

Charles County Public Schools Annual Report

Where success is measured one student at a time.

February 6, 2008

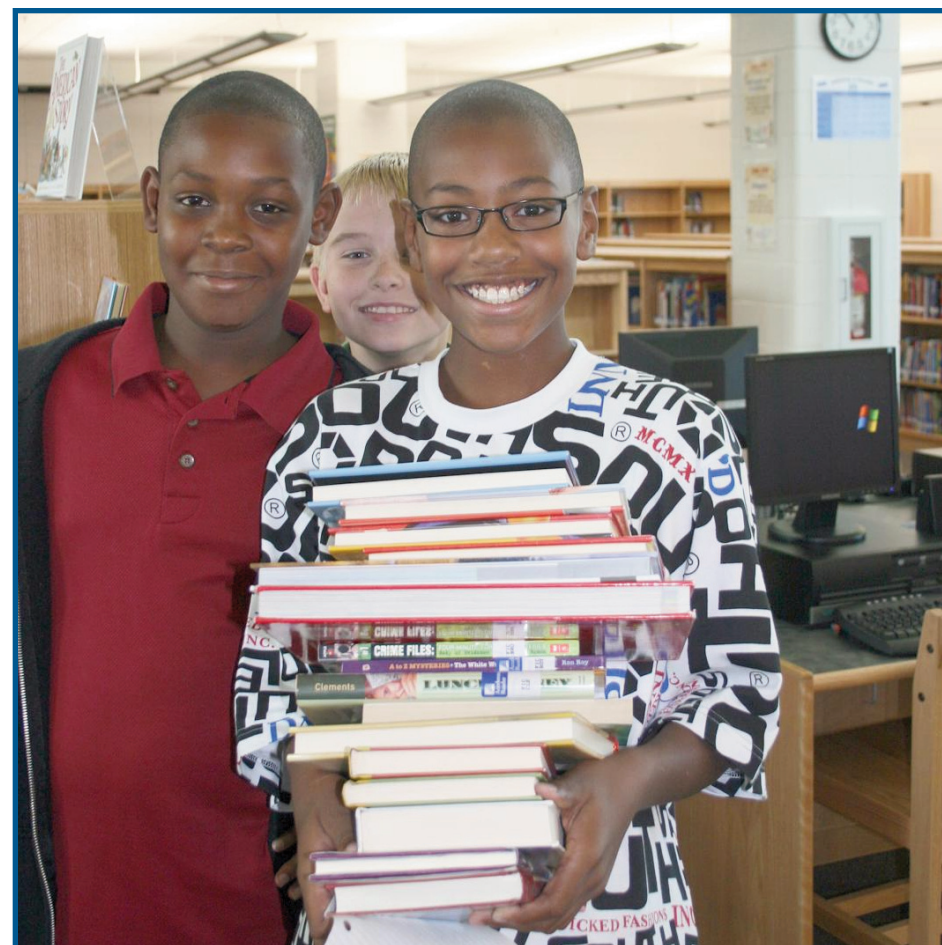


Building for the future

Theodore G. Davis Middle School, Charles County Public Schools' eighth middle school, opened in August 2007. The 134,542 square-foot, two-story school is located in Waldorf off Davis Road and houses more than 1,000 students. It is the last of three schools to be built on the Waldorf site that also contains North Point High School and William A. Diggs Elementary School.

Mary B. Neal Elementary School, the school system's 21st elementary school, will open in August 2008. The 88,000 square-foot, two-story school is under construction and located off Piney Church Road in Waldorf. Carol Leveillee, principal at Mary H. Matula Elementary School, was recently named as principal of Neal. Leveillee begins at Neal in July.

Charles County Public Schools is seeking planning approval for its seventh high school, which will also be built off Piney Church Road. Plans for the 285,000 square-foot, two-story building include a digital classroom to better prepare students for higher education and careers while enhancing critical thinking and literacy skills needed in the 21st century. The digital classroom is a technological teaching tool that will be available not only to students at the new high school, but to all CCPS students. The anticipated opening date is August 2011.



Theodore G. Davis Middle School students Andre Mullings, Chance Bikowski-Wynne and Malik Jackson visit the school's library for a class assignment.

School Calendar 2008-09

The following is a partial calendar for the 2008-09 school year. The calendar is subject to change and all early dismissal days are not listed.

Aug. 11-15, 2008	New Teacher Orientation Week
Aug. 18, 2008	First day for teachers
Aug. 25, 2008	First day for students
Sept. 1, 2008	Labor Day, schools/offices closed
Sept. 12, 2008	Schools closed for students, staff activities
Oct. 17, 2008	MSTA Convention, schools closed
Nov. 4, 2008	Election Day, schools closed for students
Nov. 26-28, 2008	Thanksgiving holiday, schools/offices closed
Dec. 19, 2008	Two-hour early dismissal/winter break begins
Dec. 22-31, 2008	Winter break, schools closed
Jan. 1, 2009	New Year's Day, schools/offices closed
Jan. 2, 2009	Schools reopen
Jan. 19, 2009	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, schools/offices closed
Jan. 20, 2009	Semester break, schools closed for students

Feb. 16, 2009	President's Day, schools/offices closed
April 6-9, 2009	Spring break, schools closed
April 10, 2009	Spring break, schools/offices closed
April 13, 2009	Spring break, schools/offices closed
April 14, 2009	Schools reopen
May 25, 2009	Memorial Day, schools/offices closed
June 16, 2009	Last student day (with four inclement weather days added*)
June 18, 2009	Last teacher day (with four inclement weather days added*)

* Four inclement weather days are built into the calendar. If they are not used, they will be deducted from the end of the school year. If additional inclement weather days are needed, they will be added to spring break, beginning with April 6, 7, 8 and 9.

School system accomplishments



Wesolowski is Principal of the Year

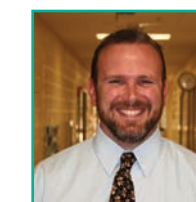
Stephanie Wesolowski, principal at Milton M. Somers Middle School, is Charles County's 2008 Principal of the Year and is a recipient of the *Washington Post's* Distinguished Educational Leadership award. Somers' students, as well as more than 50 staff members and parents, helped nominate Wesolowski. She was recognized for her award in a November 2007 ceremony. She has been principal at Somers for three years and has worked for CCPS since 1989.

System honors top teachers

Julia Habash, a former mathematics teacher at General Smallwood Middle School and teacher at Theodore G. Davis Middle School, is the 2007 Charles County Public Schools Teacher of the Year.



Julia Habash



John Brooks

John Brooks, a first-grade teacher at J.P. Ryon Elementary School, was selected as the Charles County recipient of the 2007 Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award. The *Washington Post* presents the award to one outstanding teacher each year.



2007 Support Personnel Award recipients

Support staff honored for contributions

The Board of Education honored five employees with Outstanding Support Personnel Awards and one Outstanding Vice Principal on June 12 as part of their annual recognition of support staff. Honored were Lisa Wisniewski, a former vice principal at Dr. James Craik Elementary School; Darlette M. Smith, food service manager, Milton M. Somers Middle School; Art Turlington, HVAC Mechanic III, Maintenance Shop; Raymond Lancaster, building service manager, Piccowaxen Middle School; Janelle R. Camp, former secretary to the principal, J.C. Parks Elementary School; and Linda Norcross, media center instructional assistant, Somers.

Students serve in state General Assembly

Student pages to the 2008 Maryland General Assembly are: Bryant Jackson-Green of Thomas Stone High School; Ian Ray of Westlake High School; and Anika Stewart of La Plata High School. Caitlin Floyd of Thomas Stone High School is the alternate Student Page this year.

Student leaders

Ashin Shah, a senior at Thomas Stone High School, is the student member on the Board of Education of Charles County. The student liaisons for the 2007-08 school year are: Jessica Mundi, alternate student board member and La Plata High School; Tiara Brown, Henry E. Lackey High School; Diane Berringer, Maurice J. McDonough High School; Cailyn Skym, North Point High School; Caitlin Floyd, Thomas Stone High School; and Tyler Clarkson, Westlake High School.

The Charles County Association of Student Council officers for the 2007-08 school year are: Tiara Cunningham, Thomas Stone High School, president; William Le, Stone, first vice president; Bradley Tipper, La Plata High School, second vice president; Chandra Thompson, Stone, secretary; and Gaston Lopez, Mattawoman Middle School, middle school liaison.

Students named Maryland Distinguished Scholar finalists

The Maryland Higher Education Commission recognized two Charles County Public Schools students as finalists in the area of academic achievement through the Distinguished Scholar Program. They are Ashin Shah, a senior at Thomas Stone High School, and Svetozara Stoytcheva, a senior at La Plata High School.

Seven other CCPS students were recognized as semifinalists in the area of academic achievement. They are: William Crozier, La Plata; Abe Massad, La Plata; Shijie Shen, La Plata; Laura Snow, Henry E. Lackey High School; Lorin Willett, Lackey; Caitlin Floyd, Stone; and William Le, Stone. Brianna Williams, of Westlake High School, was recognized as a semifinalist in the talent area for dance.

Gaume earns top spot in trigonometry competition

North Point High School junior Patrick Gaume was named the school, county and state champion for the 2007 Trig-Star competition by the Maryland Society of Surveyors. Gaume competed at the county level with 750 other CCPS students. He received the highest score on the exam, 71 out of 100, in Maryland.



Patrick Gaume

Students named AP Scholars

More than 170 Charles County Public Schools students were named AP Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college level Advanced Placement Program exams. One student, Ashin Shah of Thomas Stone High School, qualified for the National AP Scholar Award, the highest AP honor awarded. Shah qualified for the award by earning an average grade of 4 or higher on a 5-point scale on all AP exams taken.

Destination Imagination teams compete at global competition

Six Charles County Destination Imagination teams competed in the Global DI finals held May 2007. Henry E. Lackey High School finished in ninth place, out of 63 teams that competed in the Round About Courage competition. Teams from William B. Wade and Dr. James Craik elementary schools, John Hanson Middle School, and La Plata and Maurice J. McDonough high schools also competed at the globals, after placing first or second in the state DI tournament. Heather Runyon, a 2007 La Plata graduate, was chosen to speak during the Global DI closing ceremonies.

CCPS students will participate in the next county DI competition, scheduled for Saturday, March 15, at North Point High School.

Students advance to international science competition

Gavin Reen and Emily Gore, both students at La Plata High School, advanced to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair after being named the grand award and second grand award winners of the annual Charles County Science Fair held March 2007. The grand award winners are selected from among the first-place senior division winners at the county level.

Each year, all county schools hold a schoolwide competition, in which winners are determined and advance to the countywide competition. This year's countywide competition is Saturday, March 1, at North Point High School.

County students place at State History Fair event

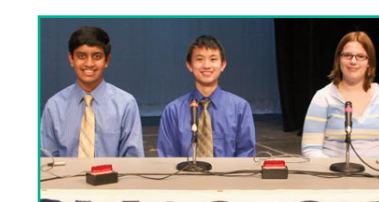
Grant Homan, a seventh-grade student at Piccowaxen Middle School, won second place in the Junior Individual Documentary category at the Maryland State History Day. Homan advanced to the National History Day event, held June 2007. Six other Charles County Public Schools students placed at the state event. This year's county competition is Saturday, March 8, at La Plata High School.

Schools honored for positive behavior program

The Maryland State Department of Education honored 22 schools as part of the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. The PBIS program is a process for creating safer and more effective schools. The following schools were named Exemplar: Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Dr. Gustavus Brown, Eva Turner, J.C. Parks, J.P. Ryon, Malcolm, Mary H. Matula, T.C. Martin and Walter J. Mitchell elementary schools; and Matthew Henson and John Hanson middle schools.

Arthur Middleton, Berry, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon, and William A. Diggs elementary schools; General Smallwood and Milton M. Somers middle schools; and North Point High School were named Green Ribbon schools.

C. Paul Barnhart and Indian Head elementary schools; Piccowaxen Middle School and Henry E. Lackey High School were named Banner schools. CCPS plans to have the PBIS program implemented in all 34 schools by the end of the 2007-08 school year.



Ashin Shah, Will Le and Katie Hebert

Stone's It's Academic team advances to regionals

The Thomas Stone High School *It's Academic* team will participate in the regional televised competition as the first-place winner in the annual Charles County Public Schools competition. The school was presented with a \$500 scholarship from the Greater Waldorf Jaycees. The regional match against Annandale and Maret high schools will air April 5 on WRC TV (NBC 4).

Class of 2007 accomplishments

There were 1,900 students who graduated from Charles County Public Schools in 2007. Seniors received more than \$25 million in scholarship offers. Valedictorians were Sarah Hutton, Thomas Stone High School; Katherine Rice, Maurice J. McDonough High School; Kristin Preuss, La Plata High School; Nicole Willis of Westlake High School; and Kari Cleland, Henry E. Lackey High School. Salutatorians for the Class of 2007 were: Kelliann Wachrathit, of Stone; Daniel Lubej, of McDonough; Melissa Loeper, of La Plata; Amy Mapes of Westlake; and Catherine Twyman and Brandon Bikowski of Lackey. Graduation ceremonies for the 2007-08 school year are June 2 and June 3.

Students earn National Merit recognition

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation honored 10 Charles County Public Schools students for their academic success through the National Merit Scholarship Program and the National Achievement Program. Thomas Stone High School senior William Le is a semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Commended students in the National Merit Scholarship Program are: Caitlin Floyd, Stone; Abe Massad, La Plata High School; Ashin Shah, Stone; and Mary Stillwaggon, Stone. Students referred to colleges through the National Achievement Program are: Brittany Fisher, Westlake High School; Marcus Allen-Hall, Westlake; Brittany Haynes, Stone; Bryant Jackson Green, Stone; and Chandra Thompson, Stone.

Three's program expands

The school system opened two additional regional sites for its full-day, three-year-old program this school year. The program located at Indian Head Elementary School serves children in attendance zones for Indian Head and Gale-Bailey elementary schools. The program located at the Lifelong Learning Center in Waldorf serves children in attendance zones for J.P. Ryon, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd and Eva Turner elementary schools. Other locations include C. Paul Barnhart and Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy elementary schools. The program focuses on prekindergarten, kindergarten and first-grade readiness.

Lackey student wins CSM essay contest

Shaniece L. Brown, a 2007 Henry E. Lackey High School graduate, was the 2007 winner of the College of Southern Maryland's annual Black History Month essay contest.

Brown's essay, titled "They Are My Brothers and Sisters," highlighted her understanding of diversity through her experiences with different cultures. As the 2007 contest winner, Brown was given a \$500 performance award to attend CSM.

The contest is open to Southern Maryland high school juniors and seniors. Participants select a topic from a provided list and essays are evaluated on clarity, coherence and content.



Shaniece Brown

What goes where? Understanding the school system budget

Fiscal Year 2007 (last school year)

How each educational dollar was spent in 2007:



Classroom instruction
67 cents



Student transportation
8 cents



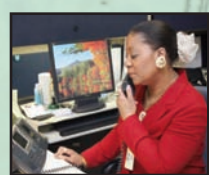
Maintenance, operations and outlay
12 cents



Community & student services
1 cent



School administration
9 cents



Central administration
3 cents

Total approved budget: \$253,317,900
Per pupil expenditure: \$9,783

Fiscal Year 2008 (current year)

Total approved budget:	\$282,089,300
Per pupil expenditure:	\$10,791
Average teacher salary (Master's degree, mid-scale):	\$67,180
Beginning teacher salary:	\$42,245

Funding sources:

\$135,856,000	(Local/county)
\$143,567,100	(State)
\$1,896,200	(Other*)
\$770,000	(Federal)

*Includes tuition from adult education, summer school, nonresidents, rent from school facilities, sale of property and interest income.



Henry E. Lackey High School student Loretta Grimes works on a clay pot during ceramics class.

Address:
5980 Radio Station Road (Street address)
P.O. Box 2770 (Mailing address)
La Plata, MD 20646
Phone: 301-932-6610, 301-870-3814
Fax: 301-932-6651
24-hour information line: 301-934-7410, 301-932-6656
Web site: www.ccboe.com

Board of Education:
Donald M. Wade, *Chairman*
Roberta S. Wise, *Vice Chairman*
Jennifer S. Abell
Collins A. Bailey
Charles E. Carrington
Maura H. Cook
Pamela A. Pedersen
Ashin Shah, *Student Member*

Executive staff:
James E. Richmond
Superintendent of Schools
Ronald G. Cunningham
Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Paul T. Balides
Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Business Administration & Technology

Judy W. Estep
Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Keith A. Hettel
Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources
Charles L. Wineland
Assistant Superintendent for Supporting Services

Annual Report:
The annual report is created and published by Charles County Public Schools. It is required by law, and printed in the Maryland Independent at the suggestion of the school system's Communications Advisory Committee.
The annual report is prepared by the Communications Department. For additional copies, call 301-934-7220. It is also posted on the CCPS website, www.ccboe.com

Mission:
The mission of Charles County Public Schools is to provide an opportunity for all school-aged children to receive an academically challenging, quality education that builds character, equips for leadership, and prepares for life, in an environment that is safe and conducive to learning.

Nondiscrimination statement:
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 Graz, 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 1-800-755-2258 two weeks prior to the event.