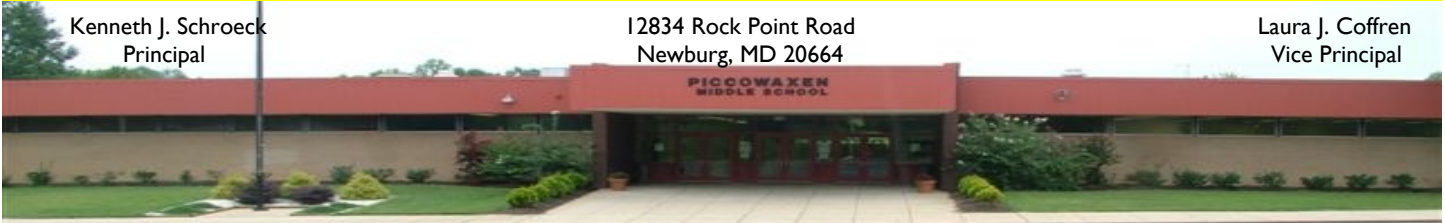


THE PAW

Kenneth J. Schroeck
Principal

12834 Rock Point Road
Newburg, MD 20664

Laura J. Coffren
Vice Principal



Dates of Interest:

School Dances: 11/6 &
12/4 from 2:15 to 4:15

Spirit Days: 11/6, 11/20,
12/4, & 12/18

Assessments:

Quarter 1 CCPS Assessments:
• State Technology (7th
grade) Dec. 7th

Fairs and Academic Competitions:

- History Fair - Projects
Due, 1/13/2010
- Science Fair - Projects
Due, 2/16/2010
- Spelling Bee - 11/24

Report Cards and Interims:

- 1st Qtr. Report Cards
mailed - 11/5
- 2nd Qtr. Interims Issued -
12/7
- 2nd Qtr. Ends - 1/21/2010

Quarterly Award

Ceremonies

- 1st Qtr. Nov. 13th

Other Events:

NJHS Food Drive-11/9 to 11/17

CONCERTS:

- 6th Grade Winter Band,
Chorus, Orchestra Con-
cert-12/8, 7PM
- 7th & 8th Grade Winter
Band, Chorus, Orchestra
Concert- 12/10, 7PM

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Principal's Corner

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It has been really good meeting our parents at our Open House, PTO meetings, club activities and special events. These are wonderful opportunities to keep the lines of communication open between the home and school. Thank you for your presence and support. The first quarter has come to an end and report cards will be mailed home on November 5th. I hope all our students reached the goals they set for themselves. Please take advantage of this opportunity to reflect and set new goals for the 2nd quarter along with reinforcing your child's study and homework habits.

1st quarter assessments scores in math and reading have just arrived. These scores are used as benchmarks to measure student progress. If you have not seen child's scores on your child's data tracking sheet in their notebooks or you have questions about the scores please contact your child's teacher.

I am extremely impressed by the way our parents are becoming very familiar with the curriculum and class routines. It is this along with the regular conversations you have with the students in regards to what they are doing daily in class that is making a difference. We are proud of what the students are accomplishing but we know together we can help them turn their potential into reality. In order to facilitate student academic goals our

teachers are having student post all their assessments in their data tracking sheets in their notebooks, posting homework on schoolnotes.com, and sending out progress reports every two weeks.

Congratulations to the

44 students who placed at the county fair
21 students who advanced to All County Chorus

3 students who advanced to All County Band

5 students who advanced to All County Orchestra

2 students placed at the Fall Chess Tournament

SPECIAL THANK YOU to our PTO their support with students, staff, and community at back to school staff luncheon, new students orientation, open house, school dances, road show, most recently at our annual full day "Career Day" Thank you also for the prize donations for students and teachers in our PBIS drawings. We appreciate all you do.

Kenneth J. Schroeck

Eighth Grade



“Show
Picco
Pride
in all
areas
dealing
with
being a
successful
student!”



The 8th grade class members are busy making memories. On October 27 the 8th grade class took their class panoramic picture.

Parents, please keep in mind that the teachers are more than willing to meet you if you have any classroom concerns. Please contact our Guidance Department if you would like to set up a conference.

Students and parents please remember that no 8th grade teacher will accept any late work.

Students, your 8th grade team want this year to be the most memorable year ever. We are proud of your participation and winning of spirit days. Continue to study and do your best, because *Success is your only option...you are going to the next level.*

CHORUS

All County Honors Chorus auditions were held on Tuesday October 6 at North Point High School. Piccowaxen had twenty-seven (27) students audition and all of the students performed extremely well. Out of the twenty-seven auditioning students, twenty-one (21) were accepted into All County Honors Chorus. We are very proud of our students and are excited that Piccowaxen will be so well represented this year. The students who made it into All

County are as follows:

Haley Crate, Tara Miller, Miranda Wickens, Brittany Schulz, Rita Cornwell, Zaria Ancar, Amanda Unzicker, Reilly Tillman, Gabrielle Meadows, Hannah McGraner, Shannon Johnson, Emily Fleming, Alyssa Gentilcore, Antonia Vance, Rhonda Austin, Patrick Wathen, Blake Bishop, Nicholas Boyles, Robert Brownlee, Daniel Busey, and Chase Childers.

Sixth Grade

Sixth grade students have matured nicely this first quarter. They have learned the best procedures to getting to their lockers and then to class or buses.

Most students are doing a super job using the agenda as a tool for success. However, a few students are still having difficulty submitting homework by due dates. We ask that parents please play an active role in checking your child's agenda, particularly for any stamps that show missing or incomplete work. If your child misplaces the agenda, a new one should be purchased for \$8 in the school office. Parents are also encouraged to check www.Schoolnotes.com (zip code 20644) for updated assignments by the teachers.

The students are professionals now at opening their lockers. Many

children may need to clean out their locker periodically as well. You would be surprised what might be found after just one quarter of school!

With regard to “Lost and Found”, there is a cart and location near the lockers that contain lost and found items. We already have an abundant amount of jackets, lunch boxes, etc. and the winter months have not arrived. Please consider writing your child's name in coats, lunchboxes, and back packs and have them inspect our lost and found areas while at school.

The Sixth grade team is very happy with the development our sixth graders have taken to get use to the crazy Middle School life style. We continue to encourage them to do their best and show Picco pride in all areas that lead to being a successful student!

Seventh Grade

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: It has come to that time of year when we are preparing to review important information with our students before entering the second semester. We ask that you help us by going over the items below and discussing them with your child.

- The importance of turning in all homework and classwork
- The importance of proofreading their work so that they are turning in quality work
- The importance of participating in class work and class discussions
- The importance of maintaining appropriate behavior when there is a substitute or guest in the classroom
- The importance of listening when the teacher, sub or other student is speaking

- The importance of showing respect to teachers, staff and fellow students

We are committed to helping all our students move to the next level. We thank you for your support in this endeavor. Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns about their progress.

SPIRIT SHIRTS: The 7th grade spirit shirts are in and have been distributed to the students. If you have any questions about the shirts please contact Ms. Loyd or Ms. Mills.

AWARDS ASSEMBLY: The 1st quarter awards assembly will be held on Friday November 13 at 9:30 a.m. All parents are invited to attend.



Speech and Debate Club

"This year Piccowaxen has a new academic club! Speech and Debate, formally known as Forensics, is sponsored by Ms. Riggle (Language Arts) and Ms. Johns (Social Studies). The new group is making a proud panther impact on students from all grades.

Speech and Debate, just as it sounds, has two different disciplines. Speech students work on selecting and interpreting memorized oratories. This can improve public speaking abilities and confidence in performing. Debate students research current issues

and study logic to better their arguing skills - hello, future lawyers!

Club members meet after school on Tuesdays until 4:00. Piccowaxen doesn't have any area middle school teams to compete against (yet), but students involved in the club are sharpening skills for high school drama clubs and debate teams just the same.

Interested parents or students should contact Ms. Riggle at sriggle@ccboe.com."

Medication Reminders

Cough drops may be brought to school and taken for up to three days with a note from the parent; pills brought in a baggie instead of a prescription container will not be accepted; it is preferable for a parent to bring a medication to school if at all possi-

ble. Any prescription medication to be taken at school needs a medication order filled out by the doctor before it can be given. Students are not permitted to carry any type of lozenge or pill on their person. Mrs. Mulert

Parents,
"We thank
you
for your
support
in this
endeavor."





“Even in these rough economic times our fundraiser was very successful!”
Thank You.

School-Wide Fall Fundraiser:

Our School-Wide Fall Fundraiser ended on October 7th and “Wow” the Picco Pride was evident. Even in these rough economic times our fundraiser was very successful! Thank you to all participants, you are terrific and we appreciate all your hard work!

The funds raised will be used to purchase curriculum materials and equipment, and instructional materials for classrooms, all benefiting our program and the students of Piccowaxen.

Reminders:

November 6th – Fundraiser items to be delivered and available for pickup after 12 noon and up to 5:00 p.m. (we have a school dance after school on this day which is perfect for picking up your items when you pick up your student). A reminder will be sent home via students and

the school’s call out system. Orders placed online will be shipped directly to the customer. **Please note:** This year’s fundraiser includes cookie dough that should not sit out for more than 4 – 6 hours so please refrigerate until you can deliver it.

December 7th – 2:15 to 4:15 p.m. – **MEGA PARTY** for participants that sold 12 items or more. Permission slips will be sent home prior to the party. Volunteers will be needed.

December 18th – The Hummer Limo Lunch with a friend (destination to be determined). Permission slips and information will be sent home prior to the event.

Thank you again for all your help and support.

Giant—A+ Bonus Bucks

It is that time of year again! The Giant 2009-2010 A+ Bonus Bucks program is underway! It is time to register your Giant card with our local schools if you haven’t already done so!

This is very easy to do! Either go to the Customer Service desk at your favor-

ite Giant store or go online (*Giant Aplus Bonus Bucks- [www. Giantfood.com.](http://www.Giantfood.com)*) - it is that easy!

Our local schools need your help to earn bonus bucks. This is real cash for our schools’ educational needs and your child’s education. Sign up today!

MESA

The 2009 – 2010 MESA year is off to an outstanding start. The students who joined this year are excited and enthusiastic. Students have been working on group construction challenges and



have begun their projects. This year’s challenges are: bridge building, effective communications, windmill challenge, and building a SCRATCH animation with the theme of “Going Green”.

This is just a reminder that our meetings are on Wednesdays from 2:15 – 3:45. Students need to be picked up no later than 4:00.

“Please be advised that MESA will meet on the following dates, barring any weather-related school closings or early dismissals: October 14 & 28, November 4 & 18, December 9 & 16, January 6, 13, & 20, February 3, 10, & 17, March 3, 10 & 17, and April 7 & 14.”

Mike Ficalora, Jim Rowland, Ann Windsor

**PICCOWAXEN REMEMBERS OUR VETERANS...
AMERICAN FREEDOM WEEK NOVEMBER 9 – 13.
APPRECIATION CEREMONY NOVEMBER 12, 2009.**

Join us in saying thank you to America's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who have bravely answered the call to defend our freedom throughout our nation's history. If any of our Piccowaxen parents or their family members are veterans or currently serving in the armed forces, we invite them to join us on Nov. 12 as we say "Thank you" for their sacrifices. We will be celebrating American Freedom Day on Nov. 12 at 1:00 pm, and all throughout the week, students will be participating in activities to gain an appreciation for our veterans and

founding forefathers who struggled to gain the freedoms we share today. We will also be collecting photographs and military memorabilia for a display in the front lobby. Mrs. Gamble, 8th Grade Social Studies teacher, will be cataloging and preparing the items for display. Students will be receiving information soon regarding this project.

Join us as we show our gratitude to our veterans, past and present. For more information contact Mrs. Teresa Jones, Gifted Resource Teacher at tcjones@ccboe.com.



Panthers Achieving, Working, Succeeding with PBIS

Each month our students participate in a school-wide lesson to promote PBIS and reinforce the four Picco-Pawsitive Behaviors (Pride, Respect, Responsibility, and Safety). PBIS held its first lesson on Sept. 22nd focusing on School Bus Safety. Students watched a video entitled "Tears on the Highway" which presented a "what if" scenario. "What if" children were being so disrespectful to the

driver and fellow peers, by engaging in misbehavior and bullying, that the bus driver lost control of the bus? We hope that this video helped to reinforce the importance of safety on the bus along with treating others with respect by acting responsible and by making safe decisions.

October's lesson was presented by the guidance department on Bullying. This lesson was given during P.E. classes on Oct. 1st and 2nd.

*Picco-Pawsitive
Behaviors
are PRIDE,
RESPECT,
RESPONSIBILITY,
and SAFETY.*

SCIENCE

6th Grade

Students will be learning about chemical and physical weathering as well as different types of rocks and the rock cycle. We will also study properties of the atmosphere and the hydrosphere.

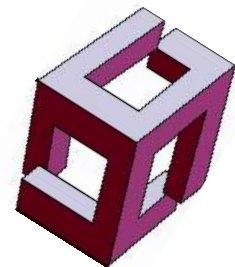
7th Grade

Students will be learning about environments, their growth and the survival of organisms and species and how that de-

pends on the physical conditions of the environment.

8th Grade

Students will be researching the Periodic Table of the Elements. Students will provide evidence that elements have similar properties and are grouped accordingly in the Periodic Table of the Elements. Examples include highly reactive metals, less-reactive metals, and non-reactive gases.





Library Media Center News

The library has been a busy place this year with many students coming in during homeroom and lunch to return their books and check out new ones. Many of the popular titles are from a book series. Some of the more popular series include *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod*, and *The Clique*.

Students have started using the Accelerated Reader program. Many stu-

dents have already finished books and taken quizzes for them, gathering good information about their reading habits to help in Language Arts classes and beyond.

Our first book fair will be held in the media center during the week of November 30th. The school's profit will be used to buy more books and resources for the library. Please contact Mrs. Smioldo or Mrs. Long if you have any time to volunteer or if you have any questions. Thank You!

“Our first book fair will be held in the media center during the week of November 30th.”

Computer Technology

The Computer Technology Classes are moving into full gear and will be studying the six major standards: Technology Systems, Digital Citizenship, Technology for Learning and Collaboration, Technology for Communication and Expression, Technology for Information Use and Management, and Technology for Problem-Solving and Decision-Making.

Technology literacy is the ability of an individual, working independently and with others, to responsibly, appropriately and effectively use technology tools to access, manage, integrate, evaluate, create and communicate information.

Maryland Technology Literacy Standards for Students are important objectives. The standards are: Standard 1.0 – Technology Systems: Develop foundations in the understanding and uses of technology systems; Develop professional practices that support continual learning and professional growth in technology

Standard 2.0 – Digital Citizenship: Demonstrate an understanding of the history of technology and its impact on society, and practice ethical, legal, and responsible use of technology to assure safety

Standard 3.0 – Technology for Learning and Collaboration: Use a variety of technologies for learning and collaboration

Standard 4.0 – Technology for Communication and Expression: Use technology to communicate information and express ideas using various media formats

Standard 5.0 – Technology for Information Use and Management: Use technology to locate, evaluate, gather, and organize information and data.

Standard 6.0 – Technology for Problem-Solving and Decision-Making: Demonstrate ability to use technology and develop strategies to solve problems and make informed decisions. Using these standards the state was able to create the Technology Assessment that will given this December.

PBIS is proud to recognize Chik-Fil-A, Target, Arizona Pizza, Rita's of La Plata, Famous Dave's, Red Robin, Carvel, La Tolteca, Quizno's, Outback, and Applebees; these companies have shown support for our program through welcomed donations. Due to their generosity, we were able to do even more to reward the students and staff who displayed *the Picco Positive Behaviors* of **Respect, Pride, Responsibility, and Safety** in the school and community. *Please, show your support for these companies by visiting their establishments.*



Get on Board the Piccowaxen Food Train!!!

WHAT??!!!

Piccowaxen NJHS is sponsoring the annual Food Drive to help those in need in our community and in our state!! *Please*

donate nonperishable fixins' for a Thanksgiving dinner *AND* other foods families in our state need! We are participating in the MSDE sponsored "Kids Helping Kids 2009" Food Drive. Food will go directly to our community food bank and the state goal this year is to collect 1 million pounds of food to feed hungry Marylanders. The food will also be used to supply Thanksgiving dinners for **members of our own Piccowaxen community!** (A local church, Holy Ghost, also provides food for our Piccowaxen families – **THANKS** for their contributions!!)

Food to donate: 1st priority is items to make a Thanksgiving meal: cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, canned gravy, canned vegetables, including yams or sweet potatoes, pumpkin or other pie filling, dry mixes: pudding mixes, cake, brownie, cookie or bread(s) mixes, canned icing, macaroni and cheese, rice, pie crust mix, macaroni, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly or jam, canned fruits, canned juices, tea bags, instant hot

chocolate, instant coffee, canned milk, canned meats: tuna, spam, corned beef, etc.; breakfast foods: food bars, cereal, instant grits or oatmeal, chili mix, canned legumes (kidney beans, pinto beans, pork and beans, etc.) – basically any nonperishable item that you would like to have at your dinner table! - PLEASE, no dented or expired items. Monetary donations are also accepted. Please make checks out to Piccowaxen NJHS and write "Food drive" in the memo section of your check.

In addition to the warm fuzzy you'll get by helping someone else, **THE WINNING HOMEBASE WILL RECEIVE...**

1st place – Chick filet lunch (chicken and fries)

2nd place – Ice Cream party

3rd place – Throw A Pie at _____ (Picco staff member(s) to be determined)

WHEN: Starting Tuesday, October 27 until Friday, Nov. 20. The number of food items donated will be tabulated every 3 days. **GET ON BOARD THE PICCOWAXEN FOOD TRAIN!!!!**

Be a part of the action!
Be a part of helping others!



Media Center Recycling

Thanks to the parents, students, staff and community for helping the Piccowaxen Recycling Center. Here are our fundraiser/recycling programs:

-Donate your used cell phones, ink jet cartridges, laptops, iPods, digital cameras and video cameras.

-Take a moment to sign up for Safeway & Target programs. Each company will donate a percentage of your purchases to our school. Sign up @ these websites: Safeway- [Escript-www.escript.com.](http://www.escript.com), Target- [Rewards-www.target.com](http://www.target.com)

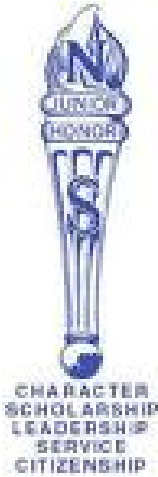
-Our school is collecting: wearable & usable clothing; shoes (any usable shoes) & a great need for athletic shoes; linens, and stuff animals (all sorts).

Plus our school receives funds for every pound we collect. The clothing is used for those in need. **DON'T**

THROW ANYTHING AWAY!!!!!!! The collection dates are 09/01/09 thru 11/20/09. So far we have collected over 1,000 lbs. Our goal for the entire year is 3,000.

-Boxtops for Education, Campbell Labels, Capri Sun pouches, Lay's chip bags, mars & wrigley's candy wrappers and Nabisco cookie wrappers. Last year with our Campbell labels we were able to purchase a printer/scanner and fax machine. With our other fundraisers we were able to purchase books, movies and magazines for the media center.

Thanks for helping our school raise money and recycle at the same time. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Long.



*"BEE" excited!
Piccowaxen is
"abuzz" with
preparations
for the
Piccowaxen
Spelling BEE"*

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS)

The Piccowaxen NJHS chapter has been busy these last few weeks! We elected officers and are planning for the BEST FOOD DRIVE Piccowaxen has EVER had! (See article about the food drive in this edition). Our 2009-2010 officers are: **President:** Julianna Dawson; [**Vice President** – will be elected at our next meeting] **Secretary:** Rachael Yatty; **Asst. Sec.:** Rachel Ward; **Treasurer:** Matt McElhenny; **Asst. Treasurer:** Alex Hamill; **Activities Chairman:** Katherine Snee; **Historian:** Alex Saunders; **Club Photographer:** Nick Stottlemeyer; **Asst. Photographer:** Kelsey Hartley. Members received a list of scheduled meetings and should attend every meeting. In the event you cannot attend a scheduled meeting, members should see Mrs. Jones. Screening for prospective members (eligible 7th and 8th graders) will begin in mid-November. Students who have achieved a 3.5 GPA will receive information packets which contain Information/Activity Applications, which will need to be returned. Candidates will then be screened by Piccowaxen faculty to insure that they meet the NJHS standards of Leadership, Character,

Citizenship, and Service, in addition to Scholarship. Successful candidates will be invited to join the Piccowaxen NJHS and the Induction Ceremony will be held in mid-November. NJHS members will also be participating in the Freedom Week Ceremony and Activities November 9 – 13. The NJHS thanks you in advance for support of our food drive and other important community service projects.

Facts About Childhood Hunger:

- √ 1 in 6 children in the U.S. is at risk of hunger, more than 12 million children overall.
- √ 2005, 853 children under the age of 18 are food insecure (lack of access to adequate amounts of nutritious food). This means 16% of very young children in MD are at risk of hunger.
- √ Maryland Food Bank serves an estimated 70,000 children each year.
- √ Through your generous donations, we are able to help 12 - 15 Piccowaxen families have a healthy Thanksgiving AND countless numbers of Maryland children to have a healthy meal.

ATTENTION PICCOWAXEN PANTHERS AND PARENTS:



"BEE" excited! Piccowaxen is "abuzz" with preparations for the Piccowaxen Spelling BEE, which will be held on November 24, 2009! Language Arts teachers will hold individual classroom "BEES." Two winners from each class will go on to the School BEE, and compete for spots on the Piccowaxen Spelling Bee Team. Our Piccowaxen

Spelling Bee Team will go on to compete in the Charles County Spelling Bee, which will be held February 19, 2009, at Smallwood Middle School. Parents are welcomed to attend the Piccowaxen School BEE on November 24. So Panthers, sharpen your spelling skills, and "BEE" prepared!!!

FEA (FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA)

Hello Picco Family,

The FEA club has kicked off the school year with a burst of energizing and exciting activities. During the month of September, the club members became photographers. Students took group and individual shots of students during the "back to school" using an extravagant beach theme.

In October, a few of our members attended the Road Show at LaPlata High. Students were hostess and serve the guest chicken fillet sandwiches and assisted facilitators with their information sessions. Information sessions included

the following topics, SAT, Technology-Web Resources, and Parents in the know. What an informative event with tasty treats!!!

As you can see, FEA has been extremely busy. However, we are keeping it moving as we continue to illuminate the heart and mind. Stay tune for our Halloween pencil sales, bake sales and photo booth at the next school dance, local conference information at College of Southern Maryland, and many more action packed activities.

Ms. Smith and Ms. Colfer
FEA Sponsors



***"We are
keeping it
moving as we
continue to
illuminate the
heart and
mind."***

Language Arts

The Piccowaxen Language Arts Department has just completed our 1st Quarterly Assessment. All students were tested in the fields of vocabulary and reading comprehension. Once all tests are scored, students and parents will be notified of students' individual scores.

The Piccowaxen Language Arts department is also proud to announce our implementation of Accelerated Reader (AR) in a number of our language arts classrooms in grades sixth through eighth.

Accelerated Reader is a program that is used to promote reading and reading comprehension with students. The students are asked to read books marked as

AR books. After the students read the books, they can take a computer-based quiz on the book. Quizzes contain between five to twenty questions on the book; the number of questions depends on the complexity of the book. After students take the quiz, teachers will conference with the students to discuss their reading strengths and weaknesses. So ask your student what he or she is reading in and out of class!

As a follow-up to Career Day, the language arts department will be completing writing-based activities to extend the students' understanding of those careers presented on October 23rd.

Social Studies

The Social Studies department is moving right along with History Day. Students have turned in their first three status reports. A copy of the Piccowaxen History Day Student Booklet can be found on the Piccowaxen website.

The sixth grade will start is exploration of the first civilizations in the world

in the unit, River Civilizations. They will study the influences Egypt and Mesopotamia had on our society. The seventh grade is currently studying South America.

The eighth grade is studying the American Revolution and will follow that unit with a study of the Constitution.





The following students have two dimensional art work hanging in central office: 2008-2009 School Year students: 8th grade: Ann Marie Colburn, Kayla Eastep, and Macy McNair. 7th grade: Kaitlyn Cave, Kara Redmond. 6th grade: Catherine Shingleton and Kimberlie Duehring.

Congratulations to Kara Redmond for winning the 7th grade county wide contest for the Charles County Fair poster contest.

The following students received a ribbon in the Charles County Fair this September.

1st place

6th grade

- Claudia Hart - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- John Hungerford - Individual Science Project (Mrs. Windsor)
- Kimberly Duehring - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Rocco Mirabile - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- B. J. Carter - 3-D Rethink Recycle Art Project (Ms. Kraus)

7th grade

- Kaitlyn Cave - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)

8th grade

- Kyle Baldwin & Britton Pickeral - 3-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)

Charles County Fair Winners

- Macy McNair - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Vanessa Carpenter - Individual Math Project (Mrs. Mills)

2nd place

6th grade

- Austin Teets - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Caitlin Simmons - Individual L. A. Poetry Project (Mrs. Qualters)
- Kacy Baldwin - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Rachel Lee - Individual L. A. Project (Mrs. Qualters)
- Kyle Boley - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Spencer Daily - Individual L. A. Poetry Project (Mrs. Qualters)
- Amber Dutton - 3-D Rethink Recycle Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Andrew Wisniewsky, Luke Wathen, Tyler Vollenberg, Mathew Hancock, Megan Williams, Jackie Swann, & Matthew Simmons - Group L. A. Project (Mrs. Lilly)
- Ann Marie Colburn - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Ann Marie Colburn - 3-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Kayla Eastep - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Wesley Lockhart - 3-D Art Pro-

ject (Ms. Kraus)

3rd place

6th grade

- Catherine Schingleton - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Matthew Kamin - Individual Science Project (Mrs. Windsor)
- Allie Pitzer - Individual L. A. Poetry Project (Mrs. Lilly)
- Kara Redmond - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Spencer Wolff, Helen Kuhn, Anthony Arnold, & Hanna Balderson - Group L. A. Poetry Project (Mrs. Lilly)
- Alyssa Vasquez - 3-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Doug Duehring - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Kayla Bellamy & Kim Burgess - Group Math Project Mrs.

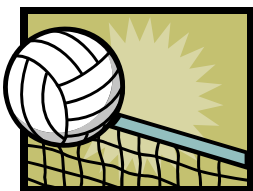
(Matthews)

Honorable Mention

6th grade

- Blaine Hoffman - Individual L. A. Poetry Project (Mrs. Qualters)
- Nick Boyles - 2-D Art Project (Ms. Kraus)
- Abigail Crown - Individual Social Studies Project (Mrs. Johns)
- Kelly Havrilla - Individual Social Studies Project (Mrs. Johns)

Physical Education



The PE Department is winding down the first three units of the school year, which were Archery, Softball and Football. We will begin the second quarter with Ms. Dietrich's classes going into health, Mr. Ganter's classes beginning volleyball, and Mrs. Wells' classes starting basketball.

The archery team try-outs have begun and the

team will be selected by the end of October. The team will practice once a week after school until the tournament arrives on December 10th.

As PE moves indoors for the winter months, please encourage your child to get a minimum of 30 minutes of outdoor activity daily. This is their PE 'homework'!

“Hats Off” to the Student Council

The Student Council has already been hard at work. On October 14th, the student council held a “Hats on Day” to try and raise money for the Foundation for Chil-

dren with Cancer. I am proud to say that we raised just over \$200.00 for this wonderful foundation.



SADD

SADD at Piccowaxen has a new format for 2009-2010. Student officers for this year include: Devin Borrer – President, John (J.D.) Snee – Vice President, Amanda Campbell – Secretary, and Brit-tany Schulz – Treasurer. At-Large offi-cers are:

Adriana Facchina - Grade 6, Taylor Fitzpatrick – Grade 7, and Katherine Snee – Grade 8. This year’s advisors for SADD are Laurie Mulert, Beverly Johnson, and Officer Holt.

Keeping with organization’s pledge to help peers made positive choices, SADD members have been busily working on a number of projects to get out the word. There are several fundraisers that take place during the month of Octo-ber. Students packed 255 bags of trick-or-treat candy to sell for Hallow-eeen. Thank you to all of the parents who provided goodies for the students to package to help raise money for the club. The Walk-a-Thon to benefit Relay for Life

was held on October 24 at the Olean Centre Mall. Walkers are gathering pledges to support this worthwhile event. Fifty percent of monies raised goes to help fight cancer and fifty per-cent goes to our SADD chapter.

Red Ribbon Week, which encourages students to say “No to Drugs” will take place October 23-31. Students made a banner and posters to encourage fellow classmates to stand firm in the fight against substance abuse. Stick-ers, wrist bands, and red beads will be distributed during lunches throughout Red Ribbon Week. All Piccowaxen students will be asked to sign the ban-ner, pledging to keep themselves and Piccowaxen Middle School drug free.

This year’s SADD convention will be held in Ocean City, Maryland December 8, 9, and 10. More information will be forthcoming.

“Red Ribbon Week, which encourages students to say “No to Drugs” will take place October 23-31.”

BAND and ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to all those who made the all county band and orchestra groups.

Band: Julianna Dawson
Colton Becker
Bradley Johns

Orchestra: Ciara Albrittain
Taylor Burns
Molly Cook
Helen Kuhn
Katherine Snee

Our holiday concerts are fast approaching! The students are working hard and we are all looking forward to a great show.

Tuesday, December 8th – 6th grade concert
Thursday, December 10th – 7th and 8th grade concert

Both concerts will be at 7:00 p.m. at Pic-cowaxen Middle School. The students are asked to arrive by 6:00 p.m.



Guidance Corner

Counselor's Corner

Bullying

We have completed a unit of study with all of our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students on the effects of bullying in the school. We reviewed the green bullying and harassment forms that went home with the students during the first week of school. During that review, it was made clear that students are being encouraged to fill out that form if they feel they are the victim of a bullying or harassment situation. It is our job to make sure that each student feels safe and secure in their school environment and to help stop bullying in the halls, classrooms, and especially on the school bus. We will continue to strive for a bully-free school. Please refer to the Counseling Department webpage located on the Piccowaxen website for tips on how to help your child address bullying.

Career Education

Piccowaxen's 5th Annual Career Day, October 23rd, 2009

Once again, we would like to thank all our presenters who took time out of their busy schedules to talk to our students about their career and the job opportunities that await our students in the future. This year, we had representatives who discussed child care, the Space Foundation, horticulture, teaching, robotics, North Point High School for Science Technology and Industry, the sheriff's department, homeland security, the trucking business, scuba diving, the dept. of Juvenile dept, real estate development, computer science, automotive insurance fraud, security, the humane society, the world of dental care, various engineering careers, emergency medical technicians, skin

care, the world of physical fitness and personal training, the fire department, and the police department. We also hosted tugboat workers, graphic artists, construction workers, writers, support brokers, musicians, SMECO representatives, fuel technicians, and electricians.

As in past years, Career Day turned out to be a great success. Without our presenting volunteers, PTO volunteers, teachers, and student support; this event would not be as successful as it is and has been in past years.

Classroom Lessons

As a follow up to Career Day, we will be doing a unit of study with all of our 6th grade students on career education and identification. Students will explore a variety of occupations through a group activity and then discuss how interests and abilities correlate into possible career choices.

College Knowledge I & II

We will be completing a unit of study with all of our 8th grade students called College Knowledge II, encouraging them to begin setting goals and planning for their post high school education. This lesson will take place sometime towards the end of November or beginning of December. Please ask your child to share with you the packet of information that is distributed during those lessons. Hopefully you have begun to talk about plans for their future careers. We want students to be as focused as possible when they select courses for high school in the spring.

The 7th grade class will be completing College Knowledge I in the spring where they will visit career

objectives and interest inventories in relation to higher education. In addition, we will be organizing a field trip sometime in May to North Point High School for our students in 7th grade who are interested in taking a tour of the North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry.

North Point Opportunity

On December 11th a representative from North Point High School's admissions office will be visiting Piccowaxen for a presentation to our 8th grade students. The representative will present information about North Point High School and will go over the process for applying to the Science, Technology and Industry program. Each student will receive an application packet at that time. Please review the application packet with your student. North Point is a great opportunity for all students interested in Science, Technology and Industry. North Point is also holding an information night for eighth graders and their parents on November 18th from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. We encourage you to attend with your student.

Conflict Resolution

Teaching students how to improve their conflict management skills continues to be a major focus here at Piccowaxen. The counselors will be entering classes soon after the holiday break to have students explore the various choices available to them for managing conflict effectively. One very successful intervention which we are encouraging students to use is Peer Mediation. Our mediators are ready and continuing to help students find win-

Guidance Corner continued

win solutions to their conflicts.

Counseling Department Website

Please visit the Counseling Department website which can be located by accessing Piccowaxen's home page. You will be able to find information ranging from counselor's duties, registrations, withdrawals/transfers, bullying information, school counseling programs, upcoming events, and more. We encourage you and your student to visit this site often, as there is useful information as well as links to

helpful sites on a variety of topics.

Bill Marchione:

6th Grade Counselor

8th Grade Counselor, Last Names L -Z

wmarchione@ccboe.com

Beverly Johnson:

7th Grade Counselor

8th Grade Counselor, Last Names A - K

bjjohnson@ccboe.com



Math Memos

It is hard to believe that it is the end of the first quarter. By now your child has received their first quarter assessment scores. This is a great opportunity to discuss with your child about how they did. Also take

this opportunity to help them set a goal for the second quarter. While setting their goal also discuss how they are going to go about achieving their goal.

*“Career Day
turned out to
be a great
success.”*

Peer Mediation

Piccowaxen's Peer Mediators have gone through the required full-day training and are excited to assist fellow students in resolving their conflicts.

During the full-day training, which was held on October 5th, our mediators learned how different people have had different experiences in their lives and, as a result, we all have different reactions to conflict. Students practiced listening for the difference in stating feelings and reactions when working with two disputants. We learned and practiced the use of “I” statements along with other active-listening skills. Our mediators spent a great deal of time doing mock mediations and practiced going through the six steps of the peer mediation process. Overall, students practiced the skills necessary to become good peer mediators.

Peer mediation referral forms have been given to all classroom teachers. Teachers have placed the referral forms in a visible place that is eas-

ily accessible to the students and have explained to students the purpose of the forms.

In the upcoming months, along with actively mediating student conflicts, our peer mediators will be promoting peer mediation throughout the school. Mediators will be creating posters, flyers, reading morning announcements, and brainstorming other forms of advertising that promote the program and its initiatives.

If you would like to learn more about peer mediation and our efforts or to find out who the Peer Mediators are for the 2009-10 school year, please visit the Counseling Department webpage through the Piccowaxen website.

William Marchione

Beverly Johnson

Susan Wagner

Peer Mediation Sponsors

