

# The Brave Brag Newsletter

January 21, 2025

## INDIAN HEAD ELEMENTARY

### Message from the Principal

As we approach the end of the first semester on January 21st, we are marking the halfway point of the school year. Report cards will be available in ParentVue on February 3rd. We are excited for the second semester and all the learning that will take place!

Please note that schools will be closed on January 27th for the semester break.

We are also halfway through our iReady winter testing, and we look forward to celebrating the growth our students have made in the first half of the year.

In February, we're excited to celebrate Black History Month with a series of fun and educational activities for our students.

Additionally, the groundbreaking for our school-based health center is scheduled for the end of the month! We are thrilled to see this project come to life and to bring healthcare services to our community.

And, just for fun—whether or not you're a football fan, we want to say: GO COMMANDERS!

We look forward to all the exciting things ahead this semester and thank you for your continued support.

♥ Ms. Shane Blandford, Principal



[Indian Head Elementary School Website - Click Here](#)

## STEM NIGHT

Click Flier Below to RSVP

TITLE I  
PRESENTS

# UNLEASH YOUR CURIOSITY AT STEM NIGHT


Indian Head Elementary School  
Thursday January 23rd 2025  
5:30 - 7:30pm

Calling all Young Scientists!  
Get Ready for a Night of Discovery as We Dive into the  
Fascinating World of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math!

Mark Your Calendars and Join Us at STEM Night!

For more information, contact  
Mrs. Dorsey  
tcutchemberdorsey@ccboe.com

Visit our vendors:  
CGI  
Snap-Ed  
SeedCo

A colorful illustration of laboratory equipment. On the left is a blue microscope. In the center are three test tubes in a green rack, containing blue, pink, and yellow liquids. On the right is a round-bottom flask containing purple liquid, with several small circles above it representing bubbles or reactions. The background is a light brown surface.

## MOVE THIS WORLD AT HOME

Move This World social emotional platform that is used by all CCPS public schools can be accessed from home.

Below are some benefits:

- **Strengthens Emotional Skills:** The program helps students and families strengthen critical social-emotional skills, such as self-regulation, communication, and resilience. These skills are not only vital for students' success in the classroom but are important for their overall well-being and mental health.
- **Fosters Family Connection:** The family-friendly activities provide an excellent opportunity for families to engage together in meaningful conversations about feelings, coping strategies, and personal growth. This connection can help improve family dynamics and ensure that students have a strong support system as they navigate challenges.
- **Enhances Mental Health:** In addition to promoting emotional intelligence, the program includes practices that support mindfulness and stress reduction—tools that can be especially useful for students and families during winter break when they may face heightened stress or emotional difficulties.
- **Builds a Culture of Well-Being:** Using the program at home can help build a shared culture of emotional health and support that extends beyond the classroom. This aligns with our overall goals of fostering a healthy, supportive school environment where every student can thrive.

To access, click [HERE](#).

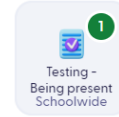
Username: [IndianHead.Family](#)

Password: movethisworld

## IREADY TESTING INCENTIVES

During our Winter iReady testing, students can earn 3 DOJO points each day of testing for the following testing behaviors:

- Being Present
- Being Ready
- Using your time wisely



There will be a special Brave Shop Day for students to spend their Testing DOJO points.

In addition, students will be recognized in each class for the having the top score and for having the most growth in both reading and math. Those students will have a special recognition in February.

Please remind your child to do their best!

## JUDY CENTER NEWS

## THE CHARLES COUNTY JUDY CENTER

The Judy Center is grant funded by MSDE and serves families who have children ages birth - 5 who are not yet in school and live in three school zones in Charles County; Dr. Mudd, Eva Turner and Indian Head Elementary Schools. Our goal is school readiness and supporting families where they dream.



### WHAT WE OFFER:



**DAYTIME PARENT/CHILD PLAYGROUPS FOR BIRTH-5 YEAR OLDS NOT IN SCHOOL.**



**FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, DAYTIME AND EVENING OPPORTUNITIES**



**SUPPORT FAMILIES BY MAKING REFERRALS TO COMMUNITY AGENCIES TO MEET THEIR NEEDS.**



**SUPPORT OUR CHILDCARE PARTNERS WHO SERVE CHILDREN WHO WILL COME TO SCHOOL AT A JUDY CENTER LOCATION.**

**IF YOU ARE EXPECTING OR HAVE A CHILD AGES BIRTH-5 WHO IS NOT YET IN SCHOOL, LET US KNOW!**

**CLICK HERE** 

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZXLB6B6>



301-944-1092



asatchwell@ccboe.com

## COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

- We are pleased to announce that we have used our Community School funds to secure a part time behavior specialist position. We were lucky enough to hire Autumn Henegan for the position. We look forward to the support she will be able to give to students, staff and families!
- Parent Workshop with New Life Missionary Baptist Church- new date is March 8th. Sign up coming soon!



Please contact Marissa Ackerman to make an appointment for another time.  
[mackerman@ccboe.com](mailto:mackerman@ccboe.com)

## **THURSDAY CLUBS ARE BACK!**

Click the flier below to register. Space is limited so register today!

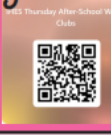
# INDIAN HEAD WINTER CLUBS

Club	Teacher
K-5 Indian Head Has Talent	Ms. Scott-Joyner & Ms. Dorsby
1-5 Art Club	Mr. Johnson
1-5 Expressions Writing	Mrs. McClure
4-5 Crochet	Ms. Banks
3-5 Garden Club	Ms. Windsor

Thursdays  
4-5pm

Transportation available!

**Register here:**





Contact Marissa Ackerman  
[mackerman@ccboe.com](mailto:mackerman@ccboe.com)

\*MESA, DI, Girls Who Code, Butterflies, Anchored4Life, and Chess will run on other days.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Click Flier to RSVP



**Charles County Public Schools**  
in collaboration with  
**Charles County Government**  
**Charles County Department of Health**  
**Charles County Public Library**  
**Charles County Sheriff's Office**

**Black History Month Celebration**  
**Bright Futures: Following the Path Paved by Others**

**February 13, 2025**  
**5:30-8 p.m.**

**Waldorf Senior and Recreational Center**  
**90 Post Office Road**  
**Waldorf, Maryland 20602**

Join us for a special **Black History Month** celebration that brings together families, friends, and community members in a vibrant, engaging, and collaborative experience. We will honor and celebrate the rich history, culture, and contributions of black individuals throughout history.

**ENJOY A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES:**

**Interactive Workshops:** Explore black history, culture, and achievements.

**Live Performances:** Enjoy music, dance, and storytelling showcasing black traditions.


**Art Exhibits:** View student artwork.

**Panel Discussions:** Engage with community leaders on race, history, and social justice.

**Children's Activities:** Participate in storytelling, arts and crafts, and games celebrating black heritage.

**Food Trucks:** Savor local food trucks.

RSVP Preferred: <https://forms.office.com/r/MtRx3Hg3s6>



# DYSLEXIA WORKSHOP





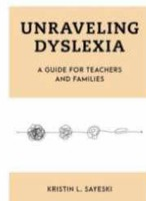
## Unraveling Dyslexia

Presented By: Kristin Sayeski

In this workshop, Dr. Sayeski will unravel the complex process of learning to read. To do this, families and teachers will learn how the brain learns to read and what elements in the environment work to sharpen the reading brain. She will then provide information about how families can work collaboratively with schools to create meaningful IEP goals while also providing at-home support to help boost students' literacy. Attendees will walk away from the session with a clear understanding of factors that influence reading acquisition and strategies shown to help students with dyslexia untangle the complex, knotty challenge of mastering reading.

### About the Speaker

Dr. Sayeski is an associate professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Special Education and co-founder and director of the Dyslexia Endorsement and Certificate program at the University of Georgia. Dr. Sayeski has published over 36 peer-reviewed articles and produced numerous book chapters and other scholarly works, including forwards to books and open-access instructional videos on her YouTube channel. She received the 2023 Leadership in Literacy Award from IDA-GA for her role in developing exceptional teacher training and professional development programs for the state. Dr. Sayeski's book, *Unraveling Dyslexia: A Guide for Teachers and Parents* (2024), reflects her overarching professional mission to translate findings from research into practical guidance for teachers and families.



Forrest Career & Tech Center  
Dohrman Room B  
24005 Point Lookout Rd  
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Wednesday, February 12th, 2025  
6 pm- 8 pm

The workshop is **free** but registration is required. To Register, email Robyn Roberts at [partnersforsuccess@smcps.org](mailto:partnersforsuccess@smcps.org)

## IMPORTANT DATES

### January 20

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observed - Schools/Offices Closed

### January 21

- End of 2nd marking period/first semester
- iReady Testing continues grades 1-5

### January 23

- STEM Night 5:30-7:30

### January 24

- 3rd Grade Field Trip to James E. Richmond Science Center

### January 27

- Semester Break Schools closed for students



### Shane Blandford

Shane is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters



