

School News



Board considers school naming suggestions

The Board of Education is expected to select the name for the next elementary school on Dec. 12. The school naming committee recommended three possible names for consideration at the Board's November meeting.

The committee three names for consideration are:

- Piney Church Road Elementary School;
- Mary Keech Edelen Elementary School; and
- Mary Burgess Neal Elementary School.

The naming suggestions are for the next elementary school to be built off Piney Church Road in the Sheffield Neighborhood in Waldorf. The school is expected to open in August 2008.

The committee solicited names from

the community and held a public hearing to accept additional comments on submitted names. The committee received 25 names for consideration and reviewed those names as well as information provided by community members.

The following is a synopsis of each suggested name.

Piney Church Road Elementary School

According to "A Legacy: One- and Two-Room Schools in Charles County," published by the Charles County Retired Teachers' Association, Piney Road School was the first free school in Charles County, and perhaps in the state. The new elementary school will be built close to the site of this one-room school that opened in 1833 and closed in 1930.

See Names, Page 2

McDonough places first in *It's Academic*

Maurice J. McDonough High School's *It's Academic* team moves up to the regional televised competition as the first-place winner in the annual Charles County Public Schools competition, which was held Dec. 6 at the College of Southern Maryland.

The three-member team of Captain Danny Lubey, Matt Grimes and Peter Garvey scored 380 points to earn the top spot. The school was presented a \$500 scholarship from the Greater Waldorf Jaycees and the team will compete against McLean and Stone Ridge high schools, which will be aired on WRC TV on Feb. 10. Each year, secondary schools from the metropolitan area participate in the televised *It's Academic* program.

Placing second in the competition was the Westlake High School team, followed by teams from Henry E. Lackey

High School, Thomas Stone High School, La Plata High School and North Point High School. North Point participated in the competition for the first time this year. Each of these schools was presented a \$250 scholarship from the Jaycees.

Members on the four other high school teams were: Henry E. Lackey – Captain Alysa Younger, Gilbert Jones and Molly Snow; La Plata – Captain Jena Brinjak, Shijie Shen and Abe Massad; North Point – Josh Darichuk, Andell Kudzal and William Pickett; Thomas Stone – Captain Will Le, Katie Hebert and Ashin Shah; and Westlake – Captain Elisabeth Stevens, Tiphonie Gammon and Katera Marshall.

The Dec. 6 competition will broadcast on CCPS TV Channel 96 beginning Dec. 12 and will run through Jan. 5.

News of note

Board members to say farewell

The Board of Education will say farewell to four members on Dec. 12. A farewell reception will be held at 3 p.m. in the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building cafeteria. Departing members are Mark Crawford, Turner Coggins Jr., Cecil Marshall and Margaret Young. The reception is open to the public.

Free flu shots offered

The Charles County Health Department is holding a free flu clinic on Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to bring their families and receive a flu shot. Contact the Health Department at 301-609-6900 for more information.

Rotary Clubs donate dictionaries

The Rotary Club donated about 1,800 dictionaries to Charles County Public Schools. They gave one to each third-grade student to use as a resource in the classroom and at home to help them build their vocabularies. This is the second year the Rotary Club has handed out dictionaries to third graders. The club believes dictionaries are excellent tools for enhancing a student's ability to read, write and communicate. The local Rotary Club is part of the Rotary International, an organization of business and professional men and women throughout the world, who meet to build business character, provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help make their communities better.

Meet the new Board

The newly elected Board of Education takes office on Dec. 18, 4 p.m., at North Point High School. See page 3 for profiles on the members.



Notebook

Teacher presentation

Three English teachers from North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry gave a presentation on reading at the National Council of Teachers of English annual convention in Nashville, Tenn. in November. Presenting were Gwen Todd, Cary Smith and Lora Smith. They addressed more than 100 teachers, curriculum specialists and college professors.

Their presentation focused on integrating reading strategies, technology, student interests and writing while fostering independent reading.

Students, Richmond meet

Superintendent James E. Richmond met with his student advisory committee on Dec. 6 to discuss a number of issues and to solicit student input.

Richmond spoke with the students about the new high school expected to open in 2012 as well as his vision for special programs at each of the high schools. He talked about the importance of studying international and multicultural education. Additionally, he solicited the students' ideas about how the school system is doing. Other topics discussed included the addition of a system television studio, International Baccalaureate courses and weekend classes. The students meet with Richmond several times a year to discuss issues and provide him with their ideas for Charles County Public Schools.

Cover photos

Pictured on the cover are employees from William A. Diggs Elementary School. From left are Michelle Conner, media specialist; Sandra Fykes, media instructional assistant; and Scott Gingerich, physical education teacher.

Board agenda - Dec. 12, 2006

The Board of Education of Charles County will meet on Dec. 12 at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building in La Plata. Executive session begins at 12 p.m. The public session begins at 1 p.m.

Call to order – 1 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Forum

Approval of minutes

Reports of officers/boards/committees

- Correspondence/Board Member updates
- Education Association of Charles County update
- Student Board Member update
- Superintendent's report to the Board
- CIP update
- JROTC update
- Budget update

Action items

- Personnel
- School Naming

Unfinished business

New business and future agenda items

- New business
 - Proposed elementary school site in Pinefield

- Future agenda items

Board farewell reception – 3 p.m.

Recognition – 4:30 p.m.

- Students
- Employees
- Resolution
 - *Washington Post* Distinguished Educational Leader – Carol Leveillee, Principal, Matula Elementary School

Names

From Page 1

According to information reprinted from *The Times Crescent-The Charles County Leaf*, Rev. Lemuel Wilmer, pastor of the Port Tobacco Parish, pledged “to give deed to the Vestry of Port Tobacco Parish and their successors for all the land on the north side of St. Paul’s Chapel, containing one acre, more or less, provided \$300 be subscribed to the Vestry for the erection of a substantial and commodious schoolhouse for the daily instructions of the more than 100 forrest [sic] children living in the vicinity, that they be given an opportunity for an education regardless of sect, sex or circumstance.” Since the elementary school is to be built off Piney Church Road near the original school, the committee felt this name combined history and location.

Mary Keech Edelen

Mrs. Edelen was a teacher, mother, designer and historian. Her first teaching job after graduating from the Towson School in 1928 was in Charles County at the Piney One-Room School. She described herself as a jack-of-all trades while teaching students not only reading, writing, arithmetic and sports but also overseeing the students pumping water, putting wood in the iron stove and cleaning the blackboard and erasers. She was the last teacher at the one-room school and went on to teach in other schools after it closed in 1930. She taught until about 1938. Mrs. Edelen designed the Charles County seal and along with her hus-

band Dr. E.J. Edelen, was instrumental in the formation of Physicians Memorial Hospital and the Handicapped and Retarded Citizens (HARC) organization. She helped form the local Daughters of the American Revolution chapter and the Charles County historical and genealogical societies. Much of her research has been donated to the College of Southern Maryland. Mrs. Edelen was born Aug. 19, 1908, and died on Nov. 4, 1990.

Mary Burgess Neal

Mrs. Neal is a former teacher, counselor, principal and school administrator who spent her 47-year career with Charles County Public Schools. She started her teaching in one-room schools in the Nanjemoy and Marbury areas. She was named as principal of the 12-room elementary school in Port Tobacco in 1952 and also served as counselor of schools in Bel Alton. Ms. Neal was the first African American female supervisor of elementary schools in Charles County, a position she was appointed to in 1986. A graduate of Mensesa High School in Pennsylvania, she received her bachelor's degree in early education from Bowie State College and her master's degree from New York State University. She was a member of Eastern Star and Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Ms. Neal worked with the Children's Aid Society in Waldorf and chaired numerous committees within her church. Ms. Neal was born Oct. 21, 1908, and passed away on May 2, 2005.

Meet the newly elected Board of Education

Fourteenth Board of Education to take office on December 18



Jennifer Abell



Collins Bailey



Charles Carrington



Maura Cook



Pamela Pedersen



Donald Wade



Roberta Wise

Jennifer S. Abell is the Director of the March of Dimes for Southern Maryland and a long-term resident of Charles County. She is a member of the New Life Wesleyan Church, La Plata Kiwanis Club, Charles County Chamber of Commerce, Charles County Commission for Women and Partnerships For A Healthier Charles County and the Fetal Infant Mortality Review Board. She is also president and treasurer for the Indian Head Swim Team and a youth leader at New Life. Mrs. Abell lives in La Plata with her husband and four children. She was first appointed in 2004, and elected in November 2006.

Collins A. Bailey is a self-employed lumber broker and consultant. He is a lifetime resident of Charles County and a 1972 graduate of La Plata High School. Mr. Bailey resides in Hughesville with his wife and four children and is a member of Grace Brethren Church. He is a member of the Charles County Christian Businessman's Committee and a member of Gideon's International. Mr. Bailey was elected to his fourth term in November. First elected in 1994 he has served as chairman and vice chairman of the Board.

Charles E. Carrington is an electrician with F&M Electrical Service in Upper Marlboro and was elected in November 2006 to his first term on the Board. He served for 12 years as an assistant football and wrestling coach at Maurice J. McDonough High School and is a member of Sacred Heart Church in La Plata. Mr. Carrington is a 1970 graduate of Henry E. Lackey High School. He lives in Pomfret with his wife, and he had four children, all of whom graduated from Charles County Public Schools. He was first elected in November 2006.

Maura H. Cook is a parent volunteer at Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School where she has served as secretary of the PTA and coach of a Destination Imagination team. She is a small business owner and formerly worked as a nurse and exercise physiologist in both hospital and outpatient settings. She graduated from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, with a bachelor's degree in science and nursing. Mrs. Cook has a Masters degree in education and human development from The George Washington University. She lives in Newburg with her husband and two children. She was elected to her first term in November 2006.

Pamela A. Pedersen has more than 25 years of experience in management, instruction and support activities in work, school and volunteer settings. She has served as a long-term ESOL substitute teacher and as a parent volunteer. A member of the North Point High School Athletic Boosters, Pedersen also works as a lobbyist and local public relations associate for the Pulmonary Hypertension Association. She is an adult forum coordinator and youth parent coordinator at Peace Lutheran Church in Waldorf. Mrs. Pedersen has a bachelor's degree in consumer and family sciences from Purdue University in Indiana. She lives in Waldorf with her husband and has two daughters. She was first elected in November 2006.

Donald M. Wade, first elected in 1998, is a third-term Board member and a native of Charles County. He has served as Thomas Stone High School SAC president and helped bring the JROTC programs to Charles County. Col. Wade spent 30 years on active duty and was a Professor of Aerospace Studies at three universities. He was a teacher, a department chairperson and a faculty advisor to 21 JROTC units in Prince George's County before retiring in 2006. He was a member of the Charles County Board of Zoning Appeals, and is a distinguished graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park ROTC program and the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore.

Roberta S. Wise is a retired Charles County Public Schools teacher with 34 years of experience. A former Charles County Public Schools Teacher of the Year, she also received the *Washington Post* Agnes Meyer award for outstanding teachers in 1991. For most of her career, she served as a mathematics teacher at Henry E. Lackey High School. She was a coordinator of the Educational Partnership Team and a math resource teacher before retiring in 1999. Mrs. Wise has been a member of the Charles County Planning Commission for six years and served as the vice chairperson for the last three years. She resides in Marbury with her husband and has one child, who is a graduate of Lackey High School. She was elected in November 2006 for her first term.

The Charles County Board of Education will hold its swearing-in ceremony on Monday, December 18, 2006, 4 p.m. at North Point High School. The public is invited to attend.

Personnel

Apply for positions at www.ccboc.com/hur; or in writing to the personnel office. All positions are open until filled unless otherwise noted. All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and fulfillment of MSDE certification requirements.

Job openings

Program Analyst/Project Manager – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Four-year degree in business, contractual planning or technical school program in construction technologies, engineering, architecture or related field required.

Temporary Secretary – Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center; 12-month position.

Senior Project Manager – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Bachelor's degree in construction management or related field required.

Computer Analyst – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Knowledge and experience in configuring Novell Netware, Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Windows Workstation required. Apply in writing or online by Dec. 18.

Media Instructional Assistant – Malcolm Elementary School; 10-month position. Apply in writing or online by Dec. 18.

Foreman, Computerized Facilities

Management — Maintenance Shop; 12-month position. Associate degree in computer science or equivalent job-related experience required. Apply in writing or online by Dec. 19.

Chemistry Teacher – Maurice J. McDonough High School; 10-month position.

Music Teacher – Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School; 10-month position.

Life Skills Teacher – Gale-Bailey Elementary School; 10-month position.

Special Education Teachers – Math/science positions available at Henry E. Lackey High School and Mattawoman Middle School; 10-month positions.

Physical Education and Health Teacher – Maurice J. McDonough High School; 10-month position.

Business Teacher – La Plata High School; 10-month position.

Title I Instructional Technology Teachers – Openings at all Title I schools; 10-month positions.

Speech Language Pathologists – Openings at all elementary schools.

Reading Resource Teacher – Dr. James Craik Elementary School; 10-month position.

Reading Recovery Teacher – Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School; 10-month position.

Gifted Education Resource Teachers – All

elementary schools; 10-month positions.

Occupational Therapists – Positions are 10- or 11-months; available at all school levels.

Family and Consumer Science Teacher – John Hanson Middle School; 10-month position.

Power Reading Teachers – Positions available at General Smallwood Middle School and Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School; 10-month positions.

NJROTC Instructor – Westlake High School; 11-month position.

Kindergarten Teacher – Indian Head Elementary School; 10-month position.

Pre-kindergarten Teacher – Indian Head Elementary School; 10-month position.

Mathematics Teachers – Ten-month positions available at the Robert Dean Stethem Educational Center, La Plata High School, Mattawoman and Piccowaxen middle schools.

English Teacher – Robert D. Stethem Educational Center; 10-month position.

Extra pay position

Maurice J. McDonough High School has the following position open:

- Junior varsity assistant softball coach
- Call Principal Jervie Petty, 301-753-1755, to apply.

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