

School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Memorial Day closure

Schools and offices are closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

School News

The June 13 edition of *School News* is the last printed edition for the 2013-2014 school year. Limited copies will be provided this summer for 12-month employees. Staff members can keep up with the latest school news with online editions of *School News*, which are posted on the staff section of the school system website. Publications feature job openings, changes, calendar items and other staff information. Throughout the summer, the communications department sends important information to employees by e-mail.

Summer school registration

Registration for the 2014 Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) Summer School program is June 25-26 at the Robert D. Stethem Educational Center. Summer school begins Tuesday, July 1, at Westlake High School. Walk-in registration times are June 25 and June 26, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Registration forms, as well as copies of the summer school rules and procedures, are available at all middle and high school counseling offices. Forms must be turned in no later than 7 p.m. on June 26. For more information, visit http://www.ccboe.com/community/summer_school.php.

Airing now

Airing this week on Comcast 96 and Verizon FiOS Channel 12 is a new episode of Newsbreak 96, produced by the communications department. This episode features the Every 15 Minutes program held at North Point and Thomas Stone high schools and features an award-winning principal and middle school.

Graduation information for the class of 2014

More than 2,100 Charles County public high school seniors are expected to graduate in ceremonies planned for May 30, and June 2-3. Ceremonies for Henry E. Lackey, La Plata, Maurice J. McDonough, Thomas Stone and Westlake high schools will be held at the Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro on May 30, June 2 and June 3. North Point High School will host graduation ceremonies in the school's gymnasium on June 3.

The following is the graduation schedule for Friday, May 30:

- McDonough, 10:30 a.m.; and
- Lackey, 3:30 p.m.

The following is the graduation schedule for Monday, June 2:

- La Plata, 10:30 a.m.; and
- Westlake, 3:30 p.m.

The following is the graduation schedule for Tuesday, June 3:

- Stone, 10:30 a.m.; and
- North Point, 7 p.m.

End-of-year calendar reminders

The last day of school for students in the three-year-old program is Thursday, June 12. The last day of school for students in kindergarten through grade 11 is Wednesday, June 18. June 13, 16, 17 and 18 are two-hour early dismissal days for students. The last day of

school for teachers is Friday, June 20. Elementary school report cards will be issued to students on June 18. Report cards for middle and high school students will be mailed on Wednesday, June 25.

School times adjusted, set for next year

Charles County Public Schools has changed start and end times for three schools, as well as the F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, and established hours for St. Charles High School. These changes are for the 2014-15 school year and take effect on Aug. 25, 2014.

The following are the time changes for next school year:

- Berry Elementary School – times change to 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., which is a 10-minute change.
- Theodore G. Davis Middle School – new times will be 8:50 a.m. to 3:20 p.m., which is a 10-minute change.
- F.B. Gwynn Educational Center – new times are 9:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., which is almost a two-hour change.
- Mattawoman Middle School – 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.

Daphne Burns named Gwynn Center principal

Daphne Burns, vice principal at Mary B. Neal Elementary School, has been named principal of the F.B. Gwynn Educational Center. The Board of Education last week approved the appointment of Burns who has served as vice principal at Neal since 2010.

Burns started her education career in 1998 as a general and special education teacher with Prince George's County and moved to Charles County Public Schools in 2008 as an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) facilitator. Prior to teaching, Burns served 13 years on active duty with the U.S. Air Force and eight years in the National Guard.

"I am honored to be appointed principal of the Gwynn Center. I am looking forward

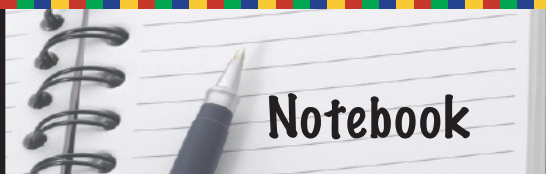
to getting to know and work with the staff and students," Burns said.

The F. B. Gwynn Educational Center is the location for several special education programs that provide services for students with disabilities.

Burns has a Master of Science in Educational Administration from Trinity University, Washington, D.C. and a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood/Special Education from Bowie State University. Her appointment takes effect July 1.



Daphne Burns



On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are employees honored by the Board of Education at the May meeting. Pictured from left, are Webster Lee, building service manager, North Point High School; Amber Kirk, kindergarten teacher, Mary B. Neal Elementary School; and Kimberly Ta-bourne, special education teacher, Mattawoman Middle School.

Better Hearing/Speech Month

Charles County Public Schools recognizes Better Hearing and Speech Month annually in May, which provides opportunities to raise awareness about communication disorders and the importance of establishing good speech and language skills. The school system has 36 speech-language pathologists on staff who serve in roles such as pathologists, therapists, parent liaisons and diagnosticians. According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), a speech-language impairment is a communication disorder such as stuttering, impaired articulation, language impairment or a voice impairment that adversely affects a child's educational performance. The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) reports that 8 to 9 percent of young children suffer from speech disorders and early treatment can prevent children from falling behind academically, socially and in other key areas of development. For more information about Better Hearing and Speech Month, visit the ASHA website at <http://www.asha.org/bhsm/>.

Follow us on Twitter

Did you now that Charles County Public Schools maintains a Twitter page? Follow us @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.

National Board Certified Teachers

Melody Chazon



National Board Certification Area
Science/Early Adolescence



Teaches: ninth-grade Earth science

Years of teaching experience: 12

Years with Charles County Public Schools: one

Education

Bachelor of Science in Biology, Bennett College in Greensboro, NC
Master's in Education, Indiana Wesleyan University

Memorable Moment

I would have to say working with colleagues. The friendships are what keep you around. That's what holds you to a school. The children sometimes move on but the staff can become some of your closest friends.



Partial calendar dates for the 2014-15 school year

The following is a partial calendar for the 2014-15 school year. The calendar is subject to change throughout the school year and any changes are announced on the Charles County Public Schools website, www.ccboe.com. The 2014-15 Parent Handbook/Calendar will be available in August.

- Aug. 11, 2014 – New teacher orientation week
- Aug. 18, 2014 – First day of school for returning teachers
- Aug. 25, 2014 – First day of school for students, K-12
- Sept. 1, 2014 – Labor Day, schools and offices closed
- Sept. 12, 2014 – Teacher in-service day, schools closed for students
- Oct. 17, 2014 – Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) Convention, schools closed
- Nov. 4, 2014 – Election Day, teacher-in service day, schools closed for students only
- Nov. 26-28, 2014 – Thanksgiving break, schools and offices closed
- Dec. 22-31, 2014 – Winter break,

schools closed for students and teachers

- Dec. 25-26, 2014 – Offices closed for winter break
- Jan. 1-2, 2015 – Schools and offices closed
- Jan. 19, 2015 – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, schools and offices closed
- Jan. 26, 2015 – Semester break, schools closed for students only
- Feb. 4, 2015 – Teacher in-service day, schools closed for students only
- Feb. 16, 2015 – Presidents Day, schools and offices closed
- March 30-April 6, 2015 – spring break, schools closed for students and teachers
- May 25, 2015 – Memorial Day holiday, schools and offices closed
- June 11, 2015 – Last day of school for Three's program
- June 16, 2015 – Last day of school for students (with four inclement weather days built into the calendar)
- June 17, 2015 – Last day of school for teachers (with four inclement weather days built into the calendar)

Staff recognized for making a difference for special needs students

The Charles County Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) honored more than 100 Charles County Public Schools staff at the ninth annual Teacher and Staff Appreciation Awards ceremony held April 29 at the Greater Waldorf Jaycees Community Center.

Honorees are nominated by students, parents and community members for awards in six categories: individual elementary; individual secondary; elementary group; secondary group; related services and support staff/administration.

Two winners were selected in the individual elementary category - Erica Burroughs, special education teacher at Berry Elementary School, and Jo Handley, special education teacher at Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School.

The elementary group winners are from the F.B. Gwynn Educational Center. They are Kristin Cotner, occupational therapist; Susan Jennings, special education instructional assistant; Jo Anne Roberts, physical therapist; Krista Spalding, special education teacher; Linda Steffens, speech therapist; Anne-Marie Storm, instructional assistant; and Melissa Wagner, instructional assistant.

Two winners were also selected for the secondary individual category - Kathleen Burke, a special education teacher at Milton M. Somers Middle School, and Margaret McCormac, an instructional assistant at Piccowaxen Middle School.

The secondary group winners are from Thomas Stone High School. They are Cory Chapman, special education teacher; Susan Fine, special education instructional assistant, Emotionally Adjusted (EA) program; Maria Hidalgo, special education instructional assistant, EA program; Scott Paterson, school psychologist; and Matthew Werner, special education teacher.

In the related services category, Kristin Cotner, an occupational therapist at Gwynn, was named the winner. In the support staff/administration category, Todd Wonderling, the acting coordinator for special programs at Gwynn, was selected as the winner.

Additionally, award honorees include:

- Linda Baker, special education instructional assistant, Life Skills program, John Hanson Middle School;
- Nicole Baker, special education preschool instructional assistant, Berry;
- Angela Bates, special education instructional assistant, EA program, Mary H. Matula Elementary School;
- Sheri Belisle, prekindergarten teacher, Mary B. Neal Elementary School;
- Brenda Bell, school bus driver;
- Stacy Bennett, special education teacher, Hanson;
- Nidia Black, special education teacher/IEP facilitator, North Point High School;
- Cairna Bode, speech therapist, Gwynn;
- Tammy Bowling, special education instructional assistant, Infants and Toddlers program, Gwynn;
- Fallon Boyce, instructional assistant, Gwynn;

- Roberta Bragunier, special education teacher, Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School;
- Scott Brain, school psychologist, Gwynn;
- Timothy Brown, school psychologist, Mattawoman Middle School;
- Jennifer Buckley, special education teacher, Mattawoman;
- Stacy Burkheiser, fifth-grade teacher, Malcolm Elementary School;
- Laura Canetti, speech language pathologist, Neal;
- Lachelle Carroll, special education preschool instructional assistant, Neal;
- Janie Chang, special education teacher, T.C. Martin Elementary School;
- Alison Cheney, physical education teacher, North Point;
- Karen Chisley, special education teacher, Piccowaxen;
- Kristin Churchill, special education teacher, Stone;
- Anne Corbelli, special education teacher, North Point;
- Samantha Clark, special education teacher, Matula;
- Samantha DeNardo, English as a Second Language (ESOL) teacher, Theodore G. Davis Middle School;
- Christine DePriest, instructional assistant, Matula;
- Jennifer Diaz, instructional assistant, William B. Wade Elementary School;
- Inmaculada Dove, special education instructional assistant, Infants and Toddlers program, Gwynn;
- Kimberly Dutko, special education teacher, Matula;
- Sue Ebbitt, special education teacher, North Point;
- Nancy Ewing, special education teacher, North Point;
- Nicole Finamore, instructional assistant, Martin;
- Cathy Fleming, special education instructional assistant, Life Skills program, North Point;
- Danielle Foss, special education teacher, Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- Jo Ann Garner, second-grade teacher, Martin;
- Karen Gross, special education instructional assistant, Wade;
- Katie Guesto, special education teacher, Martin;
- Brooke Gunter, speech language pathologist, Diggs;
- Margaret Haines, special education teacher, Malcolm;
- Sheila Heatley, school counselor, Davis;
- Kimberly Holmes, vice principal, Davis;
- Meghan Hunter, special education teacher, Mattawoman;
- Angelica Jenkins, instructional assistant, Hanson;
- Sara Kanas, special education teacher, Gwynn;
- Richard Kelly, special education teacher, Mattawoman;
- Andre Kenan, social studies teacher, Stone;
- Aimee Knotts, instructional assistant, Matula;
- Rebecca Bursheim-LaFontant, special education instructional assistant, Diggs;
- Lauren Lavoie, special education teacher,

- Piccowaxen;
- Nathan Lebedeker, physical therapist, Gwynn;
- Racheal Lindauer, autism resource teacher, Gwynn;
- Stephanie Lloyd, instructional assistant, Wade;
- Darleane Lowe, kindergarten teacher, Eva Turner Elementary School;
- Gwen McCarter, Title I program tutor, Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School;
- Denise McCloskey, special education teacher, Martin;
- Jean McGuire, instructional assistant, Gwynn;
- Pamela Mengel, third-grade teacher, Mitchell;
- Linda Metheny, vice principal, Davis;
- Sarah Dasher-Millman, kindergarten teacher, Diggs;
- Marta Starkey-Mister, speech therapist, Gwynn;
- Jenna Monroe, special education teacher, Wade;
- Margaret Monroe, kindergarten instructional assistant, Turner;
- Joan Newberg, instructional assistant, Neal;
- Chelsea Pogar, special education teacher, Gwynn;
- Ginna Ponton, special education teacher, Arthur Middleton Elementary School;
- Cornelia Poudrier, special education teacher, J.P. Ryon Elementary School;
- Kim Powell, instructional assistant, Diggs;
- Angie Prado, school counselor, Stone;
- Janae Randall, special education instructional assistant, Martin;
- Emily Roenigk, special education teacher, Neal;
- Julianne Rotondi, school counselor, Martin;
- Melissa Ryan, special education teacher, Neal;
- Sarah Scherhauser, special education teacher, Gwynn;
- Paula Schiller, special education teacher, Gwynn;
- Andrea Smoot, special education instructional assistant, Infants and Toddlers program, Gwynn;
- Amy Snyder, special education teacher, Gale-Bailey Elementary School;
- Nicole Spalding, second-grade teacher, Matula;
- Amy Striker, instructional resource teacher, Martin;
- Kimberly Tabourne, special education teacher, Mattawoman;
- Jennifer Toone, mathematics teacher, Mattawoman;
- Brenda Wagner, special education teacher, Gwynn;
- Karen Wagner, Reading Recovery teacher, Martin;
- Matthew Walker, instructional assistant, Martin;
- Nancy Watts, special education teacher, North Point;
- Teresa Whigham, occupational therapist, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building;
- Genevieve White, school psychologist, Davis;
- Charmaine Whitley, school bus driver;
- Brittany Williams, instructional assistant, Hanson;
- Patricia Williams, special education teacher, Diggs;
- Corrie Wutka, third-grade teacher, Diggs;
- Joyce Yates, Multiple Intensity Teaching (MIT) program instructional assistant, Gwynn; and
- Erin Yim, special education teacher, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School.

School News is published by
Charles County Public Schools
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School system welcomes Smallwood as a Green School

The Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) Maryland Green Schools awards program recently named General Smallwood Middle School as a 2014 Maryland Green School. Smallwood completed a two-year application process earlier this school year to be certified as a Maryland Green School.

The application process requires schools to demonstrate and document a continuous effort to integrate sustainable best management practices, classroom integration of environmental issues, curriculum and instruction, professional development opportunities, conservation practices and evidence of existing community partnerships that help enhance environmental learning.

Smallwood joins nine other Charles County schools that are currently certified as Maryland Green Schools. Schools completing the re-certification process for 2014 are Gale-Bailey and J.C. Parks elementary schools, Milton M. Somers Middle School, and Thomas Stone and Westlake high schools. The Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center was also re-certified this year.

Additional Green Schools include Dr. James Craik, Indian Head and Arthur Middleton elementary schools, and Piccowaxen Middle School. Certified Green Schools and Centers are required to complete the re-certification process every four years.

Green Schools and Centers are recognized for using their sites to help students understand and act on environmental challenges in Maryland and model environmental practices in building and landscape design, and operation and maintenance. Green Schools and Centers are also recognized for building and maintaining partnerships with their local community to enhance environmental learning and to design programs to result in a healthier environment.

All Maryland schools receiving Green School certification for the first time, as well as schools achieving re-certification in 2014, will be recognized May 30 at the Maryland Green School Youth Summit at Sandy Point State Park in Annapolis. Each school will receive a Green Schools flag, as well as a Governor's Citation to recognize their achievements.

The Maryland Green Schools Program was founded in 1999 to foster a student-led integrated approach to authentic learning that incorporates local environmental issue investigation and teacher professional development with environmental best management practices and community stewardship. The program also supports schools in meeting the Maryland State Department of Education's (MSDE) environmental literacy standards established through the Governor's Partnership for Children in Nature.

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

Content Specialist of World Languages and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

– Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Master's degree and advanced professional certification with endorsement in world languages or ESOL, a Maryland administrator I certification and a minimum of five years teaching experience required. A minimum of three years leadership experience in World Languages with system-wide experience preferred. Apply by May 29.

Staff Accountant – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Three years of governmental accounting with a minimum of two years audit experience required. Master's degree and/or CPA preferred. Apply by June 3.

Principal – Location to be determined, 12-month position. Master's degree and advanced professional certificate with administrator II endorsement, three years of teaching experience and three years as a vice principal required.

HRIS Secretary – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position.

Reading Resource Teacher – Opening at the elementary school level, 10-month position. Master's degree in reading and a minimum of five years teaching experience required.

JROTC Instructors – Openings at the high school level, 10-month positions.

MCJROTC Senior Marine Instructor – St. Charles High School, 11-month position. Officer or warrant officer with a bachelor's degree and at least 20 years of active duty experience. Candidates must be eligible to receive retirement pay upon release from active duty.

Business Education Teacher – Opening at the high school level, 10-month position.

Preschool/Multiple Intensity Teaching (MIT) Special Education Teacher – F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position.

Special Education Teachers – Openings at the elementary, middle and high school levels, 10-month positions.

Extra pay positions

St. Charles High School has the following openings:

- Varsity volleyball coach
- Head varsity football coach

Contact Jennifer Smith, athletic director, at jsmith@ccboe.com to apply.

Westlake High School has the following openings:

- Head girls' field hockey coach
- Head varsity volleyball coach
- Head junior varsity volleyball coach
- Head boys' cross country coach

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