



## Notebook

### Cross country meet

Middle school students can take part in the 12th annual Cross-Country Meet on Saturday, Oct. 1.

Sponsored by North Point High School's cross-country program, the 2-mile run begins in open fields, incorporating a marked course through the woods, with the finish in the open field. There is no cost to take part and awards will be given out following the run. A pancake breakfast will cap off the event.

Registration opens at 8 a.m. with a course walk taking place at 8:30 a.m. before the 9 a.m. race. Contact Coach Jimmy Ball at [jball@ccboe.com](mailto:jball@ccboe.com) with questions. North Point is at 2500 Davis Road in Waldorf.

### Board update

The Board of Education of Charles County met for its September meeting on Sept. 13. To read what was discussed at the meeting, [click here](#) for a Board update.

A complete meeting agenda is posted on [BoardDocs here](#). Board meetings are streamed live at [www.ccboe.com](http://www.ccboe.com) and archived on the Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/c/ccpsmd>.

### BSW recognition day

Make time to honor building service workers for Building Service Worker Day in October. Each year, the day falls on Oct. 2.

The recognition day encourages appreciation for employees who keep schools running smoothly.



### Students attend College Fair

The 23rd annual Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) College Fair was Sept. 21 at North Point High School. CCPS juniors and seniors visited during the day, with parents and families invited to attend in the evening. Above, Lisa Boyle, left, a representative for the University of Alabama shows Westlake High School juniors Talee Holland, far right, and Myles Stewart, some of the programs offered on campus in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Right, Shawn Barczynski, assistant director of admission at Albright College, left, talks with Thomas Stone High School junior Taylor Dickerson about what the school has to offer. Students can visit their counselor or college and career advisor to get more information and guidance about applying to college or their plans after graduation.



### Teachers can apply for mini grants through MRSPA

Classroom teachers can apply for one of six mini grants offered by the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA).

The mini grants — awarding up to \$300 per teacher — may be used on special projects or activities that are not funded through the school system, PTA or PTSO.

Last school year, Emily Leedy, a teacher at Malcolm Elementary School, was awarded a mini grant from MRSPA that she used to fund a pen pal program between Malcolm students and their peers in another Maryland school system.

The award helped pay for postage and stationery.

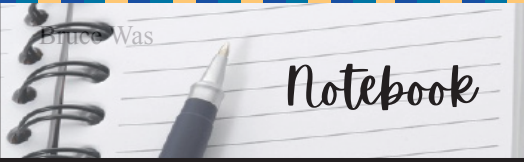
Mini grant applications are due by Nov. 1 with winners notified in January.

The funds will be sent directly to the teacher at their school for use during this school year.

To learn more about the program, visit [www.mrspa.org](http://www.mrspa.org).

To obtain an application, [click here](#).

Completed applications can be emailed to [mrspa@mrspa.org](mailto:mrspa@mrspa.org) by Nov. 1.



### Panel discussion

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is hosting a panel discussion 5:30 p.m., Oct. 13, at Thomas Stone High School. The Hispanic Community of Charles County and the DMV — a panel discussion about its history and its future will be moderated by Superintendent Maria V. Navarro, Ed.D. Gustavo Torres, executive director of CASA, the leading immigrant organization in the mid-Atlantic region, is scheduled to be a panelist, along with CCPS staff members, a student and community members. Thomas Stone High School is at 3785 Leonardtown Road in Waldorf.

### ACE webinar Oct. 11

The American College of Education will hold a webinar 7 p.m., Oct. 11, about the program and tuition reduction grant program. [Click here](#) to register. For those who can't attend the webinar on Oct. 11, a recording will be emailed on Oct. 12.

### Take flight at North Point

First Flight, the daily two-hour program for children ages 3 to 5 at North Point High School, has openings. The program is led by North Point students in the school's early childhood training program. The program runs four days a week (closed on Wednesdays) from October to April. The morning session is 8:15-10:15 a.m., and the afternoon session is noon-2 p.m. The snack and supply fee is \$425 a year and a \$100 holding fee will be applied to the payment for the year. To complete a contact information form, pick up a copy from the school's main office, email [lwillett@ccboe.com](mailto:lwillett@ccboe.com) or go to <https://www.npectp.org>.

### EAP resources available

CCPS has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provider, ComPsych GuidanceResources. ComPsych is a national employee assistance and work/life company. For additional information call toll-free at 1-877-465-0865. The TTY phone number is 800-697-0353. Online tools are available at [www.guidanceresources.com](http://www.guidanceresources.com). To create an account, click Register and use the web ID: CCPSEAP.



C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School first graders Nazir Ford, left, Issa Koussoube and Kyzer Piard show the coins they'll use to "buy" a book in the school's new book vending machine.

## Barnhart students go 'buy' the book

Students at C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School are encouraged to visit the vending machine in the school's office. It doesn't take change, there's no card reader.

For that matter, it isn't stocked with chips or sweets.

Instead, the machine's contents are meant to nourish a child's mind, not serve up empty calories. The vending machine housed in the main office is stocked with books for students in prekindergarten through fifth grade at various reading levels — "We like to provide a choice," Ronnita Cannon, the school's parent liaison, said.

Earning points for displaying character traits and good behavior that are tracked by teachers using a schoolwide Class Dojo system, students receive one token for the machine for every 30 points gathered.

"It's kind of motivating for students to earn a book and select one that interests them," Principal Brian King, Ed.D., said. Students can also use their Dojo points to "purchase" items from the school store.

The school bought the vending machine



Ronnita Cannon, Barnhart's parent liaison, stocks the book vending machine with new books that appeal to students in prekindergarten through Grade 5.

— which can hold between 200 to 300 titles — with proceeds of last year's Boosterthon, and it was delivered earlier this month, Cannon said.

The school purchases the books for the machine and students get to keep the books they have earned. On a recent morning, Cannon was adding more books thanks to a rush of students who recently turned their Dojo points into I Love Books tokens.

As she finished, three first-grade students arrived in the office to select a book. After each student plunked in a coin, the machine whirled to life, lighting up with a recorded voice calling out, "One book, coming right up," as the book is released from the spiral holders.

## Principal of the Year nominations

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is looking for nominees for its annual Principal of the Year award. The award honors exemplary leaders for not only their leadership, but for their commitment to providing an exceptional learning environment for students. The principal chosen for the honor will also represent CCPS as the county finalist for *The Washington Post* Principal of the Year award.

Each year, *The Post* selects an overall award recipient for its Principal of the Year award from among finalists in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Principals can be nominated by staff, students, parents, colleagues or community members, but are not eligible if they have received the honor in the past.

Criteria for nominees includes five years of experience as a principal, three of which are required to be with CCPS, and a commitment to maintain their position as a principal with the school system for the 2023-2024 school year.

- Additional nomination criteria are:
- Manage effectively.
- Demonstrate and encourage creativity and innovation.
- Foster cooperation between the school and community.
- Maintain a dialogue with students, parents and staff.
- Keep up to date of developments in the education field.
- Encourage team spirit.
- Demonstrate leadership and exemplary commitment.
- Continue to play an active role in the classroom.

Nomination materials must be submitted electronically. Materials should include a nominee career summary, 200-word biography, minimum of four statements of support, descriptions of contributions in each criteria area and headshot photograph.

For more details about the nomination process, [click here](#). Deadline for submission of nominations is 2 p.m., Nov. 11. Materials should be sent by email to Ramona DiBenedetto in the CCPS Office of Human Resources at [rdibenedetto@ccboe.com](mailto:rdibenedetto@ccboe.com). Call 301-934-7242 with questions.



Louis D'Ambrosio, left, welcomes students to Berry Elementary School. D'Ambrosio was named the CCPS Principal of the Year for 2022 while he was principal at Berry. He is now the principal at the Robert D. Stethem Educational Center.



Morghana Hungerford, above, a second-grade teacher at Arthur Middleton Elementary School, was the CCPS Teacher of the Year for 2022. Annemarie Simpson, a math teacher at Maurice J. McDonough High School was nominated for *The Washington Post* Teacher of the Year program last year.

## Nominations for Teacher of the Year

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is accepting nominations for *The Washington Post* and Maryland Teacher of the Year awards programs. Nominated teachers will be considered as honorees in either one or the other awards program. Schools and centers should submit one teacher nominee annually.

Nomination criteria include a minimum of five complete years of teaching and must be a full-time classroom teacher in prekindergarten through Grade 12. Nominees must also commit to maintaining their teaching position with CCPS for the 2023-2024 school year. Criteria also include — but are not limited to — demonstration by the teacher of the following:

- Instills in students a desire to learn and achieve.
- Understands the individual needs of students, encourages their talents and fosters their self-esteem.
- Demonstrates a thorough knowledge of subject matter and the ability to share it effectively with students.

Nominations are submitted by school principals to CCPS staff who oversee the awards programs.

Submission suggestions can be made by teachers, students or community members. Anyone interested in suggesting a teacher for nomination should contact the school in which the teacher works. Nominees who have received either *The Post* teacher finalist award or were named Charles County Teacher of the Year in the past three years are not eligible. One CCPS teacher will be selected from the pool of nominees by a committee of school system staff to represent Charles County as the Charles County Teacher of the Year and finalist for the Maryland Teacher of the Year award. The Charles County Teacher of the Year announcement will be made by CCPS in Spring 2023.

One CCPS teacher will also be selected from among the nominee pool as Charles County's finalist for *The Washington Post* Teacher of the Year award. *The Post* names one finalist from districts in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., as its Teacher of the Year. *The Post* will announce its overall winner in Spring 2023.

Additional information about the nomination process is posted on the [MyCCPS staff section](#) of the school website of [www.ccboe.com](http://www.ccboe.com). Nominations are due by 2 p.m., Nov. 11 and must be submitted electronically. Contact Ramona DiBenedetto at 301-934-7242 or [rdibenedetto@ccboe.com](mailto:rdibenedetto@ccboe.com) for more details.

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CCPS provides nondiscriminatory equal access to school facilities in accordance with its Use of Facilities rules to designated youth groups (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts).

# Students can earn the state Seal of Biliteracy

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is helping to prepare students for the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy Program by hosting upcoming student and parent/guardian information sessions, one held each month in September, October and December. The topics will cover reading strategies, writing strategies, and speaking and listening strategies. The program is geared toward high school students.

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given by a school, district or state in recognition of students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation.

A student can receive the Seal if he or she can demonstrate full proficiency in language learning as measured by rigorous proficiency assessments across a range of language skills.

Students who are interested in the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy Program should plan to attend the online information events through Zoom.

The first session on reading strategies was held Sept. 29. Additional sessions will be held in October and December.

**Informational session 2:**

Informational/writing strategies, Oct. 26, 6 to 7 p.m. Use the [Zoom link](#) to join the meeting or join using the meeting ID: 826 4686 6482 and the passcode: 102594.

**Informational session 3:**

Informational/speaking and listening strategies,



Thomas Stone High School 2022 graduates earned the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy before leaving high school. From left are Catherine Acosta-Delfin, Wilfredo Castillo Jr., Axel Montoya Avila, Luciano Saravia and Dina Jones. All earned the seal for their proficiency in Spanish.

Dec. 8, 6 to 7 p.m. Use the [Zoom link](#) to join the meeting or join using the meeting ID: 821 2269 6491 and the passcode: 715904.

Students can apply for the [Maryland Seal of Biliteracy program](#) before Jan. 20.

A final preparation session is scheduled for Feb. 2 from 6-7:30 p.m. [on Zoom](#).

This session is exclusive to students who are preparing to take the Seal of Biliteracy test. The meeting ID is 865 5472 8915 and the passcode is 679597.

For more details about the program, contact the student's world language teacher.

## Personnel

Apply for positions online at [www.ccboe.com/jobs/currentopenings.php](http://www.ccboe.com/jobs/currentopenings.php). All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and MSDE certification requirements.

**Job openings**

**Financial Secretary** — Westlake High School, 12-month position. Applicants must have a high school diploma and be computer literate in programs such as Word, Excel and Quicken. Apply by Oct. 7.

**Human Resource Specialist** — Jesse L. Starkey Building, 12-month employee. Master's degree or juris doctor in human resources, business management or related field and at least three years of successful supervisory experience in hiring, staffing, recruiting, human resources or related experience or a bachelor's degree in human resources, business manage-

ment or related field and at least five years of successful supervisory experience in hiring, staffing, recruiting, human resources or related experience and current Human Resources PHR or SHRM-CP certification required. Apply by Oct. 14.

**AVID Tutor** — Location to be determined, temporary, part time. High school diploma or GED required. CCPS student in the Work Based Learning Program will be considered with a recommendation from their principal and advisor. Apply by June 30.

**Title I Tutor with a Degree** — Location to be determined, temporary, part time. Bachelor's degree required with professional certification in elementary education preferred. Position open until filled.

**Educational Interpreter** — Location to be

determined, temporary, part time. Professional proficiency level of English and a language of need. Position open until filled.

**Art Teacher** — All schools, 10-month position. Position open until filled.

**Business Education Teacher** — All high schools, 10-month position. Position open until filled.

**Computer Science Teacher** — All schools, 10-month position. Apply by Dec. 31.

**Early Childhood Teacher** — All elementary schools, 10-month position. Apply by Dec. 31.

**English Teacher** — All schools, 10-month position. Apply by Dec. 31.

**ESOL Teacher** — All schools, 10-month position. Apply by Dec. 31.