the home page, and click on the words "InsideCCPS" located on the bottom right-hand side of the page.
- An authentication window will then appear on your computer screen. Your user name is the same as your CCPS e-mail ac-

count. For example John White's user name would be jwhite. Your password is the same password you use to access your e-mail account.

- Internet users accessing the system through Internet Explorer must put @ccboe.com after their user name. For example, John White would use jwhite@ccboe.com as his user name when accessing the system from Internet Explorer. All other Internet browsers only need the user name without @ccboe.com and e-mail password.

- Users who experience issues accessing the system can also choose the "login help" link posted on the bottom right-hand side of the home page.

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Website

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Employees without Charles County Public Schools e-mail accounts can follow the steps below to access the section. These steps apply to some food service and building service workers, substitutes and temporary employees.

- Visit www.ccboe.com.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the home page, and click on the words "InsideCCPS" located on the bottom right-hand side of the page.
- An authentication window will then appear on your computer screen.
- The user name is charlescounty (all one word – no spaces and no capitalization).
- The password is welcome (all lower case).

The section is currently divided into five areas: training programs, other, staff services, previous stories and portals. Upon log-in, users can read a recent Charles County Public Schools news story. The five separate areas with employee information are located on the right-hand side of the page.

The training programs area features professional development courses, computer training information, e-mail and

voicemail instructions, and SmartFind Express (SEMS) tutorials. Under the other section is information about benefits, the direct exchange e-mail link and inclement weather procedures for staff. Employee training videos will soon be added to this section.

The staff services area includes information such as the employee manual, ethics policy, fraud reporting, travel guidelines, and leave forms. The portals area includes a link to the employee portal, the help desk, additional insurance information, the iService desk and the office of instruction.

To exit the section, select the CCBOE home link located at the top of the Inside CCPS home page.

The new website launched earlier this month and included a community and staff survey coordinated by the communications department earlier this year. A majority of employee respondents commented that the staff services page had too much information making it difficult to navigate the area. Additionally, the employee-only section provides additional security for staff information.

E-mail webmaster@ccboe.com with questions.



Back to school

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in school parking lots and other activities. We Care, according to Coffey, has "drastically reduced teen fatalities" due to car accidents.

Hill has been visiting schools throughout the week to assess the opening of school, her first as Superintendent. "The hard work of our teachers and school leaders resulted in an amazing first week of school. Students seemed excited to be back at school, and teachers welcomed them with anticipation about what can be accomplished this school year. It was a great opening, and I'm very proud of all the work that went into it. Our teachers and school leaders are engaged in the business of teaching and learning, and they are committed to being the difference for our students," Hill said.

Enrollment

Student enrollment is continuing a five-year trend of limited or declining student growth. On Wednesday, student enrollment

was 25,157, which does not include the 860 prekindergarten students scheduled to start on Sept. 3. The projection for this year was 26,773; however, based on this year's enrollment trend, school officials are estimating enrollment at 26,500. Last year's official enrollment was 26,644 students.

New teacher hires

Human Resources is winding down the hiring process for the 2013-14 school year. Connie Armstead, executive director of human resources, reported Monday that all but seven teaching positions had been filled. Vacancies are being covered with long-term substitutes. Charles County welcomed 169 new teachers, including 34 special education, 60 elementary and 75 secondary teachers. Human resources specialists reported shortage areas in special education, world languages, technical education, and high school science and mathematics.

Notebook

On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are staff members from Theodore G. Davis Middle School. Pictured, from left, are Michele Petricoin, vision teacher; Thomas Clybourn, school counselor; and Lykendra Watson, secretary.

Follow us on Twitter

Did you now that Charles County Public Schools maintains a Twitter page? Follow us on www.twitter.com/CCPS for system updates, news, facts and more. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kimberly Hill also maintains a Twitter page. Follow her @ccpsupt.

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.

Airing this week...

Airing this week on Comcast Channel 96 and Verizon FiOS Channel 12 is a new episode of Newsbreak 96, a biweekly show produced by the communications department. This episode celebrates the start of the 2013-14 school year, features important updates from the August Board of Education meeting and follows Superintendent Kimberly Hill on the first day of the new school year. Access the episode by visiting the home page of the school system website, www.ccboe.com. Select the CCPS TV area located at the bottom of the home page to access episodes of Newsbreak 96. Episodes of Newsbreak are also anchored by students from several high schools. These students range from sophomores to seniors and have an interest in learning about the field of broadcasting and communications.

This Week

This Week in Charles County Public Schools is a short news item compiled weekly and sent via e-mail to all employees during the school year. This Week provides informational links to news items, school system accomplishments and facts, as well as upcoming events that employees might like to attend.



Schools welcome students back to class

Charles County Public Schools welcomed students back to the classroom on Monday, Aug. 26. Pictured, from the top left: C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School Principal Troy Barnes welcomes second-grader Noah Ingram to school; Thomas Stone High School Vice Principal Ryan Erickson and Spanish teacher Jean Beierle model their "superstaff" t-shirts; Tara Schohn, an instructional resource teacher at Dr. James Craik Elementary School greets second-grader Izaih Ransome as he exits the bus; Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kimberly Hill welcomes student drivers at North Point High School with flyers about safe driving; Milton M. Somers Middle School seventh-graders James Sayer and Brian Awdakimow talk with sixth grader Mackenzie Miller and seventh grader Caileigh Kabala as they arrive for school; and Barnhart first-grader Todd Waller receives assistance from Theresa Morton, a special education teacher.

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Board of Education announces September 10 agenda

The Board of Education's next monthly meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 10, at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building on Radio Station Road in La Plata. The public portion of the meeting begins at 1 p.m. The meeting is televised live on Comcast Channel 96 and Verizon FiOS Channel 12, and is rebroadcast throughout the week. Board meetings are also streamed live on the school system website www.ccboe.com. Select CCPS TV and then choose the Live Broadcast tab.

Executive session – 12 p.m.

Call to order – 1 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – JROTC unit from Thomas Stone High School

Superintendent's update to the Board

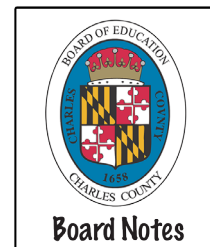
Reports of officers/boards/committees

- Correspondence/board member updates
- Education Association of Charles County update
- Student board member's update
- Opening of schools
- Capital Improvement Program (CIP) update
- Report item: FY 2014 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan
- Staffing update
- Proposed legislation

Unfinished business

New business and Future agenda items

- New business
- Future agenda items
- Public Forum – 6 p.m.**
- Action items**
- Minutes
- Personnel
- FY 2015 CIP state and local CIP program
- Policies 6411.7 and 6411.8
- FY2013 Operating budget amendment
- Recurring resolutions: *American Education Week; American Freedom Week; African-American History Month; Career and Technology Education Month; Gifted and Talented Education Month; National School Counseling Week; Read Across America; Women's History Month; Fine and Performing Arts Month; Month of the Young Child; National Student Leadership Week; Teacher Appreciation Week; Administrative Professionals Week; Child Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week; National Physical Education and Sport Week; Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leader; Charles County Teacher of the Year; Employees Retirement; and Washington Post Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award.*
- Adjournment**



Personnel

Job Openings

Special Education Instructional Specialist for Early Childhood – F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position. Master's degree, advanced professional certificate in Special Education and five years of teaching experience required. Apply by Sept. 2.

Special Education Inclusion Resource Teacher – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 10-month position. Master's degree and five years of teaching experience required. Advanced professional certificate in special education preferred. Apply by Sept. 3.

Administrative Assistant – Piccowaxen Middle School, 11-month position. Three years of teaching experience required. Apply by Sept. 4.

Prekindergarten Instructional Assistant – Berry Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 4.

Food Service Worker – Theodore G. Davis Middle School, part-time, 10-month position.

Apply by Sept. 5.

Building Service Worker – North Point High School, 12-month position. Apply by Sept. 5.
Special Education Instructional Assistant – Life Skills – Daniel of St. Thomas Jennifer Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 5.

Special Education Instructional Assistant – Emotionally Adjusted Program – Thomas Stone High School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 5.

Media Instructional Assistant – Eva Turner Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 5.

Attendance Instructional Assistant – North Point High School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 5.

Special Education Instructional Assistant – Gale-Bailey Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 6.

Building Service Worker – Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School, 12-month position.

Apply by Sept. 11.

Computer Teacher – Mattawoman Middle School, 10-month position.

Library Media Specialist – Openings at the elementary school level, 10-month positions.

Special Education Teacher – Multiple Intensity Teaching – F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position.

Extra pay positions

Thomas Stone High School has the following openings:

- Head indoor track coach
- Head outdoor track coach

Contact Steve Lee, athletic director, 301-645-2601, to apply.

North Point High School has the following opening:

- Assistant field hockey coach

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