



# Charles County Public Schools

---

P. O. Box 2770, Radio Station Road  
La Plata, Maryland 20646  
(301) 932-6610/870-3814 - FAX (301) 932-6651  
Contact: Katie O'Malley-Simpson

**For Immediate Release**  
**June 26, 2009**

## **Westlake students raise money for cancer research**

A group of 350 Westlake High School students walked more than 25 miles on the school's track on Wednesday, June 10, to raise funds for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life campaign.

The event, called "Canter for the Cure" was coordinated with the Student Service Learning, or SSL, project of each participating student, which is a graduation requirement and part of the local, state and national government class. Students received donations based on the number of laps they walked around the track area.

The group raised more than \$9,000 for Westlake's Relay for Life team through their SSL project. The project requires students to come up with and research a community-based service project, implement their idea, and write a reflection essay.

To prepare for the "Canter for Cure" event, students conducted research on types of cancer, created educational posters and brochures, and coordinated donation amounts with miles walked on the track. Students from Westlake teachers Kimberly Dent, Zohra Cherif, Matthew Howard, Lindsey Seaton and Rebekah Gingerich's LSN classes coordinated and participated in the event.

The Canter for the Cure event helped Westlake High School earn the second top fundraising spot in the 2008-09 Relay for Life campaign in Charles County Public Schools.

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