

# School News



## Important Dates Coming Soon

### *Holiday closure*

Schools and offices are closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Summer school classes will also not be held on July 4.

### *Lunch on Us this summer*

Charles County Public Schools, along with several local partner agencies, is sponsoring a summer meals program, called Lunch on Us. The program is part of a federal initiative to provide healthy meals to children ages 18 and under during summer break.

Lunch on Us begins June 23 and ends Aug. 8. Sites are closed on July 4 for Independence Day. A complete list of participating schools and meal sites is posted on the school system website at [www.ccboe.com](http://www.ccboe.com).

### *Rent or sell items*

Check out the CCPS classified section for employees located on the InsideCCPS page of the Charles County Public Schools website. Employees can post an ad for free and ads will run for 20 days. Employees who want their ads deleted before the 20-day period ends must log in to InsideCCPS and manually remove the ad. Directions for posting ads are listed on InsideCCPS.

### *STEM summer camp for kids*

The CCPS FIRST Robotics team is sponsoring a robotics-based science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) summer camp for students entering the fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grades. The Robo Raptors STEM Summer Camp will offer activities and challenges as part of the LEGO Robotics program and technology. The camp is available in two sessions at Maurice J. McDonough High School: July 7-10, or July 14-17. Both sessions are from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., and the cost of the camp is \$100 or \$190 for both weeks. Registration information is posted at [www.ccboe.com/pr](http://www.ccboe.com/pr).

## Tillotson is the 2014 Vice Principal of the Year

Brenda Tillotson, a vice principal at General Smallwood Middle School, is the 2014 Charles County Public Schools Vice Principal of the Year. She was recently selected for the annual honor and was recognized for her dedication to student success. Tillotson, who has served as a vice principal at Smallwood since 2010, has a longtime career in education that spans a period of more than 20 years. Upon learning of her selection as this year's award recipient, Tillotson was humbled by her selection and proud that her accomplishments earned her special recognition.

"It is very humbling to be recognized for the hard work that I put into my job to support our students and staff. I hope this honor symbolizes the type of work ethic and commitment that I have to our students and staff," she said.

Tillotson serves as the seventh-grade vice principal and is responsible for overseeing several school programs, such as the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), extended-learning opportunity (ELO) and Saturday School programs, the mathematics, social studies, science and related arts departments, the counseling department, after-school activities, non-certificated staff and the master school schedule. She also conducts staff observations and evaluations, oversees after-school conferences, open house events, fifth-grade transition meetings and maintains the schedule for all substitute employees.

Additionally, Tillotson serves as the principal's designee and is responsible for the facility when Smallwood Principal Kathy Perriello is out of the building. In her nomination letter, Perriello said Tillotson's dedication to

students and work ethic is un-parallel to any. "Ms. Tillotson has demonstrated above and beyond her capabilities to be an outstanding school leader. She possesses many admirable qualities such as a strong work ethic, loyalty, dedication and a proactive mindset. Her at-

titude of 'How we can – not why we can't' sets her apart from the rest," Perriello wrote.

Her positive rapport and ability to establish relationships with students has earned Tillotson respect and admiration, and her work ethic is apparent in all that she does. Smallwood seventh grader Ian Diable wrote a nomination letter in support of Tillotson and said she is a fantastic leader.

"She is a great coach, mentor, trusted administrator and an amazing person. Ms. Tillotson has a great sense of humor. She is witty, which

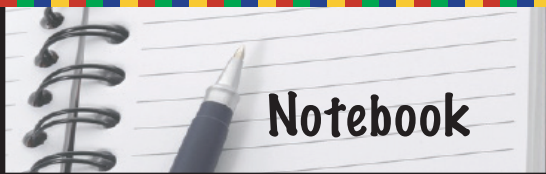
makes her fast at making a joke. I trust her judgment and believe that she deserves to be acknowledged formally as the Vice Principal of the Year," Diable wrote.

Tillotson is also well known for her professional demeanor among staff. Her belief that all children have the potential to succeed is something that Tillotson strives to instill in each Smallwood staff member, and she models consistency in all of her job duties and responsibilities. She also serves as a mentor to teachers interested in pursuing administrative opportunities.

Tillotson began her career with Charles County Public Schools as a math teacher at Maurice J. McDonough High School in 1997. She became a vice principal at Smallwood in 2010. She was honored by the Board of Education on June 10. The Board honors one outstanding vice principal each year.



**General Smallwood Middle School Vice Principal Brenda Tillotson, left, was honored as the 2014 CCPS Vice Principal of the Year by the Board of Education on June 10. Also pictured is Smallwood Principal Kathy Perriello, right.**



### On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are employees who were honored with Outstanding Classified Personnel Awards at the June 10 Board meeting. Pictured from left, are Doris Hawkins, building service worker, Milton M. Somers Middle School; Kristen Sackman, special education instructional assistant, La Plata High School; and Roy Kline, electrician, Charles County Public Schools maintenance shop.

### Space Institute sign up

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is offering courses through the 2014 Space Institute this summer to interested teachers. Participants can learn about space-related topics through exciting lessons and hands-on opportunities. The school system is sponsoring the courses through its partnership with the Space Foundation.

The Institute is available for CCPS teachers and certificated staff, as well as out-of-county teachers. Courses will be held at Theodore G. Davis Middle School and during two sessions: July 28 through Aug. 1, and Aug. 4-8. Classes during the first session are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and classes available during the second session are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The schedule is as follows: Meteorology and Space Weather, July 28-Aug. 1; PreK-2 Early Childhood Space Exploration, July 28-Aug. 1; Biological and Physical Research: Long-Term Space Travel, Aug. 4-8; and Earth Systems Science: Our Earth Revealed, Aug. 4-8.

Cost of a course is \$50 for CCPS teachers, and \$150 for out-of-county teachers. Participants will earn three professional development credits (CPD) per course. Registration can be completed online at <http://registration.ccboe.com>. Payment is due two weeks before the start of the course, and can be made online or by check. Checks should be sent to the attention of Monique Wilson, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 5980 Radio Station Road, La Plata, Md., 20646. Checks should be made payable to Charles County Public Schools and include the name of the course and the start date in the memo area of the check.

Contact Monique Wilson at [mwilson@ccboe.com](mailto:mwilson@ccboe.com) with questions and for more details about the courses. Online registration questions can be directed to Dawn Schaeffer at [dschaeffer@ccboe.com](mailto:dschaeffer@ccboe.com).

## In Memoriam Walter Mack

Walter Mack, a building service worker at General Smallwood Middle School, passed away on June 15, 2014. He was a longtime resident of Indian Head and worked for Charles County Public Schools for more than 20 years.

He began his career with the school system in 1986 as a substitute teacher. He then took a position as the building service assistant manager at Gale-Bailey Elementary School in 1992. Mack then transferred to a building service assistant manager position at Henry E. Lackey High School 2002, where he worked for eight years before taking a building service position at T.C. Martin Elementary School. In fall 2010, Mack transferred to a building service worker position at Smallwood.



Walter Mack

Before starting his career with Charles County Public Schools, Mack worked as a facilities attendant with the Charles County Government, an explosives worker with the Indian Head Naval Ordnance Station, and worked several jobs in construction. Mack also worked part time for the Charles County Parks and Recreation as a coach and field supervisor.

Mack graduated from Henry E. Lackey High School in 1984 and studied at Saint Paul's College and the College of Southern Maryland.

A viewing is planned for 9-11 a.m. on Monday, June 23, at Potomac Heights Baptist Church in Indian Head. Services will follow at 11 a.m.



## National Board Certified Teachers



John Childers



**National Board Certification Area**  
**Social Studies-History- Adolescence and Young Adulthood**

**Teaches:** La Plata High School, ninth through twelfth grade, LSN Government, Yearbook, AP U.S. Government, AP Comparative Government

**Years of teaching experience:** 17

**Years with Charles County Public Schools:** 17

### Education

Bachelor of Arts in History from St. Mary's College of Maryland  
Bachelor of Science in Social Studies/Secondary Education from the University of Maryland, College Park

### Memorable Moment

When students return and say that they are successful and happy.



## Board of Education honors school system retirees for service to children

The Board of Education honored several Charles County Public Schools employees at a June 12 retirement ceremony. Honored were employees who have retired since June 30, 2013, and those who have announced their retirements at the end of this school year. Retirees are listed below by name, last position held, location, and years of service.

- Larry Adams, ROTC instructor, Henry E. Lackey High School, 30;
- Susan Adams, English as a Second Language (ESOL) teacher, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School, 24;
- Edward Baker, ESOL teacher, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School, 40;
- Paige Baker, special education teacher, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School, 40;
- Gerard Barrett, coordinating supervisor of planning and construction, Annex I Building, 36;
- Toni Bateman, physical education teacher, Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School, 35;
- Barbara Bates, media instructional assistant, Mary B. Neal Elementary School, 10;
- Nancy Biggs, secretary, Lifelong Learning Center, 26;
- Frances Bugin, staff accountant, Starkey, 36;
- Mary Jane Burger, media specialist, C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School, 32;
- Laura Bushery, instructional assistant, Berry Elementary School, 24;
- Mary Carroll, building service worker, Lackey, 32;
- William Chichester, physical education teacher, North Point High School, 35;
- Patricia Clatterbuck, computer teacher, Robert D. Stethem Educational Center, 7;
- Jean Collins, special education instructional assistant, Thomas Stone High School, 33;
- Van Connor, pupil personnel worker (PPW), General Smallwood Middle School, 44;
- Katheryne Cook, speech therapist, Barnhart, 21;
- Karl Craton, social studies teacher, La Plata High School, 34;
- Margaret Cronin, fourth-grade teacher, Berry, 33;
- Paula Cureton, fifth-grade teacher, Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School, 38;
- Bruce Davis, social studies teacher, Lackey, 17;
- Catherine Davis, food service worker, Smallwood, 15;
- Aeronita Dillard, administrative assistant, Stone, 30;
- Sandra Dippold, music teacher, Barnhart, 28;
- Gregory Ehman, math teacher, Maurice J. McDonough High School, 33;
- Nora Eicholtz, art teacher, McDonough, 24;

- Charlotte Estes, secretary, Berry, 22;
- Mary Fenton, kindergarten teacher, J.C. Parks Elementary School, 35;
- Linda Fernandes, special education instructional assistant, Matthew Henson Middle School, 17;
- Catherine Flowers, kindergarten teacher, Mary H. Matula Elementary School, 36;
- Andrea Ford, food service worker, McDonough, 29;
- Keith Fowler, maintenance worker, maintenance shop, 30;
- Janice Gilroy, special education prekindergarten instructional assistant, Matula, 22;
- Charles Glaeser, physical education teacher, John Hanson Middle School, 37;
- Sally Goldsmith, food service manager, Smallwood, 20;
- Patrice Graff, first-grade teacher, Gale-Bailey Elementary School, 40;
- Susan Grote, pupil personnel worker, La Plata High School, 42;
- Steve Hagis, project manager, Annex I, 30;
- Cynthia Harrison, PPW, F.B. Gwynn Center, Mitchell and Matula elementary schools, 31;
- Lynn Heath, cosmetology teacher, North Point, 26;
- Sheila Heatley, school counselor, Theodore G. Davis Middle School, 43;
- Bonnie Helfrich, math teacher, Milton M. Somers Middle School, 16;
- Martha Hickman, second-grade teacher, Dr. James Craik Elementary School, 35;
- Patricia Higgs, media instructional assistant, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School, 23;
- Joy Hinton, instrumental music teacher, Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School, 42;
- Sandra Hizer, gifted education resource teacher, Parks, 25;
- Patricia Hoffman, math teacher, La Plata, 30;
- Joanne Hornbaker, math teacher, Hanson, 41;
- Charles Jamieson, physical education teacher, Somers, 44;
- Maria Johnson, supervising PPW, Starkey, 46;
- Mary Johnson, fourth-grade teacher, Craik, 42;
- Vernell Jones, secretary, Starkey, 19;
- Christine Krebeck, science teacher, Mitchell, 28;
- Deborah Lane, Reading Recovery teacher, Craik, 39;
- Sandra Lane, math teacher, Somers, 24;
- Elaine Lawton, family and consumer science teacher, La Plata, 37;
- Yvette Lewis, special education instructional assistant, Berry, 21;
- Gwen Lilly, food service manager, Starkey, 22;
- Steven Lopez, PPW, William A. Diggs, Craik and Jenifer elementary schools, 17;
- Paul Lyons, truck driver, warehouse, 20;

- Virginia McGraw, principal, William B. Wade Elementary School, 45;
- Diane McGuire, second-grade teacher, Berry, 45;
- Linda Metheny, vice principal, Davis, 22;
- Barbara Meyer, special education teacher/IEP facilitator, Arthur Middleton Elementary School, 9;
- Ken Montez, painter, maintenance shop, 39;
- Bernard Montgomery, building service worker, Stone, 38;
- Theresa Mularski, math teacher, Hanson, 10;
- Karen Nale, special education teacher, Gwynn, 39;
- Laura Niggles, second-grade teacher, Diggs, 20;
- Jane O'Brien, reading middle school instructional assistant, Hanson, 19;
- Judith Peel, special education teacher, Wade, 21;
- Josephine Pennix, secretary, Barnhart, 28;
- Maryanne Quirk, counselor, North Point, 29;
- Gail Rankell, speech therapist, Parks, 36;
- Stephanie Roberts, special education teacher, McDonough, 32;
- Evelyn Roeder, guidance secretary, Westlake High School, 24;
- Joan Rogers, business education teacher, McDonough, 41;
- Rebecca Roussillon, literacy teacher, North Point, 31;
- Wanda Sellers, instructional specialist computer technology, Starkey, 38;
- Rosemary Shamdani, French teacher, McDonough, 33;
- Edith Simmons, fifth-grade teacher, Matula, 40;
- Betty Simms, building service worker, Barnhart, 36;
- Henry Sinkey, instructional resource teacher, Diggs, 41;
- Eileen Soderberg, math teacher, La Plata, 39;
- Kathryn Stapleson, gifted education resource teacher, T. C. Martin Elementary School, 38;
- Peggy Tisdale, vice principal, Lackey, 41;
- Charles Todd, social studies teacher, Stoddert, 18;
- Tracy Travers, science teacher, Jenifer, 39;
- Deborah Walters, food service worker, Westlake, 25;
- William Washington, building service manager, Neal, 36;
- Linda Watson, in-school retention program instructional assistant, Davis, 7;
- Jolie Whitehead, first-grade teacher, Martin, 19;
- Darlene Willett, mail room clerk, Starkey, 33;
- Constance Wood, food service worker, Stoddert, 9.

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## Howell is finalist for national history teacher award

Mark Howell, a longtime history teacher at Westlake High School, was recently named one of two Maryland finalists for the National History Day Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award. Participating states can select one middle- and high-school teacher for consideration of the national award and state finalists are chosen for excellence in the classroom. Howell is representing Maryland at the high-school level, and state finalists must demonstrate the use of creative teaching methods and a commitment to get students interested in learning about history.

Howell's selection to represent Maryland was announced during the Maryland History Day event held last month. Two national winners will be announced on June 19 during the National History Day event at the University of Maryland, College Park. Howell said he was honored to be chosen for the state-level award. "This honor motivates me to teach my students and teachers to research deeper, write clearer, and create better projects. This honor pushes me to continue to offer the best instructional practices and opportunities for my students to learn history," he said.

Howell's career in education spans more than 30 years. He currently teaches a range of social studies classes at Westlake, including local, state

and national (LSN) government and U.S. History, as well as several Advanced Placement (AP) classes. He is the longtime History Day coordinator at Westlake and helped to expand the program both at Westlake and the county level. Howell was also honored by Charles County Public Schools with the 2010 Teacher of the Year Award, and was one of seven finalists in 2010 for the Maryland Teacher of the Year honor.

History Day is a history-based learning experience for students in grades 6 through 12. As part of the experience, students learn about issues, ideas, people, and events in history and apply what they learn through creative and original presentations. Students first compete in the program at the county level and first- and second-place winners advance to the state level.

For more information on the National History Day program and the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year award, visit <http://www.nhd.org/Contest.htm>.



**Mark Howell**

## Personnel

### Job Openings

**Student Services Secretary** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by June 25.

**Mailroom/Communications Clerk** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by June 26.

**Printing Assistant** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 11-month position. Apply by June 26.

**Student Data Accounting Clerk** – Thomas Stone High School, 12-month position. Apply by June 26.

**Secretary** – Mary B. Neal Elementary School, 10.5-month position. Apply by June 26.

**Secretaries** – Openings at Malcolm, C. Paul Barnhart, and Berry elementary schools, 11-month positions. Apply by June 26.

**Administrative Assistants** – Openings at Berry Elementary School, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School, and Henry E. Lackey, La Plata, North Point, St. Charles, Thomas Stone and Westlake

high schools, 11-month positions. Apply by June 27.

**Athletic Fields/Grounds Foreman** – Maintenance Shop, 12-month position. Apply by June 27.

**Automotive Mechanic III** – Maintenance Shop, 12-month position. Apply by June 27.

### Extra pay positions

**Westlake High School** has the following openings:

- Head varsity boys' soccer and lacrosse coaches
- Head varsity swimming coach

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

**Maurice J. McDonough High School** has the following openings:

- Junior varsity cheerleading coach
- Head varsity girls' soccer coach

Contact Jason Bursick, athletic director, at 301-753-1755 to apply.

**Thomas Stone High School** has the following openings:

- Head boys' lacrosse coach
- Head girls' soccer coach
- Head swimming coach

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

**St. Charles High School** has the following openings:

- Head freshman, junior varsity and varsity boys' basketball coaches
- Head junior varsity and varsity girls' basketball coaches
- Junior varsity and varsity wrestling coaches
- Varsity indoor track, swimming and tennis coaches
- Head boys' and girls' track and field coaches
- Head junior varsity and varsity baseball and softball coaches
- Junior varsity and varsity boys' and girls' lacrosse coaches

Contact Jennifer Smith, athletic director, at [jsmith@ccboe.com](mailto:jsmith@ccboe.com) to apply.