

Maurice J. McDonough High School



RAM NEWS

2nd Edition

November / December 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

School is in full stride as McDonough students are off to a strong and productive start. Report cards were mailed out on November 5th and hopefully you are well aware of your child's current progress. If you have any concerns about your child's grades, please do not hesitate to contact your child's guidance counselor. Our guidance counselors are always ready and willing to help your child to succeed.

As you are aware, the second quarter has begun for the 2009-2010 school year. Holidays are approaching and you should know about the following important dates: November 11th (Veterans Day-No School), November 25th, 26th, and 27th (Thanksgiving Holiday-No School), December 2 (2-Hour Early Dismissal), December 7 (Interims Issued) December 21st to January 1st (Winter Break-No School).

Winter athletics are vastly approaching. If you have the time, come out and support our winter athletic teams. There is a schedule for all winter sports during November and December included in this newsletter. Come out and cheer!

I hope you have a joyous and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Jervie Petty
Principal

Christmas Tree Sale

It's that time of year again, The McDonough High Band will be selling Christmas trees. The Christmas trees will be sold at the WaWa in White Plains. Trees will range from \$45 to \$125. We will be open for business starting Friday, November 28, 2009. Hours of operation will be Monday thru Friday from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM, Saturday & Sunday from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. We will again offer the Charles County Public School Employees a discount. All you have to do is bring your county ID badge and you will receive \$5 off any tree. Please come out and help support the McDonough Band and purchase a tree. You can also visit our web site for any updated information.

www.mhsramsband.com



*The McDonough Performing Arts Department.
Presents . . .*

The 8th Semi- Annual Madrigal Dinner

A festive evening of Renaissance music and drama by the Madrigal Lords and Ladies, Advanced Acting and Play Production classes The Chesapeake Room at Middleton Hall

Thursday, December 10, Friday, December 11

Merriment will begin at 6:00 p.m.

(Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.) \$40. 00 per person

Ye Royal Menu: Soup in a Bread Bowl: Heavenly Ham & Rollicking Roasted Chicken: Rebels Roughage: The Queen's favorite potatoes and beans: Fanciful fruits & Cherished cheeses : Apple Blossom

Tickets are currently on sale. To purchase tickets for this wonderful catered event, please go to www.mcdonoughdrama.com and **order tickets by the final sale date of November 29th**. No refunds and /or no exchanges on tickets. In case of event rescheduling due to inclement weather, tickets will be substituted for a make-up night on Sunday. If you cannot attend the make-up date, refunds will be given less the cost of the on-line SEAT YOURSELF fee.

DIVINE LADIES ORGANIZATION

The 2nd Annual Young Women of Color Conference for All Races was held at College of Southern Maryland, La Plata, MD on October 24, 2009. Students were asked to complete a scholarship application as a part of the registration. Mrs. Peggy Tisdale, Vice Principal and organizer of the Divine Ladies Organization (DLO) encouraged all members and co-sponsors to attend the conference. Alexandria Maloney and Laurel Huffman were selected, by the membership, to represent the DLO at the conference along with Mrs. Tisdale. Alexandria Maloney was awarded the Star Scholar Award and Laurel served as the historian for the event. Mrs. Tisdale said, "It is my plan to have more of our young ladies to attend the conference next year because it focuses on how young ladies can make a difference in their own lives and their communities by providing the resources, tools, partnerships and support that girls need to realize their full potential."

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION SESSION



WHEN? MONDAY, DECEMBER 7
AT 7:00 P.M.
IN AUDITORIUM

WHAT? An information session concerning the financial aid process for paying for college will be conducted by The College of Southern Maryland's Financial Aid Director, Mr. George Bachmann. Critical information will be shared concerning the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This session is targeted for families of seniors as well as any interested juniors.

National Honor Society



A copy the Maurice J. McDonough National Honor Society Chapter by-laws is available for review in the main office or by contacting Mrs. Stahl, NHS advisor, at 301-753-1755 or mstahl@ccboe.com. The selection process, as well as GPA requirements, and membership criteria, are outlined.

Students, who are eligible to apply for membership based on their cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, will be sent an application packet at the beginning of the 3rd marking period. A tentative date of April 9, 2010 has been set for the next induction ceremony. The ceremony will take place in the auditorium starting at 8:30am, with a brief reception afterwards. Please contact Mrs. Stahl with any questions.

(SECAC)? What is it?

The Charles County Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) is for all parents and guardians of children with special education needs who have IEPs (Individualized Education Programs). This group enables the Director of Special Education to seek meaningful input from parents, community partners, service providers, and school administrators on local issues relative to the provision of a free appropriate public education and the achievement of students with disabilities.

Our SECAC Meeting Schedule for this school year is as follows:

December 2, 2009
January 20, 2010
March 17, 2010
May 19, 2010

SECAC meetings will be held in the Board Room at the Starkey Administration Building at 6:30 P.M.

The 5th Annual SECAC Teacher and Staff Award Ceremony will be held Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at the Waldorf Jaycees Hall.

Student Service Learning

Has your child fulfilled his or her Student Service Learning requirement? One way to find out is to check your child's report card! An additional way is to contact McDonough's Student Service Learning Coordinator. The contact information for McDonough's SSL Coordinator is provided below:

Mr. Ray Lenhart
E-Mail: rlenhart@ccboe.com

****If your child is seeking opportunities to complete student service learning, he or she may stop by and see Mr. Lenhart in Room 146.***

Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS)

Maurice J. McDonough continues to improve student success by implementing PBIS through the collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education, Sheppard Pratt Health System and John Hopkins University. PBIS is a process for creating safer and more effective schools.

PBIS is a systems approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based, school wide, and classroom discipline systems. The process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. PBIS includes school-wide procedures, which include weekly and monthly winners. Last year, McDonough was named a Silver Ribbon PBIS School by the Maryland State Department of Education.

RAM Pride!

**Respectful
Accountable
Motivated**

Activity Buses

Activity buses are for use by students participating in high-school sponsored activities that occur after the regular dismissal time. In order to ride an activity bus, students must have parental permission and be involved in a school-sponsored activity. Eligible students will be admitted onto the activity buses by their coach, sponsor, or teacher.

"After school activities are an essential part of the total educational experience for students and provide children with a sense of belonging. Activity buses make it easier for students to join an after-school activity," said Superintendent James E. Richmond.

The early bus departs at 4:15 p.m. and the late bus leaves at 6:00 p.m. There are 3 buses contracted for the service. Bus drivers have two-way radios to communicate with school officials and the pupil transportation department. Each driver also has a cell phone in the event a student needs to communicate with a parent.

Central locations along established routes serve as drop-off points for students. Routes serve as many students as possible, and are located in areas of the highest number of students participating in after-school activities. Routes are available on our school website. Parents may either meet their children at the drop-off locations or choose to have their children walk home. Contact Mr. Gladfelter if you have any questions.



NOVEMBER ATHLETIC EVENTS

- Nov. 19** **Fall Sports Awards Night**
7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 24** **BB @ Gaithersburgh (Scrimmage)**
5:00 p.m.
- Nov. 30** **GB vs ThomasStone 4:30 p.m.**
BB @ Northeast 3:30 p.m.
(Scrimmages)

NOTE:

GB = GIRLS BASKETBALL

BB = BOYS BASKETBALL

@ = AWAY GAME

VS = HOME GAME



**COME SUPPORT
YOUR RAMS!**

DECEMBER ATHLETIC EVENTS

- Dec. 4** **BB vs Leonardtown**
4:00/5:30/7:00 p.m.
- GB @ Leonardtown**
5:00/6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 5** **Wrestling @ Chopticon (Dual)**
Wrestling @ Chopticon (Dual)
- Dec. 8** **Wrestling vs Chopticon**
6:00/7:00 p.m.
- GB @ Grace Bretheran**
6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 11** **GB vs Northpoint**
5:00/6:30 p.m.
- BB @ Northpoint**
4:00/5:30/7:00 p.m.
- Swimming vs. West Lake/Great Mills**
@Lackey pool 7:30 p.m.
- Wrestling @ Lackey Tournament**
- Dec. 12** **Wrestling @ Lackey Tournament**
- Dec. 15** **BB vs Thomas Stone**
4:00/5:30/7:00 p.m.
- GB @ Thomas Stone**
5:00/6:30 p.m.
- Wrestling @ La Plata w/Lackey**
5:00 p.m.
- Dec. 17** **Wrestling @ Leonardtown**
6:00/7:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18** **GB vs West Lake**
5:00/6:30 p.m.
- BB @ West Lake**
4:00/5:30/7:00 p.m.
- Swimming vs Calver/Huntingtown**
@ Lackey Pool 4:30 p.m.
- Dec. 21** **BB vs Southern 4:30/6:00 p.m.**

STUDENT CRIME SOLVERS PROGRAM

The Crime Solvers tip box is located upstairs on the administrative office door in the main hallway. The Student Crime Solvers Program was created to help ensure the overall safety of our school in partnership with the Charles County Sheriff's Department. Students can report anonymous and confidential information in the crime solvers box at any time. Cash rewards of up to \$500 are given out for successful information leading to disciplinary action. If you have any questions regarding the Crime Solvers Program, please see Corporal Black or an administrator. Again, all information is anonymous and confidential and this program helps keep our school one of the safest in the United States.

Mission Statement

The mission of McDonough High School is to educate all students to think clearly, feel humanely, and act creatively and constructively. The goal of the school's staff is to provide all students with opportunities to develop skills in communication, interpersonal relationships, physical development, career readiness, technological applications, and thinking processes; thus, enabling them to become life-long learners.

Principal
Jervie Petty

Vice Principal
Peggy Tisdale

Vice Principal
Bradley Snow

Vice Principal
Terri St. Clair

Vice Principal
Charmaine Young-Waddy

Administrative Assistant ***Administrative Assistant***
Mark Gladfelter Cecil Marshall

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.