

Maurice J. McDonough High School



RAM NEWS

1st Edition

September 2009

Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Welcome to another school year. I hope you are as excited about the upcoming school year as we are. The anticipation of a new school year tends to rejuvenate all of us. This is the time of year when we make new goals with expectations of greater success than the previous year.

You have the opportunity to work with an outstanding staff as well as a wonderful student body. Our staff and students are committed to the school's total program. Their dedication is commendable. I am very proud of the accomplishments of the staff and the students.

As part of McDonough's effort to maximize success for all of our ninth and tenth graders, we are requiring the purchase and daily use of our 2009-2010 McDonough High School Agendas. Purchase price is only \$5.00. The agenda contains helpful information on conflict resolution, the seven habits of highly effective teens, ways to become a McDonough Ram through participation in various clubs and organizations, and a variety of resources to aid in English, math, science and social studies classes. The agendas also include topics teachers will use instructionally, such as Cornell note taking. Students must have their agenda to receive the maximum benefit from each lesson. The agenda includes hall passes for each quarter. Therefore, students will need to have their agendas in their possession to be excused from class. Upperclassmen are also encouraged to purchase an agenda, which is a great organizational tool.

Parental interest, involvement, guidance and support have never been more important than in high school. McDonough High School needs you. If we are going to continue to be successful, we need our parents. We encourage you to attend our **Open House on Wednesday, September 30th at 7:00 PM.**

Once again, I welcome you to the 2009-2010 school year. I look forward to meeting each of you and please visit our website at www2.ccooe.com/mcdonough .

Sincerely,

Jervie S. Petty
Principal

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

Ask your child about RAM Bucks!



Welcome New Staff Members!

One of the more exciting parts of our summer was to interview and hire new staff members to become part of the Maurice J. McDonough family. We have added some outstanding talent to our staff.

Ms. Melissa McConnell- English
Ms. Ashley Ferguson – English
Mrs. Lewan Hutchison – English
Ms. Ellen Marie Kline - English
Mr. Ryan Feeney – Science
Mr. Richard Watkoski – Science
Mr. Richard Bintliff – Business
Ms. Beatrice Ricks – Instructional Assistant
Ms. Eboni Brown – School Counselor
Mr. Jason Bursick – Athletic Director
Ms. Victoria Langley – Food Services
Assistant Manager



THE COLLEGE FAIR OF CHARLES COUNTY will take place at North Point High School in Waldorf on Wednesday, September 23rd. Over 130 colleges will send representatives to speak to high school students about admissions and majors at their institutions. McDonough juniors and seniors wishing to attend from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. will need to complete a permission slip and return it to the Career Center by September 14. The College Fair will be open to the public from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. with Financial Aid Workshops at 6:15 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.

Contact Mrs. Welch in the Career Center, Mrs. Goodwin or Ms. Thatcher in the Counseling Department if you need more information.

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.



Athletic Events

September

- 4 - JV/Varsity Soccer vs. Calvert – 4:30/6:00 PM
- 4 - JV Football vs. Potomac – 4:00 PM
- 5 - Varsity Football vs. Potomac at Largo High School @ 6:00 PM
- 8 - Field Hockey vs. North Point 4:30/6:00 PM
- 8 - Boys Soccer vs. North Point 4:30/6:00 PM
- 8 - Girls Soccer at North Point 4:30/6:00
- 8 - Volleyball at Westlake 4:30/6:00
- 9 - Golf vs. Huntingtown/Westlake at Melamar Golf Club @ 4:00 PM
- 10 - 9th/JV Football vs. Westlake 5:00/7:00 PM
- 10 - Volleyball at Calvert 4:30/6:00 PM
- 11 - Varsity Football at Westlake 7:00 PM
- 11 - Cross Country - Howard County Invitational 3:00 PM
- 12 - Field Hockey at Westlake Tournament 9:00 AM
- 12 - Boys Soccer at Chopticon Tournament 10:00 AM
- 12 - Girls Soccer Tournament at McDonough 10:00 AM
- 12 - Volleyball Tournament at McDonough 9:00 AM
- 14 - Field Hockey vs. La Plata 4:00/5:30 PM
- 14 - Boys Soccer vs. La Plata 4:30/6:00 PM
- 14 - Girls Soccer at La Plata 4:30/6:00 PM
- 14 - Volleyball at La Plata 4:30/6:00 PM
- 16 - Volleyball vs. Northern 4:30/6:00 PM
- 16 - Girls Soccer vs. Northern 4:30/6:00 PM
- 16 - Golf vs. North Point, Northern, Chopticon at Hawthorne Golf Course 4:00 PM
- 16 - 9th/JV Football at North Point 5:00/7:00 PM
- 16 - Cross Country at Thomas Stone 4:00 PM
- 17 - Varsity Football vs. North Point 7:00 PM
- 17 - Field Hockey at Northern 4:00/5:30 PM
- 21 - Girls Soccer vs. Lackey 4:30/6:00 PM
- 21 - Boys Soccer at Lackey 4:30/6:00 PM
- 23 - Field Hockey vs. Calvert 4:00/5:30 PM
- 23 - Boys Soccer at Great Mills 4:30/6:00 PM
- 23 - Girls Soccer vs. Calvert 4:30/6:00 PM
- 23 - Golf vs. Lackey, Great Mills, Thomas Stone at White Plains Golf Course 4:00 PM
- 24 - Girls Soccer vs. Great Mills 4:30/6:00 PM
- 24 - Volleyball vs. Great Mills 4:30/6:00 PM
- 24 - 9th/JV Football at Patuxent 5:00/7:00 PM
- 25 - Varsity Football vs. Patuxent (HOMECOMING) @ 7:00 PM
- 26 - Cross Country at Bull Run Invitational 12:00 PM
- 29 - Boys Soccer vs. Thomas Stone 4:30/6:00 PM
- 29 - Girls Soccer at Thomas Stone 4:30/6:00 PM
- 30 - Field Hockey vs. Thomas Stone 4:00/5:30 PM
- 30 - Volleyball at Thomas Stone 4:30/6:00 PM
- 30 - Cross Country at Leonardtown 4:00 PM

WE ARE CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to the softball team who were the 2009 2A State Champions!

Players:

Melanie Mitchell
Stacy Tiscione
Laura Borawski
Jasmine Hairston
Janice Spearbeck
Samantha Kruemmel
Katelyn Westerfield
Kelsea Morris
Erica Richardson
Molly Simpson
Jazzmyn Haden
Kaitlin Beck
Bria Cunningham

Coaches:

Julie Snavelly
Heather Pike
Kelly Barry



Teachers of McDonough Are Excited to Be Back!

Each new school year is an opportunity for a fresh start. It is exciting to meet the students who are new to McDonough, as well as see the returning students. The atmosphere at McDonough seems very positive, with teachers who are eager to start the year and students ready to meet the challenges. I'm looking forward to a great year!

-Michelle Bradshaw
☛ Life Skills Teacher

It has been a really smooth start to the year. It seems like the students are focused and ready to learn and all of the teachers are really well prepared. There is a lot of energy and enthusiasm coming from both new and veteran teachers about the new school year.

-Heather Beaton
☛ Social Studies Teacher

I absolutely love working at McDonough. There is a great sense of community and dedication to success. As a new teacher I have been introduced to just about everyone, and as part of the introductions many people have offered their assistance and advice – which is greatly appreciated and helpful. The staff is very welcoming and so positive – coming to McDonough has yet to feel like “work!” I am looking forward to a fantastic and exciting school year!

-Ashley Ferguson
☛ English Teacher

:Dates To Remember:

September 7

Labor Day/Schools Closed

September 18

Schools Closed for Students

September 25

McDonough's Homecoming Football Game

September 26

Homecoming Dance

September 28

Interims Issued

September 30

-Two-Hour Early Dismissal for Students

-Open House for Parents

@ 7:00 p.m.

October 16

Schools Closed for Students & Teachers

October 21

Two-Hour Early Dismissal for Students

October 29

Two-Hour Early Dismissal for Students

School System Sponsors Bus Hotline!

Parents can access bus routes through School Locator, a new feature available on the CCPS Web site. School Locator is designed to allow the public to enter an address and see which three schools - elementary, middle and high - an address is zoned for. It also indicates if the address is eligible for bus transportation to a particular school, what the bus number is and where the closest bus stop to the address is located.

School Locator can be accessed at www2.ccboe.com/schoollocator/. Click on Launch Application (Public) to access the system. No password is needed. School Locator uses mapping data from the county and filters it by the system's current school zones. Additionally, bus stops within established subdivisions are permanently placed at specific locations to ensure consistency and equity among riders and will not be changed. If you have any questions, please check in the Main Office.

What Makes You Proud To Be a RAM?

McDonough students share their thoughts.....

"McDonough is a nice, safe, and friendly environment that makes me feel safe".

9th Grade/Cheerleader

-Skylar Savoy

"The faculty is very nice and helpful. They keep me motivated."

9th Grade

-Tylisa Duckett

"My peers were very helpful on my first day of school".

9th Grade

-Misha Patel

"I have the ability to influence others in the things that I do here. It motivates me that the teachers are caring of what I do".

10th Grade

-Tyler Smith

"I stay motivated in school and the teachers hold me accountable".

11th Grade

-Samantha Geckle

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
Mark Gladfelter

Administrative Assistant
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.