



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

New staff reception

The new staff reception is 4 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 19, at Middleton Hall in Waldorf. The annual event is sponsored by Charles County Public Schools, the Charles County branch of the NAACP and Nu Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc. Call the human resources department at 301-934-7255 for more information.

Feels like fall

The first day of autumn is Saturday, Sept. 22.

Two-hour early dismissals

The next two-hour early dismissal dates for students are Thursday, Sept. 20, and Wednesday, Sept. 26.

Reading Partners luncheon

Charles County Public Schools is hosting a Reading Partners Luncheon at 12 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 27, in the Board room at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building.

Board to hold work session

The Board of Education of Charles County is holding a work session at 6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 24, at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building in La Plata. The meeting will be aired live on Comcast Channel 96 and Verizon FiOS Channel 12, and streamed live on the school system website at www.ccboe.com. The agenda is below.

Call to order – 6 p.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance

Public Forum

Work session

- Opening of St. Charles High School

Adjournment

The Board is continuing discussion on which grades to include at St. Charles High School when it opens. A complete list of options is posted at <http://www2.ccboe.com/parentscomm/transportation/hsredistricting.cfm>.



All students are present

The last group of Charles County Public Schools students began the 2012-13 school year on Monday as category three prekindergarten students were welcomed at the county's 21 elementary schools. Prekindergarteners, such as C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School's Kory Queen, pictured above with his teacher, Laquitta Washington, spent their first days of school learning about calendar days, weather, numbers and more.

Forums scheduled to aid new superintendent search

The Charles County Board of Education has started its search for a new superintendent of schools. The superintendent search process is Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) first in 17 years. Open forums for the community will be held at locations throughout the county to help identify the characteristics residents want for the new superintendent. Two special sessions are planned for employees.

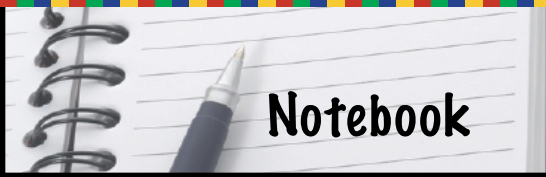
Participants will be provided a brief presentation about the superintendent search, participate in group discussions and will be asked to answer three questions:

- What do you feel are the most positive things about CCPS?
- What characteristics and qualifications do you feel a superintendent should possess?
- What challenges do you think the new superintendent will face?

Individuals who cannot participate are encouraged to e-mail responses to kblum-sack@mabe.org by Oct. 10.

Community forums

- Oct. 8, 6:30 p.m., Henry E. Lackey High School
- Oct. 8, 7 p.m., Thomas Stone High School
- Oct. 9, 6:30 p.m., Piccowaxen Middle School
- Oct. 9, 7 p.m., Westlake High School
- Oct. 10, 3 p.m., La Plata High School (for CCPS employees only - includes principals, vice principals and certificated staff at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, annex buildings and centers)
- Oct. 10, 4:30 p.m., La Plata High School (for CCPS employees only - includes central office and school-based non-certificated employees as well as all teachers)
- Oct. 10, 7 p.m., La Plata High School



Notebook

On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are employees from C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School. Pictured, from left, are Ayesha Smith, elementary teacher; Bradley Jones, physical education teacher; and Susan Pond, secretary to the principal.

System hosts College Fair

Charles County Public Schools is hosting the 15th annual Charles County College Fair on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at North Point High School. Hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. The public is invited to attend the evening session of the fair and parents are encouraged to bring their children. The system anticipates representatives from nearly 150 colleges and universities.

Two financial aid workshops will be held, one at 6:15 p.m. and one at 7:15 p.m., for parents and students to learn about the financial aid application process. The event is free and open to the public. A complete program is posted on the school system website at <http://www2.ccboe.com/students/scholarships.cfm>, under the section titled "2012 Charles County College Fair."

Airing on NewsBreak96

Airing this week on Comcast 96 and Verizon FiOS Channel 12 is a new episode of NewsBreak 96, a show produced by the communications department. This episode features Charles County's Maryland Teacher of the Year candidate, Kerrie Seberg of William A. Diggs Elementary School, as well as new changes happening at Thomas Stone High School. Episodes are available for view on the school system website at <http://www2.ccboe.com/publicinfo/channel96/vod/>.

Retirement meeting

The Charles County Retired School Personnel Association (CCRSPA) and the State of Maryland Pension System, along with the human resources department, are hosting a retirement planning session for Charles County Public Schools employees who are enrolled in the State of Maryland pension system. The session is 5 – 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 3, in the Board room at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. Guest speakers and retirement planning handouts, as well as light refreshments, will be provided. Contact Janice Spotz, 301-934-2146 or jspotz@comcast.net, to RSVP by Sept. 28.

In Memoriam David Anderson

David Anderson, the longtime athletic director at Henry E. Lackey High School, passed away suddenly on Sunday, Sept. 2, 2012. He began his career with Charles County Public Schools in 1969 as a physical education teacher at General Smallwood Middle School. He transferred to Lackey in 1970, where he served as a physical education teacher, coach and athletic director.

During his career at Lackey, Anderson held several leadership roles including the physical education department chair, coach for both the junior varsity and varsity soccer teams and also coached junior varsity boys' basketball. Anderson also completed a national training program in 1995 to be classified as a Certified Athletic Administrator. Additionally, he was a member of several athletic associations, including the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA), the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrative Association (NIAAA), and the Maryland State Athletics Directors Association (MSADA).



David Anderson

He also served as the chairperson for soccer and swimming for the Southern Maryland Athletic Conference (SMAC).

In 2010, Anderson was honored by the MSADA as the Maryland State Athletic Director of the Year. In addition to this recognition, Anderson also received several other acknowledgements including the MSADA District Athletic Director of the Year award for District 4, which covers Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's counties, in 1997 and in 2009.

Mr. Anderson grew up in Fleetwood, Pa., and graduated from Appalachian State University in 1970, where he later returned and received his master's degree in education.

Mr. Anderson lived in White Plains and is survived by his wife, a son, daughter-in-law, four granddaughters, his parents, two brothers and a sister.

Services were held Sept. 8 in Fleetwood, Pa. Lackey is hosting a tribute program on Sept. 15, 1 p.m., at the school.

System television stations feature original programs

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) has two educational television channels, Comcast Channel 96 and Verizon FiOS Channel 12. The channels feature educational programming ranging from foreign language and financial literacy programs, to science and math lessons. The channels are managed by the school system's communications department and feature original programming, and are also used to broadcast live Board of Education meetings.

Original programming for both stations includes NewsBreak 96, a bi-weekly show that highlights school system events, students and staff successes. Episodes are anchored by student representatives. Anchors for this school year are: Samantha Corsey, senior, North Point High School; Kelly

Dingess, senior, Maurice J. McDonough High School; Austin Gore, senior, La Plata High School; Julia Keesler, senior, North Point; Christina Paras, junior, McDonough; Archie Parker, senior, La Plata; Ina Reyes, senior, La Plata; and Murugi Thande, senior, North Point.

The stations also run a feature monthly show called On Air, which highlights programs and activities throughout the school system. For questions about Charles County Public Schools programming, please email ccpstv96@ccboe.com.

The channels are provided free to the school system through a franchise agreement with the Charles County government. Program schedules are available on the school system website at www.ccboe.com.

Charles County Public Schools launches attendance audit at North Point High School

Charles County Public Schools is launching an attendance audit at North Point High School to ensure students enrolled there live in the North Point attendance zone or in Charles County if they are in a Science, Technology and Industry (STI) program. While the school system routinely investigates questionable attendance issues, this is the first concentrated effort to conduct a formal audit.

Superintendent James E. Richmond said overcrowding strains building capacity in terms of facility and staffing levels, and enrollment at North Point has steadily risen to 2,252 students, which is hundreds more students than the school was designed to handle.

"Despite overcrowding, North Point is managing the challenges and staff continues to provide the students there with quality instructional programs and opportunities. However, as we begin a redistricting process at the high school level, we need to first make sure we are confirming that students in our schools are Charles County residents and that they are attending the proper school," Richmond said.

This is a residency verification pilot program and analysis, and once the North Point student audit is complete, staff could look at other schools, Richmond said.

North Point, which serves as the science, technology and industry (STI) center for Charles County Public Schools, is a comprehensive high school. A designated number of students at the school come from across Charles County and apply for and are accepted in STI programs. The remainder of the student population is zoned to attend North Point. The audit is focusing on the attendance zone population; however, Richmond said staff is also investigating to ensure students in the STI programs are county residents.

The formal audit supplements daily efforts by schools and the Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) student services department to monitor enrollment numbers and to ensure children are enrolled at the schools they are zoned to attend. During the last two school years, more than 60 out-of-zone students have been removed from North Point following residency investigations. Additionally, according to Patricia Vaira, director of student services, many more students are



Charles County Public Schools launched an attendance audit at North Point High School this week to address overcrowding at the school, and to verify that students in attendance live in the North Point zone. Currently, the school houses 2,252 students, which is nearly 300 students over the building's capacity. The residency of students enrolled in the school's science, technology and industry (STI) programs is also being reviewed to ensure these students live in Charles County.

stopped from enrolling because the school system is taking a closer look at leases and residency verification during the registration process.

A letter from Richmond was sent home to North Point parents on Sept. 12 alerting them to the audit and asking for cooperation.

The school system's audit to confirm students' residency status includes, but is not limited to:

- A complete review of all residency documents, including lease agreements and statements of residency;
- Unscheduled home visits to confirm the accuracy of residency documents; and
- A review of publicly available information regarding property ownership.

Parents of students enrolled at North Point under false information can withdraw their child by Sept. 19 with no questions asked. "I hope parents will respond before we need to take action," Richmond said.

"I heard the complaints during the elementary and middle school redistricting that people feel there are students throughout the

county, but particularly on the North Point campus, who are not zoned to attend these schools and are causing overcrowding. I felt we needed to investigate thoroughly those claims," Richmond said.

Students found to be attending the wrong school will be sent to their zoned school or removed from the school system if they are not a resident. Nonresidents will be charged tuition, retroactively, for the time they attended school here. County students attending a school under false information will be ineligible to participate in athletics. "Families providing inaccurate residency information not only overcrowd our schools, but they also put our athletic programs at risk. If we find an out-of-zone student playing on one of our teams, the entire team suffers the consequence for this ineligible player through forfeited games," Richmond said.

Richmond asks anyone with knowledge of a family that is attending school who does not reside in the school's attendance zone to call the school or anonymously call the CCPS fraud hotline at 301-302-8305.

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The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Dr. Patricia Vaira, Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator (students), or Keith Hettel, Section 504 Coordinator (employees/adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, Maryland 20646; (301) 932-6610/870-3814. For special accommodations call (301) 934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.

Board recognizes local organization for donations

At the Board of Education's Sept. 11 meeting, representatives from the Truth Chapter No. 19, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated, were recognized for their service to the children of Charles County Public Schools and the community. During the past school year, the organization has provided donations for students that range from backpacks and gym uniforms to laptop computers.

During the meeting, Board Chairman Roberta S. Wise presented a recognition certificate to Gloria Jolly, worthy matron; Marlin Donaldson, worthy patron; and Sharon Hines, acting secretary. Jolly said the goal of the organization is to support and provide service to the community. "Our goal, our mission is to help the community in any way that we can. Our organization continues to pay it forward by giving back to the community to help those most in need," Jolly said. The Order of

the Eastern Star is a charitable organization that exists to help the community, and originally consisted of the wives, sisters, daughters and widows of master masons. The Order of the Eastern star is one of few masonic affiliations that contain both men and women members.

Last month, the Chapter donated more than 50 backpacks filled with school supplies to students at Gale-Bailey, Indian Head and J.C. Parks elementary schools, and General Smallwood and Matthew Henson middle schools. The Chapter also donated gym uniforms to Smallwood. In

the spring, Henry E. Lackey High School received more than 30 laptop computers, bags and monitors and supplied three scholarships to students.

Visit http://www.mwphglmd.org/MGC_OES-Home-page.html for more information.



The Truth Chapter No. 19, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Affiliated, was recognized at the Sept. 11 Board meeting for contributions to the school system. Board Chairman Roberta S. Wise, far right, presented a recognition certificate to Sharon Hines, acting secretary, left, Marlin Donaldson, worthy patron, second from left, and Gloria Jolly, worthy matron, second from right, for their donations to several schools.



Personnel

Job Openings

Instructional Assistant, Title I/Three-Year-Old Program – Eva Turner Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 18.

Kindergarten Instructional Assistant – Dr. James Craik Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 21.

Special Education Instructional Assistant – Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 21.

Food Service Worker – J.C. Parks Elementary School, 10-month position. Apply by Sept. 21.

Occupant/Infrastructure Systems Manager – Annex 1 building, 12-month position. Associate degree and three years of experience installing, managing and maintain surveillance equipment is required. Apply by Sept. 25.

Literacy Instructional Assistant – Henry E. Lackey High School, 10-month position. Ap-

ply by Sept. 25.

Building Service Manager – Benjamin Stoddert Middle School, 12-month position. Apply by Sept. 25.

Building Service Assistant Manager – Milton M. Somers Middle School, 12-month position. Apply by Sept. 25.

Coordinator of Career Technology Education – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Master's Degree and certification as an Administrator I in Maryland are required. A minimum of five years teaching experience and three years of administrative/supervisory leadership is required.

Title 1 Instructional Technology Specialist – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Bachelor's degree and three to five years of teaching experience, and experience in an instructional technology position is preferred.

Extra pay positions
Unified sports program

The Charles County Public Schools Unified Sports program is seeking an indoor bocce coach at North Point High School for the winter season. Contact Michelle Sullivan, program coordinator, at msullivan@ccboe.com to apply or for more information.

Thomas Stone High School has the following openings:

- Freshman boys' basketball coach
- Assistant baseball coach

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

Westlake High School has the following openings:

- Varsity baseball coach
- Assistant baseball coach
- Junior varsity softball coach
- Assistant junior varsity softball coach
- Junior varsity girls' basketball coach
- Varsity girls' lacrosse coach

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