

# School News



Where success is measured one student at a time

• August 15, 2008 •

R-300

## New teachers off to successful start at orientation

Superintendent of Schools James E. Richmond delivered opening remarks on Monday, Aug. 11 to more than 175 new teachers, marking the beginning of “Be the Difference,” the week long orientation held at North Point High School.

“Teachers are who make the difference in the lives of our students,” Richmond said during the opening ceremonies.

The orientation sessions, held Aug. 11- 15, provided newly hired teachers opportunities to learn about Charles County, the school system, and classroom management and instructional tips from veteran teachers.

Vera Young, the *Washington Post’s* Agnes Meyer Teacher of the Year, from Westlake High School, and Sue Childers, the 2008 Charles County Teacher of the Year, from T.C. Martin Elementary School, also provided advice to the new teachers.



**More than 175 new Charles County Public Schools teachers filled the hallways of North Point High School on Monday, Aug. 11, as new teacher orientation began.**

“Ours is the career that makes all of the hopes and dreams of other careers come true,” Childers said.

Student performances and a keynote speaker also highlighted the opening program. Dr. Harry Wong, author of *The First Days of School*, addressed the group,

and two CCPS graduates, Amanda Langston and Elena Morton, performed a vocal duet, and Paige Wearmouth of Milton M. Somers Middle School performed a violin solo. Asia Smith of Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School performed a piano solo and the opening ceremonies were closed with a performance by the Benjamin Stoddert Middle School Stallion Step Team and Dance Troupe.

Also included in orientation was an optional county bus tour, held Tuesday, Aug. 12, to acquaint new teachers to historic, recreational and shopping areas.

## Payroll announcements for tax status, 403(b) changes

Beginning Sept. 12, MetLife will be the exclusive tax sheltered annuity (TSA), or 403(b), account provider for Charles County Public Schools. For employees who have 403b TSA accounts, today’s TSA pay check deduction is the last to be credited to accounts with previous providers. No contributions can be made to TSA accounts other than with MetLife.

Contact the payroll, 301-934-7564, before Sept. 1 to stop deductions if you do not want future TSA contributions to automatically be converted to MetLife. If you do not choose an investment allocation fund with a MetLife agent, your funds will automatically be placed in a target date fund based on your age and esti-

mated retirement date. Existing TSA balances will remain in old accounts. Starting in October, employees will have opportunities to combine old and new accounts and should confirm their beneficiary information online.

Additionally, CCPS is required to update employee marital status with records conversions. Make sure your current marital status matches your Federal withholding status. Employees who are married and file as single are required to change their status to married and can request that payroll withhold an additional flat amount per pay period. This can be done by filling out a new W-4 form.

TIAA-CREF and AIG investment plans and 457b plans, have not changed.

## Board work session

The Board of Education will hold a public work session on Monday, Aug. 25, at 6 p.m. at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. Agenda items include a Board priorities update.

## Welcome back

Welcome back to teachers and 10-month employees. Veteran teachers return to the classroom on Monday, Aug. 18. Students begin school on Monday, Aug. 25.

## Summer hours end Aug. 18

All CCPS buildings and locations that were operating on the summer-hours schedule of 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. return to normal hours of operation on Monday, Aug. 18.

## Three pay dates in August

There are three pay dates this month. The third paycheck of the month is also the first check of the new contract year for 10-month teachers.

The only deductions taken from the third paycheck are taxes and retirement. Other deductions, such as health insurance, are not deducted from the third pay check in months with three pay dates.

## Pictured above . . .

Pictured above are employees from Milton M. Somers Middle School. From left are: John Lancaster, building service manager; Bonnie Helfrich, mathematics teacher; Jason Walent, science teacher; and Joy Thompson, reading teacher.

## Personnel

Apply for positions at [www.ccboe.com/hur](http://www.ccboe.com/hur), or in writing to the personnel office. Positions are open until filled unless otherwise noted. All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and MSDE certification requirements.

### Job openings

**Manager of Planning, Department of Planning and Construction** – Maintenance Shop/Annex 101 Building; 12-month position. Bachelor's degree and experience required. Position is open until filled.

**Food Service, Assistant Manager** – North Point High School; 10-month position. Apply by Aug. 15.

**Special Education Instructional Assistant, EA Program** – Mary H. Matula Elementary School; 11-month position. Apply by Aug. 15.

**Behavior Specialist** – Openings at all age levels; 10-month positions. Advanced degree in special education, psychology or related field required. Positions are open until filled.

**Secretary to the Principal** – Henry E. Lackey High School; 12-month position. Apply by Aug. 20.

**Foreman of Operations** – Maintenance Shop; 12-month position. Minimum of three years in building service management or related field required. Apply by Aug. 20.

**Media Instructional Assistant** – William A. Diggs Elementary School; 10-month position. Apply by Aug. 26.

**Special Education Instructional Assistant, EA Program** – Mary B. Neal Elementary School; 10-month position. Apply by Aug. 26.

**Coordinator of Career Technology Education** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Minimum of five years teaching experience and master's degree required. Position is open until filled.

**Instructional Specialist** – Locations to be determined; 10-month positions. Master's degree and Advanced Professional Certificate, plus five years teaching experience required. Positions are open until filled.

**Reading Recovery Teacher** – Openings at county elementary schools; 10-month position. Apply by Aug. 20.

**Spanish Teacher** – Henry E. Lackey High School.

**NJROTC Instructor** – Westlake High School.

**Special Education Teacher** – Openings at all age levels.

**Business Teacher** – North Point High School.

**Speech Language Therapists** – Openings at all levels; 10-month positions.

**English Teachers** - For future openings.

**Mathematics Teachers** - For future openings.  
**Family & Consumer Science Teacher** – North Point High School.

**French Teacher** – North Point High School.

**Chemistry Teacher** – North Point High School.

**Literacy Teacher** – Westlake High School.

**Reading Resource Teachers** – Openings at county schools, 11-month positions.

**Pre-Kindergarten Teachers** – Openings at county elementary schools, 10-month positions.

### Extra pay positions

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

- Head junior varsity baseball coach
- Assistant football coach
- Assistant volleyball coach
- Head swimming coach

Call Principal L.C. Martin, 301-753-1756, to apply.

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

- Head varsity volleyball coach

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

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 Keith Grier, 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.

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