



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Schools closed

Schools and offices are closed Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

SECAC meeting

The Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 21, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. Call 301-705-6636 or 410-451-0050 for more information.

Second marking period ends

The second marking period ends on Thursday, Jan. 23; the third marking period begins on Friday, Jan. 24.

Semester break

Schools are closed for students only on Monday, Jan. 27, for a semester break.

Mid-year orientation

The mid-year new teacher orientation is Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. Call 301-934-7253 for more information.

PAC meeting

The next Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 28, in the Board room at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building in La Plata. Call 301-934-7364 for more information.

W-2 statements

The school system plans to release W-2 statements to employees by Friday, Jan. 31. Copies of 2013 W-2 statements will be available for view on the employee web portal after Jan. 31.



McDonough holds mini college fair

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) celebrated College Awareness Week Dec. 16-20. Several schools, including Maurice J. McDonough High School, held mini college fairs for students to learn about the application process. McDonough hosted representatives from seven Maryland colleges, including Frostburg State University. Pictured from left are Frostburg's Regional Recruiter Admissions Counselor Donnie Richardson, and students Ryann McGee, Branden Nestor and Alex McAfee. Richardson shared information with these students about Frostburg, such as possible majors, tuition figures and financial aid options.

Student transfer rule changes affect employees

The Board of Education on Jan. 14 approved changes to the student transfer rule that affect Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) employees. Superintendent's Rule 5126 provides guidelines that govern when and how students are allowed to attend a school other than the one to which they are assigned, and establishes criteria for student transfer approvals.

CCPS students are assigned to their zoned schools based on their domicile, meaning their sole, permanent residence. Approved changes that affect employees include:

- A student who is domiciled in Charles County and whose parent/guardian is a full-time CCPS employee eligible for benefits may request a transfer to the elementary, middle or high school zone for that parent/guardian's current work location.

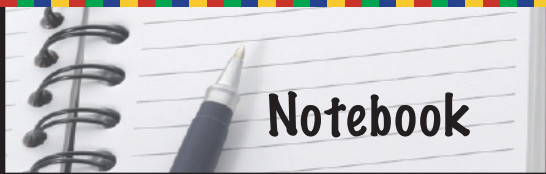
- When an employee has a child that attends the elementary, middle or high school zone for their work location changes to another work location, they may request that their child complete the school year at the school in which they are currently enrolled.

- A student who has a domicile outside of Charles County and whose parent/guardian is a full-time CCPS employee eligible for benefits may request to enroll in the CCPS elementary, middle or high school zoned for their parent/guardian's current work location.

- The county portion of tuition for a student who has a domicile outside of Charles County and whose parent/guardian was a full-time CCPS employee before Jan. 1, 2013, will be waived.

- One half of the county tuition for a student who has a domicile outside of Charles

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On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are employees honored by the Board of Education at the Jan. 14 meeting. Pictured, from left, are Lisa Hasz, special education instructional assistant, William B. Wade Elementary School; Sharon Hawkins, food service worker, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School; and Tony Chase, building service manager, Robert D. Stethem Educational Center.

TSA plans are available for staff

Employees are eligible to contribute to a 403B tax sheltered annuity (TSA) or 457 plan. A list with TSA agent information is available in the forms database, which is accessible from the InsideCCPS page of the website. Employees who set up a TSA account should contact payroll at payroll@ccboe.com to notify them of the deduction amount and name of the TSA vendor.

Nominate an outstanding parent

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) recently announced the Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award (PIMA) program for 2014. The annual award recognizes parents and guardians whose contributions have led to improvements in Maryland public schools.

Nominees must be a parent/legal guardian of a child in a Maryland public school, and a consistent advocate of public education. Nominees must have also demonstrated involvement in one of the five following areas within the last 24 months: communicating; volunteering; learning; decision making; and/or community collaboration.

Nominations must include three letters of recommendation, a two-page narrative essay describing the nominee's contribution to public education and completed nomination forms. Five finalists will be selected and the state winner will be announced at a ceremony scheduled for later this spring.

Nominations are due Jan. 31 and forms are available on MSDE's website at <http://www.msde.state.md.us/w/PIMANomination-Form2014.pdf>. Incomplete applications will not be considered and submissions will not be accepted online or by e-mail. To learn more about the PIMA program and previous award winners, visit www.MarylandPublicSchools.org/pima.

Board of Education re-elects Wise and Cook

The Board of Education of Charles County re-elected Roberta Wise as chairman and Maura Cook as vice chairman at its Jan. 14 meeting. The Board elects a chairman and vice chairman each January and officers serve a one-year term.

Board members voted unanimously to re-elect Wise to the chairmanship position that she has held for the past four years.



Roberta Wise

In accepting the nomination, Wise thanked the Board for their continued support and said she looks forward to continuing her role as chairman.

Wise is currently serving in her second term on the Board and also served as vice chairman for two years. She was first elected in 2006 and is a retired Charles County Public Schools mathematics teacher with 34 years of experience. During her teaching career, Wise was named as the Charles County Public Schools Teacher of the Year and was honored by the *Washington Post* with their Agnes Meyer award

for outstanding teachers in 1991. For most of her career, she taught at Henry E. Lackey High School. She was a coordinator of the Educational Partnership Team and a math resource teacher before retiring in 1999.



Maura Cook

The Board also unanimously voted to re-elect Cook as vice chairman. This is her fourth year serving as vice chairman. She is a nurse case manager for Restore Rehabilitation, Inc. and a parent volunteer. She is a co-founder of the Women's Exercise Research Center of the George Washington University and a past presenter at the American College of Sports Medicine's annual conference. She is active with the Maryland Association of Boards of Education. Mrs. Cook has a bachelor's degree in science and nursing from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, and a Master's degree in education and human development from George Washington University.

Transfer

Continued from page 1

County and whose parent/guardian was a full-time employee hired to begin work on or after Jan. 1, 2013, will be waived. The parent/guardian who falls under this guideline will be required to pay half of the county tuition for their child to attend a CCPS elementary, middle or high school zoned for their work location.

CCPS employees are eligible for benefits if they are hired for a permanent/contractual position for at least 20 hours per week. The school system's Department of Student Services determines all transfer requests. Transfer requests must meet certain criteria, and schools must have adequate space, including in the particular grade and instructional programs. Adequate space in a school is determined by state-rated capacity. Additional conditions of approved transfer requests include:

- Students who transfer to a new high school on or before the first day of school are not eligible for athletics for the entire school year.
- Students who transfer to a new high school after the first day of school are not eligible for athletics for one full calendar year, which is determined from the date the student initially enrolls in the new school.
- Students receiving transfers must provide their own transportation to and from school. The school system does not provide transportation for students with approved transfer requests.
- Approval for all transfers is reviewed annually.

Employees can view additional content outlined in Rule 5126 by doing a search on BoardDocs at <http://www.boarddocs.com/mabe/ccpsmd/Board.nsf> for Rule 5126.

Somers teachers join ranks of National Board Certified Teachers

Two Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) middle school teachers – Monica Derencin and Erin Gartland – recently joined the ranks of accomplished teachers nationwide who achieved national certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

Both teachers completed a yearlong performance-based assessment series to become National Board Certified Teachers, according to a Dec. 18 release by the NBPTS. They join 37 other Charles County Public Schools teachers who hold current national certification status.



Monica Derencin

Derencin is a language arts teacher at Milton M. Somers Middle School and earned her certificate in the area of English language arts/adolescence and young adulthood. She has been teaching language arts at Somers for the past nine years and works with eighth-grade students. Derencin has a bachelor's degree in English literature from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from McDaniel College.

Gartland is a science teacher at Somers and earned her certification in the area of science/early adolescence. She has been teaching at Somers for the past eight school years and teaches eighth grade physical science. Gartland has a bachelor's degree in secondary education – biology/group science from Western Michigan University, and

a master's degree in education/instructional technology from Walden University.

National Board Certified Teachers must complete a rigorous review of their skills and work, which includes teacher portfolios, student work samples, videotapes, and thorough analysis of the candidates' classroom teaching and student learning. Teachers also complete a series of written exercises that probe the depth of their subject-matter knowledge and their understanding of how to teach that material to students.

These teachers join more than 4,000 teachers nationwide who were certified in 2013. Certification is valid for 10 years, after which a teacher may seek renewal. Maryland has 2,575 teachers who are nationally certified and is one of the top 10 states with the highest participation in the certification process.

By achieving National Board Certification, Charles County teachers are eligible for a \$4,500 stipend added to their annual salary as long as they maintain their National Board Certification status.

Only teachers with a standard or advanced professional certificate who have a minimum of three years successful teaching experience are eligible to apply for National Board Certification. Information about the application process is available on the NBPTS website at www.nbpts.org.



Erin Gartland

Nanjemoy Creek's Emhoff honored with national presidential award for science

Timothy Emhoff, a Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) environmental education resource teacher, was recently named one of 102 national winners of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) by the National Science Foundation. The award is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through grade 12 mathematics or science teacher can receive in the United States.

Emhoff was nominated for the award by Monique Wilson, director of the science center at St. Charles High School and former coordinator of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education for CCPS. He was chosen as an award winner from selected mathematics and science teachers from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and is the science recipient from Maryland. The competition alternates each year between kindergarten through sixth-grade teachers and seventh- through twelfth-grade teachers. National winners are chosen by a panel of distinguished scientists and mathematicians.

As a national recipient, Emhoff receives a \$10,000 grant and said he is honored to receive such a prestigious award. "The award is validation that I am on the right path in terms of my approach to education. I am thankful for my supervisors, colleagues, students and family for their support that has helped me along this path in becoming an effective facilitator," he said.

Emhoff was named an environmental education resource teacher in 2013 and oversees the Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center for CCPS. He previously taught science at Indian Head Elementary

School for 13 years, where he used hands-on activities and inquiry-based labs to connect students with real-world scenarios. Emhoff also coordinated after school sessions for students in need of assistance, and served as a coach for the Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) and LEGO teams at Indian Head.

In addition to his involvement with the Indian Head community, Emhoff helped design the elementary portion of the Naval Surface Warfare Center's STEM program Go Places! With Math and Science, and served as a STEM master teacher for the Maryland State Department of Education's (MSDE) Educator Effectiveness Academies. Additionally, he has also helped to facilitate environmental institutes through a partnership with the Alice Ferguson Foundation.

Principals, parents, students or community members can submit nominations for the award and nominations can be submitted for more than one teacher. Teachers can also nominate themselves. Once all nominations are received, nominated teachers are notified and must continue the application process to be considered for an award.

Emhoff, along with all other awardees, will be honored during a ceremony later this year. For more information about PAEMST, visit www.paemst.org.



Timothy Emhoff

School News is published by
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Three schools change start and end times for next year

Charles County Public Schools is changing starting and ending times for three schools and establishing hours for St. Charles High School, which opens in August. The changes will accommodate additional bus routes created with the opening of St. Charles.

The opening times for Berry Elementary School and Theodore G. Davis Middle School are being slightly adjusted for the 2014-15 school year. The hours for Mattawoman Middle School are being shifted to a later schedule for the coming school year, with the school opening nearly an hour later than currently scheduled.

The following are the time changes and are effective August 2014.

- Berry – times change to 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., which is a 10-minute change.
- Davis – new times will be 8:50 a.m. to 3:20 p.m., which is a 10-minute change.
- Mattawoman – new hours are 8:25 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. This is a 55-minute change.
- Hours for St. Charles High School are 7:25 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

The school system plans to implement a four-tier route structure with the selected schools. Buses for Berry, Mattawoman and Davis will first service routes for Westlake High School, followed by routes for Mattawoman and Davis and then Berry.

Proposed government and health textbooks on display

New textbooks proposed by Charles County Public Schools for next school year are available for review at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building in La Plata, and several county schools.

One new series of textbooks is proposed for use at the middle school level as part of the health curriculum. The text, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill's *Teen Health*, is a series of eight texts that supplement the Maryland health curriculum. The books are on display at the Starkey Building, and Theodore G. Davis and Benjamin Stoddert middle schools.

Another text, *United States Government – Principles and Practices*, is published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and is proposed as an alternative and potential replacement for the current ninth-grade government text. The proposed government text is on display at Maurice J. McDonough, North Point and Westlake high schools.

The Board of Education is reviewing the books and will take action on the books at the March 11 meeting.

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

Prekindergarten Instructional Assistant – Title I – Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Jan. 22.

Building Service Assistant Manager – Piccowaxen Middle School, 12-month position. Apply by Jan. 23.

Building Service Workers – Openings at Henry E. Lackey, North Point and Thomas Stone high schools, 12-month positions. Apply by Jan. 23.

Title I Nonpublic Tutor – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, hourly position. Early childhood certification required. Apply by Jan. 28.

Technology Facilitator – Indian Head Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Jan. 29.

Executive Director of Human Resources

– Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. An advanced degree in human resources, extensive background in managing a human resources department and a minimum of five years of senior level human resources management experience required. Experience in education is preferred.

Prekindergarten Teacher – C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School, 10-month position.

Social Studies Teacher – Thomas Stone High School, 10-month position.

Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science/Earth Science Teacher – North Point High School, 10-month position.

Math Teachers – Openings at the middle school level, 10-month positions.

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

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

Technology Education Teacher – La Plata

High School, 10-month position.

Preschool Special Education Teachers – Locations to be determined, 10-month positions.

Special Education Math Teacher – Thomas Stone High School, 10-month position.

Speech and Language Pathologist – Location to be determined, 10-month position.

Extra pay position

Westlake High School has the following opening:

- Head boys' lacrosse coach

Contact Dominic Zaccarelli, athletic director, 301-645-8857, to apply.

Staff Notes

Notice of public sale

Charles County Public School will hold a public sale for slightly used china from the Oasis cafeteria. For a list of items being sold, visit http://www.ccboe.com/departments/purchasing/public_sales.php. For more information or questions, contact Nelson E. Sample at 301-934-7340 or nsample@ccboe.com.