



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

On the cover

Pictured at the top of the page are employees from the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. Pictured, from left, are: Frances Etter, food service worker; Peggy Curtis, food service assistant manager; and Lamont Williams, building service worker.

Summer Meals program

Charles County Public Schools, in partnership with other local agencies, is offering a free summer lunch program June 27 through Aug. 19 at select schools and locations. Any child between the ages of three and 18 is eligible to receive a lunch, and lunches are served Monday through Friday. Children receiving lunches at school sites will be served along with those participating in summer camps through Charles County Parks and Recreation. A complete list of participating schools and locations is available on the Charles County Public Schools website at www.ccboe.com.

Holiday closure

Schools and offices are closed on Wednesday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

School News information

This issue of *School News* is the last printed edition for the 2011-2012 school year. Limited printed copies will be provided this summer for 12-month employees. That doesn't mean we are taking an information hiatus until August. Staff members can keep up with the latest school news with online editions of *School News*, which is posted on the Staff Services page of the school system website. Publications will feature job openings, changes, calendar items and staff information. We will send This Week messages to your school system e-mail throughout the summer, depending on the timeliness and relevancy of the information.

Seberg rides in style as Teacher of the Year



Charles County Public Schools 2012 Teacher of the Year Kerrie Seberg, left, receives keys to a brand new Kia Optima from Jay Wedick, right, manager of Kia of Waldorf during the June 12 Board meeting. Seberg, a third-grade teacher at William A. Diggs Elementary School, receives an all-expenses paid two-year lease and maintenance on the car, compliments of Kia.

Meiser named as new principal of Thomas Stone

Michael Meiser has been named as principal of Thomas Stone High School, filling a vacancy created by the retirement of Stone Principal Larry Martin.

The Board of Education on June 12 approved the appointment of Meiser who has served as vice principal at the school since 2007. Meiser has spent his career with Charles County Public Schools and started in 1993 as a high school social studies teacher at Westlake and La Plata high schools before being named in 2004 as vice principal of Benjamin Stoddert Middle School. Additionally, he served from 2002-2007 as the administrator in charge of the Middle School Summer Reading and Math Academy sites.

"Being appointed as principal at Thomas Stone High School is an honor. After serving here for five years as a vice principal under Mr. Martin, and knowing many of the former outstanding principals that have preceded me, this appointment is very humbling," Meiser said.

Meiser replaces Martin, who has served as principal at Stone since 2005. Martin was

hired as principal of Westlake High School in 2000. He started his career in education in 1970 with Prince George's County Schools where he served as a teacher, vice principal and dean of academic and student affairs.

"Mr. Martin has been very influential in my leadership and personal growth, and for that I would like to thank him. Although Mr. Martin may be retiring and moving on, much of what he has created at Stone will live on," Meiser said.

Meiser has his masters of education in School Administration and Supervision from Bowie State University and his Bachelor of Science in Education and Bachelor of Art and Science History from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. His appointment takes effect July 1.



Michael Meiser

Notebook

Maryland history teacher

Mark Howell, a social studies teacher at Westlake High School, was recently named the 2012 Maryland History Teacher of the Year by The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Preserve America and HISTORY®. The award recognizes teachers who display a commitment to teaching American history, exhibit creativity and imagination in the classroom, and use artifacts, historic sites, oral histories and other resources to actively engage students in learning.



Mark Howell

Howell was selected for the state honor for his career achievements in education and for the level of inspiration he provides to his students. He was nominated for the award by Westlake Principal Chrystal Benson for his passion and dedication for teaching, for helping to develop partnerships as part of the Civics Mosaic project, and for his support of his peers.

"During my 20 years of being an educator, I have seldom come across a teacher who ensures that all students are successful. Mr. Howell truly starts at the level where the student is and takes the student to the level where they need to be. He is truly mesmerizing," Benson wrote in a nomination letter.

As the state awardee, Howell receives a \$1,000 award, an archive of books and resources for Westlake's library and an invitation to attend the 2013 Gilder Lehrman Teacher seminar. He is also eligible for the national award, of which the winner will be announced this fall.

Throughout his 32-year career in education, Howell has taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels. He was instrumental in bringing the Civics Mosaic partnership and Civic Voices instruction to students in Charles County. In 2003, CCPS launched a partnership with a school in Penza, Russia through the Civics Mosaic program, in which students learn about political systems and ideology through the use of comparative methods.

For more information on the awards program, visit www.gilderlehrman.org/programs-exhibitions/national-history-teacher-year.

In Memoriam Kathleen Allen

Kathleen McPhee Allen, a theatre arts teacher at Westlake High School, passed away on Wednesday, June 13.



Kathleen Allen

Ms. Allen began her career with Charles County Public Schools in 2004 at Westlake, and planned to retire at the end of the 2011-12 school year. Prior to joining the school system, Ms. Allen taught English and drama at schools in Colorado and Utah, and also served as a substitute teacher in Williamsport, Pa. Ms. Allen also worked as a director of

employment services, and compensation and benefits, in the healthcare field.

Ms. Allen grew up in Logan, Utah, and received her bachelor's degree in fine arts and secondary certification from Utah State University. She also completed graduate courses in business management and public administration at Utah State University, the University of Arizona and the University of Puget Sound.

Ms. Allen was a resident of La Plata. Services and burial were private.

Timmons named 2012 Vice Principal of the Year

Caroline Timmons, vice principal at T. C. Martin Elementary School, is the 2012 Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) Vice Principal of the Year. Timmons, who has been an administrator with the school system since 2007, said she was honored just to be nominated.



Carrie Timmons

"I am very honored and humbled to receive this award, especially in a district with so many exemplary administrators. I was honored just to be nominated by the T.C. Martin family. The award is a true reflection of our school," Timmons said.

She was nominated for the award by a committee comprised of staff at Martin, including Principal Greg Miller, Melissa Pascarella, instructional specialist at Martin, Mollie McCauley, a teacher, and Juliana Herscher, reading resource teacher. Her nomination describes Timmons as an educational leader who demonstrates a strong commitment to academic achievement and professional growth, as well as a strong community supporter and advocate for children.

"She has an infectious personality. People love to be around her. From the greet-

ings in the hallway, to the enthusiasm she displays when she calls the parents of a child who got a positive referral, her personality is motivational. She goes to every school event and is a great ambassador for our school," Miller wrote in an award letter.

Timmons is well-known among staff and students for displaying a caring demeanor and a positive outlook in all that she does. In an award nomination letter written by a group of second-grade teachers, Timmons is described as having a "huge heart" and always having her finger firmly on the pulse of the school. According to the letter, "Timmons is always aware of exceptional circumstances that arise and might need special attention. We could not ask for a more involved, dedicated and caring vice principal."

Timmons began her career with CCPS in 2007 as vice principal at Martin. She also taught at the elementary school level in St. Mary's County. She received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from Towson University. Timmons was honored by the Board of Education on June 12. The Board honors one vice principal each year.

Leadership and exemplary work ethic distinguish outstanding support staff

The Board of Education honored five Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) employees with Outstanding Personnel Awards on June 12. Honored were Connie Bannister, secretary, Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School; Donald "Bruce" Elliott, food service manager, Westlake High School; LaVerne Hicks, special education instructional assistant, Berry Elementary School; Michael Mickey, network engineer, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; and Hubert Robey, HVAC mechanic, Radio Station Road Annex Building.

Bannister is the 2012 Outstanding Secretary and has worked in the main office at Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy since 1987. She was nominated for the award by Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Principal Kristin Shields for her ability to multitask, for her excellent job performance and for going above and beyond to help those in

need. Bannister attends training classes to keep her technology skills up-to-date and is part of the after-school "Tech Tuesdays," which provide staff with opportunities to learn and use new technology. On a daily basis, she answers phone calls, handles parent and community inquiries, business concerns, manages any unexpected events that occur throughout the school day and maintains a positive outlook and professional demeanor. "Connie is the school's most intimate link to the Nanjemoy community. She is an outstanding employee and mother of the school," Shields wrote in a nomination letter.

Elliott is the 2012 Outstanding Food Service Manager. He has worked at Westlake for the past five years and was nominated for the award by Crystal Sopher, food service supervisor. Elliott trains his staff to take pride in their work, and inspires the desire in them to learn new things. His knowledge of equipment enables him to effectively train employees at all schools, and he has a deep understanding of managing a food service operation including the importance of sanitation, record keeping and financial responsibility. Elliott is anxious to learn new skills and is currently working towards becoming certified by the School Nutrition Association. "Elliott has a positive rapport with students and clear expectations and practices in our cafeteria. Westlake is exceptionally lucky to have Mr. Elliott as our cafeteria manager," Westlake Principal Chrystal Benson wrote in a nomination letter.

Hicks is the 2012 Outstanding Instructional Support Employee. She has worked at Berry for six years and was nominated by Berry

Principal Marvin Jones for displaying a genuine passion for children. Hicks' actions demonstrate that student success is at the forefront of her mind and she is willing to do whatever is asked of her. She is diligent, professional, and dependable and uses many resources to complete tasks within a timely manner. Hicks demonstrates a positive attitude and exemplar work ethic and often excels in supervising



Pictured above are the Charles County Public Schools 2012 Outstanding Personnel Award recipients. From left are Connie Bannister, secretary, Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Elementary School; Michael Mickey, network engineer, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; LaVerne Hicks, special education instructional assistant, Berry Elementary School; and Donald "Bruce" Elliott, food service manager, Westlake High School. Not pictured is Hubert Robey.

special education students' needs in the inclusion classroom setting. "Mrs. Hicks is very well-respected, both professionally and personally, by all of her colleagues because of the excellence she pursues in who she is," Jones wrote in a nomination letter.

Mickey is the 2012 Outstanding Instructional Technology Employee. He has worked for the school system for the past seven years and was nominated for the award by Lora Bennett, the instructional technology director for CCPS. He was nominated for his exemplar work ethic and for demonstrating initiative, a positive attitude and excellent interpersonal skills. Mickey is well known among his peers as honorable, dependable and knowledgeable. With a strong background in technology, Mickey uses his knowledge and available resources to ensure all schools have the necessary instructional resources. "He develops and maintains good working relationships, and is always willing to help out wherever he is needed," said Jill Warring, a network engineer for CCPS, in a nomination letter.

Robey is the 2012 Outstanding Maintenance Employee. He has worked for the school system since 2007 and was nominated for the award by his peers in the maintenance department. He is extremely thorough and pays attention to all details in his work assignments. Robey has the ability to quickly sort through the complexities of any problem and distinguishes unimportant issues from key components. He is very knowledgeable in his field, and his colleagues seek his advice and respect his opinions. He volunteers to take on extra assignments and helps his fellow mechanics whenever he can. "Hubert is always polite and respectful of others. His sensitivity to the viewpoints of others helps promote an atmosphere of mutual respect. He is an important contributor to the morale and success of the electro-mechanical team," Bernard Barnes, an assistant in operations for CCPS, wrote in a nomination letter.

The Board each year honors exemplary support staff in five different job categories. The recipients were honored by the Board June 12.

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Adeleke is the 2012-13 new student Board member

Azeezat Adeleke, a senior at North Point High School, is the student member of the Board of Education of Charles County for the 2012-13 school year. She was sworn in by Board of Education Chairman Roberta S. Wise at the June 12 meeting.

As the Student Board Member, Adeleke will work with a student liaison committee throughout the school year. The following students were selected as members of the student liaison committee:

- Taylor Wade, Henry E. Lackey High School, senior and alternate student Board member;
- Jenny Fotang, La Plata High School, senior;
- Amit Patel, Maurice J. McDonough High School, junior;
- Jessica Kirkham, North Point High School, senior;

• Maher Bousaba, Thomas Stone High School, junior; and

• Angela Bartolomeo, Westlake High School, senior. Each high school is required to have a student liaison and may be selected by methods approved by the school's Student Government Association (SGA) and principal.



Azeezat Adeleke, left, a senior at North Point High School, is sworn in as the 2012-13 Student Member of the Board of Education by Chairman Roberta S. Wise, right, at the June 12 meeting.

Each liaison can apply as a candidate for the position of Student Board Member. Each candidate submits an essay regarding a student concern and a detailed possible solution.

The essays are evaluated and candidates are interviewed

by a committee composed of students and advisors. The liaison with the highest combined score on the essay and the interview is named the Student Board Member.

For more information on student leaders for the 2012-13 school year, visit www.cchoe.com/pr.



Personnel

Job Openings

Assistant in School Administration and Operations – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Candidates must have a master's degree and be certified as a principal (Administrator II) by the State of Maryland. Experience in leadership roles and with administrators at the local, regional, or state levels, and five years of experience as a principal is preferred. See the complete job posting on the school system website for more information. Apply by July 5.

Administrative Assistant – Maurice J. McDonough High School, 11-month position. Three years teaching experience required. Apply by June 26.

Special Education Instructional Assistant – Henry E. Lackey High School, 11-month position. Apply by June 26.

Athletic Director – North Point High School, 11-month position. Apply by June 27.

Specialist in Transportation – Jesse L. Star-

key Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by June 29.

Reading Resource Teacher – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 11-month elementary position. Master's degree and a minimum of five years experience required.

Electronics Teacher – North Point High School, 10-month position.

Drama Teachers – Openings at the high-school level, 10-month positions.

Latin Teachers – Openings at the high-school level, 10-month positions.

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

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

Speech and Language Pathologist – Location to be determined, 10-month position. Master's degree required.

Special Education Teacher – Location to be determined, 10-month position.

Instructional Resource Teacher – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 11-month position. Master's degree and a minimum of five years experience required.

Extra pay positions

Westlake High School has the following openings:

- Head boys' and girls' indoor track coach
- Head boys' and girls' outdoor track coach
- Head boys' and girls' swimming coach

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

La Plata High School has the following openings:

- Head boys' junior varsity soccer coach
- Varsity assistant boys' soccer coach
- Assistant football coach
- Head junior varsity girls' volleyball coach
- Freshman boys' basketball coach

Contact Cliff Nagle, athletic director, 301-753-1754, to apply.