

Bulldog Bulletin

Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

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 Plans). 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.

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

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

SECAC meetings are 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.

Specials Schedule for grades K-4

November 2 – C Day
November 3 – D Day
November 4 – E Day
November 5 – Schools Closed
November 6 – A Day

School Calendar

October 30 – PTO's Fall Festival from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Volunteers still needed.
November 3 – PTO meeting at 7:00 p.m.
November 5 – Report Card Conferences; schools closed
November 6 – NO PRE-K; parent conferences
November 11 – Veterans' Day; schools closed
November 16-20 – Book Fair
November 25-27 – Fall break; schools closed

November 30 – Makeup Day for Fall Photographs

Fall Festival

Our PTO's Fall Festival is Friday, October 30, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. There will be games, face painting, crafts, concessions, a costume contest and a haunted hallway. This is a great holiday event for the whole family.

We are still recruiting volunteers to make this evening successful. If you can donate one hour during the event, please email Stephanie Shanholtzer at shanholtzer@comcast.net or Julie Yowell at jcyow@comcast.net.

Costume Parade

Our school-wide costume parade will be held Friday, October 30, at 2:15 p.m. Children will prepare for dismissal immediately following the parade.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ Parents/guardians may visit the classroom (including the playground) at the school's request or request to make a formal observation. Making an appointment with the school at least two school days in advance of an observation is not only a courtesy and a requirement by the Superintendent, but enables the parent/guardian to schedule the observation for the maximum benefit. Teachers cannot stop teaching to confer with the parents/guardians who stop by without an appointment. Parents/guardians may schedule up to two classroom observations of up to forty-five minutes in duration each grading period. Staff accompanies visitors to the classroom. Siblings should not attend. Teachers will be happy to discuss the observation at a mutually convenient time. Parents/guardians are welcome at any time to visit the cafeteria and eat lunch with their child.
- ❖ Absences from school are considered lawful only if they are accompanied by a medical note. This can be a doctor's note indicating an illness or a medical appointment. It would also be considered a medical absence if the school nurse sends a child home from school.
- ❖ School system policy states that students in elementary school with eight unlawful absences might be considered for retention.
- ❖ Regular, structured homework assignments are an extension of classroom instruction. Elementary students usually spend ten minutes on homework in first grade and up to an hour in fifth grade.
- ❖ Elementary school students may not possess cell phones at school.
- ❖ Valuable items (including games and toys) and large sums of money should not be brought to school. We do not take responsibility for valuables brought to school.
- ❖ Fifth graders choose their music class: band, chorus or orchestra. Fifth graders cannot change their musical preference during the year.
- ❖ The goal of Charles County Public Schools is to provide a quality educational program for all students in an environment that is conducive to learning. There are times, however, when an individual may have a concern. The first step in resolving a concern is to address it with the teacher or staff member who is most closely and directly involved. Please contact the school and schedule an appointment.
- ❖ Please remember that children under the age of 18 may not transport medication to and from school. Only adults may transport medication. This includes prescription medications, pain relievers (Advil/Tylenol), cough syrup, cough drops, and medicated lotions/creams. All medicated items must stay locked in our school Health Room.

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 Pat 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, MD 20646. 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations, call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.