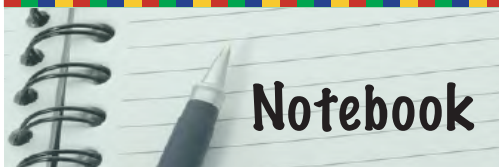




★ *Where success is measured
one student at a time*

Charles County Public Schools

School News



Notebook

Pictured above ...

Pictured above are school system staff members selected to work with the 2010 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) summer camp, sponsored by CCPS and the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head division. Pictured, from left, are: Ervin Gilchrist, home and hospital services teacher, Theodore G. Davis Middle School; Beth Levy, science teacher, General Smallwood Middle School; and Brad Buzby, second-grade teacher, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School.

EACC crab feast

The Education Association of Charles County's (EACC) annual crab feast is 3:30 to 8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 20, at the Charles County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased by July 31. The event is open to all employees and space is limited. Call 301-392-0150 for more information.

Schools/offices closed

School and offices will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

Now showing ...

Airing this Friday is a new episode of NewsBreak 96, a monthly show produced by the communications department that highlights school system events. This episode features the school system's Summer Academy program, the Board of Education's recent work session, name suggestions for the next new high school, and the school system's summer meals program. The show airs on Comcast Channel 96 and Verizon FiOS 12, and is also available as a video on demand on the CCPS Web site. Visit the school system Web site at www2.ccboe.com/publicinfo/channel96/vod/.

Summer program ignites student interest in STEM

Building solar-powered cars, programming robots and launching water balloons was on the agenda for more than 70 students as part of the 2010 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) summer program, held June 21 through July 2 at Theodore G. Davis Middle School.

The program, sponsored by Charles County Public Schools and the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), Indian Head division, exposes elementary and middle school students to STEM skill concepts. Students worked in teams through

challenges that included creating water balloon cannons and rocket launchers, to working with alarm systems and motion sensors. Each team was paired with a teacher and an engineer from NSWC to consult with during the challenges.

The program was divided into Material World Modules, which included hands-on opportunities for student teams to explore STEM concepts, robotics challenges and also required students to develop and present a research project. For the project, students were tasked with researching one of eight robotics challenges in order to apply the



Esha Satam, a fifth grader at William B. Wade Elementary School, left, works with Carrine King, a fourth grader at Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School, center, and NSWC student volunteer Caitlin Grace, right, to program a robot as part of the school system's summer STEM program held June 21 through July 2.

See STEM, Page 2

School system adjusts summer operating schedule

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) has changed summer office hours, which affect all CCPS schools and centers that do not have extended day or community services programs. These locations are operating on a 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. schedule. The schedule remains in effect until Aug. 23.

The following elementary schools are following the summer schedule: C. Paul Barnhart; Berry; Dr. Gustavus Brown; Dr. James Craik; William A. Diggs; Gale-Bailey; Dr. Thomas L. Higdon; Indian Head; J.C. Parks; Malcolm; T.C. Martin; Mary H. Matula; Arthur Middleton; Walter J. Mitchell; Dr. Samuel A. Mudd; Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy; Mary B. Neal; J.P. Ryon; and Eva Turner.

Offices at Theodore G. Davis, Picowaxen and General Smallwood middle schools, North Point, Westlake and Maurice

J. McDonough high schools, the Robert D. Stethem Educational Center and the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building also close at 3:30 p.m. during the summer.

Schools and centers that have extended-day programs, including Charles County Parks and Recreation programs, will operate to accommodate program schedules and include: Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer and William B. Wade elementary schools; John Hanson, Matthew Henson, Mattawoman, Milton M. Somers and Benjamin Stoddert middle schools; Henry E. Lackey, La Plata and Thomas Stone high schools; F.B. Gwynn Educational Center; and Lifelong Learning Center.

Visit the Charles County Public Schools Web site, www.ccboe.com/pr, or call 301-932-6610 for more information.

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The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Ronald Cunningham, Title IX Coordinator, or Patricia Vaira, 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.

CCPS Web site earns top school public relations award

The Charles County Public Schools communications department recently received two top National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) awards for school system communication materials. The Charles County Public Schools Web site, designed and maintained by communications department staff, received an Award of Excellence - the highest award given by NSPRA. The Web site award is one of five Award of Excellence recipients nationwide, and more than 80 sites were judged.

A DVD titled "21st Century Teaching and Learning," received an Award of Merit - the second highest award given by NSPRA. The video was selected as an award winner from among more than 138 audio/visual entries.

Each year, NSPRA sponsors a publications and electronic media contest. The two school system entries were selected for awards from a total of 801 entries. Additionally, the department received 10 publication awards in October through the Chesapeake Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association's annual publications contest, covering Maryland, Virginia, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia.

The communications department consists of Katie O'Malley-Simpson, director of media relations and communications; Shelley Mackey, communications specialist; Kyle Graves, video production specialist; Sabrina Weitkamp, graphics/web developer; and Kara Gross, communications assistant. Visit www.nspr.org for more details.

STEM

concepts to real-world applications. The robotics challenges, conducted on an 8-foot challenge board, ranged from delivering humanitarian aid and recovering a damaged ship, to searching for a submarine underwater and creating a sea base. These challenges were completed by teams with a programmable robot, and were judged by team engineers.

In order to make the challenges more interesting, team performance was scored and displayed so students could see how their skills and team work compared to other students. This is the third school year that NSWC and CCPS have sponsored a summer STEM program for students. The goal is to introduce students to STEM concepts through additional lessons and activities.

Continued from page 1



Personnel

Apply for positions online at www.cchoe.com/hur. Positions are open until filled unless otherwise noted. All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and MSDE certification requirements.

Job Openings

Systems Analyst – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by July 5.

Secretary – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by July 5.

College and Career Advisor – Thomas Stone High School, 12-month position. Minimum of two years of college experience with at least 60 credits is required. Apply by July 9.

Content Specialist in Science – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Master's degree and a minimum of five years of teaching experience in science required. Apply by July 13.

Content Specialist for Middle School Mathematics – Jesse L. Starkey

Administration Building, 12-month position. Master's degree and a minimum of five years of teaching experience in mathematics required. Apply by July 13.

Autism/Special Education Teacher – F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position.

Special Education Teachers – Openings at Mary H. Matula Elementary School, Henry E. Lackey High School and the Robert D. Stethem Education Center, 10-month positions.

Special Education Teachers, Supplemental Reading – Openings at North Point and Westlake high schools, 10-month positions.

Special Education Teachers for Science – Openings at Maurice J. McDonough, North Point and Westlake high schools, 10-month positions.

Life Skills Teachers – Openings at Dr. Gustavus Brown and Gale-Bailey elementary schools, and Henry E. Lackey High School, 10-month positions.

Special Education Teachers for Math – Openings at John Hanson Middle School, and North Point and Westlake high schools, 10-month positions.

Vocal Music Teacher – High school level, 10-month position.

Extra pay positions

Henry E. Lackey High School has the following opening:

- Girls' soccer coach

Contact David Anderson, athletic director, at 301-743-5431 to apply.

Thomas Stone High School has the following opening:

- Indoor and outdoor head track coach

Contact Steve Lee, athletic director, at 301-843-0074 to apply.

Westlake High School has the following openings:

- Boys' junior varsity head soccer coach
- Assistant boys' basketball coach

Contact Principal Chrystal Benson, 301-753-1758, to apply.