

School News



Where success is measured one student at a time • March 2, 2007 • R-264

Starting in April, Board moving to later meeting times

The Board of Education plans to change its meeting times to better accommodate public participation. Beginning on April 3, the Board's regular business meetings will begin at 4:30 p.m. with recognition of employees, students and resolutions.

Following recognition, the Board plans to hold its executive session, which is closed to the public, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. The public portion of the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Public Forum followed by the regular business including information items, reports and action items. Public Forum is a time during the meeting where community members may address any education-related items. Speakers are limited to three minutes. Public Forum sign up begins a half hour prior to the start of the meeting and ends at 6:30 p.m.

The April meeting is being held early in the month due to spring break. The Board usually meets the second Tuesday of most months. Dates for the remaining Board meetings this school year are: March 13 (begins at 1 p.m.); April 3 (new 4:30 p.m. start time); May 8; and June 12. Meetings are at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building in La Plata unless otherwise noted.

The Board plans to continue meeting the fourth Monday of the month for work sessions as needed. Work sessions begin at 7 p.m. with Public Forum.

The Board conducted an electronic survey in February to gather community input into its meeting times. There were 694 responses, and 86.5 percent said if the Board moved its meeting time to later in the day, they might attend.

Survey Results

1. Have you ever attended a Board of Education meeting?

Yes	167	24.1%
No	525	75.9%

2. Would you consider attending meetings if the Board of Education changed its meeting time to later in the day?

Yes	598	86.5%
No	93	13.5%

3. If yes, how often?

Monthly	193	33.0%
Occasionally	376	64.4%
Once a year	15	2.6%

4. What times would make it easy for you to attend Board meetings?

1-6 p.m.	57	8.2%
3-8 p.m.	176	25.4%
4-9 p.m.	465	67.0%

5. Have you ever spoken at a Board of Education Public Forum?

Yes	63	9.2%
No	624	90.8%

6. If the Board changed the Public Forum time, would you participate?

Yes	490	73.1%
No	180	26.9%

7. What Public Forum time would be most convenient for you?

1 p.m.	30	4.6%
4 p.m.	43	6.6%
6 p.m.	239	36.9%
7 p.m.	335	51.8%

8. Student/employee recognition is held from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Would you like to see this part of the Board meeting moved to a later time?

Yes	451	66.1%
No	231	33.9%

9. What recognition time would be most convenient for you?

4:30 p.m.	87	14.0%
5:30 p.m.	63	10.1%
6:00 p.m.	144	23.2%
6:30 p.m.	117	18.8%
7:00 p.m.	210	33.8%

Piccowaxen student top speller

Colin Qualters, an eighth-grade student at Piccowaxen Middle School, won the Charles County Spelling Bee on Feb. 23 at Benjamin Stoddert Middle School. Qualters advances to the National Scripps Spelling Bee to be held in Washington, D.C. in late May. Two students tied for second place. Placing second were Marsha Fletcher, eighth grade, Milton M. Somers Middle School, and Sean Johnson, eighth grade, St. Mary's Bryantown. The top team performance was by students from Mattawoman Middle School. They are: Eryn Johnson, seventh grade; Alexys Delgado, seventh grade; Gaston Lopez, sixth grade; Gabby Chan, sixth grade; and Ryan Green, alternate, sixth grade.

Housing seminar offered

Charles County Public Schools is offering a housing seminar for employees, Monday, March 19, 4:30-7:30 p.m., at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. The seminar will provide information from mortgage companies and realtors about different options for purchasing a first home. Dinner will be served. Reservations are required by March 16 to Beth Thorsen at bthorsen@ccboe.com or 301-392-7580.

Board reinstates resolutions

The Board of Education on Feb. 26 voted to reinstate three previously discontinued resolutions. The Board voted to recognize Women's History Month, Fine and Performing Arts Month and Professional Secretaries' Week. Voting to reinstate the resolutions were: Chairman Donald Wade, Vice Chairman Roberta Wise, Collins Bailey, Charles Carrington, Maura Cook and Pamela Pedersen. Voting against was Jennifer Abell.





Notebook

Teachers earn grant

Joan Simms and Karen Surratt, teachers at William B. Wade Elementary School, were awarded a *Washington Post* Company Educational Foundation Grant in Education for their "Learning with Prose, Poetry and Puppets" project. The teachers receive \$350 to fund the project.

Gifted teachers honored

Four Charles County teachers and two students were recognized in Annapolis on Feb. 20 by the Maryland State Advisory Council on Gifted Education hosted by Senator Ulysses Currie.

Three teachers were recognized for their work with the By Kids, For Kids Inventive Thinking Competition. Two gifted resource teachers, Joyce Campbell from William A. Diggs Elementary School, and Denise Grote from Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School and Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School, were recognized as well as Tracy Travers, science teacher from Jenifer. Caitlyn Evans from Malcolm and Emily Staudmyer from Jenifer were two of the four student state winners in the competition last spring.

Lynn Nathan, gifted resource teacher from Matthew Henson Middle School was recognized for her work with the writing of advanced lessons in language arts for the Voluntary State Curriculum.

Cover photos

Pictured on the cover are employees at T.C. Martin. Pictured from left are: Natalie Fenwick, prekindergarten instructional assistant; Lucky Emory, second-grade teacher; and Kathy Keough, music teacher.

Board of Education agenda - March 13, 2007

The Board of Education has released its tentative agenda for the March 13 meeting. The public portion of the meeting begins at 1 p.m. and is held at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building.

Executive session — 12 p.m.

Call to order – 1 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

- La Plata High School

Public Forum

Approval of minutes

Reports of officers/boards/committees

- Correspondence/Board Member Updates

Information/report items

- Education Association of Charles County update
- Student Board Member update
- Superintendent's report to the Board
- Superintendent's redistricting committee's report to the Board
- CIP update
- MESA and Indian Education update
- Budget update
- Calendar, 2008-09 school year
- Legislative update
- Technology update

Action items

- Personnel
- Policy amendments

Unfinished business – 4 p.m.

New business and future agenda items

- New business
- Future agenda items

Recognition

- Students
 - Sarah Walters, fifth grade, academic achievement, William A. Diggs Elementary School
 - Sarah Shumaker, fifth grade, academic

achievement; Arthur Middleton Elementary School

- Micaela Ficchina, eighth grade, personal responsibility, Piccowaxen Middle School

- Briana D. Jones, senior, career readiness, Thomas Stone High School

• Employees

- Hannah M. Barnes, building service worker, Arthur Middleton Elementary School

- Joyce A. Carter, pupil personnel worker, William A. Diggs Elementary School

- Rebecca L. Laroque, instructional assistant, Piccowaxen Middle School

- James E. Nasso, mathematics teacher, Thomas Stone High School

- Denise F. Childers, English teacher, La Plata High School; National Board Certification

- Shelly J. Michael, Spanish teacher, La Plata High School; National Board Certification

- John Childers, government resource teacher, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; National Board Certification

- Stephanie A. Boyer, vocal music teacher, Eva Turner Elementary School,

- Jamie M. Bidby, teacher, J.P. Ryon Elementary School

- Duania V. Darby, teacher, Berry Elementary School

- Teresa F. Getgen, physical education teacher, La Plata High School

• Resolutions

- *National Student Leadership Week*

- *Month of the Young Child*

- *Women's History Month*

- *Fine and Performing Arts Month*

Adjournment

Award-winning author to spend an evening with students

Join Charles County Public Schools for an evening with Author Richard Stack, an award winning author, who will be visiting Charles County on March 2, 6 p.m., at Henry E. Lackey High School.

Stack will be sharing a special program with students and their families and feature Recess the Wonder Dog, a live animal who loves children. Stack is the author of a number of accelerated reader titles including *The Doggonest Christmas*, *The Doggonest Vacation* and the *Doggonest Puppy Love*.

The event is sponsored by The Kiwanis Club of La Plata, Maryland Bank and Trust

Company and the school system and is an initiative of the Charles County Chamber of Commerce Education Committee.

There will be a special presentation of "Beanie and the Bamboozling Book Machine," by the Lackey High School advanced theater arts classes and a costume contest sponsored by the Chamber. Children are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Dr. Seuss character. Prizes will be awarded.

Parental supervision is required. The event is free and open to all Charles County residents.

Board to honor employees for 40, 35, 30 and 25 years of service to students

Superintendent James E. Richmond and Director of Supporting Services Keith Grier are being honored by the Board of Education for completing 40 years of service to Charles County Public Schools. The Board each year recognizes employees with 40, 35, 30 and 25 years of service to children and the school system. The recognition ceremony, which was cancelled due to inclement weather, has been rescheduled for June 13.

35 years of service

- Linda M. Buckler, financial secretary, La Plata High School;
- Karen D. Burggraf, inclusion resource teacher, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building;
- Linda B. Burney, regular education teacher-Hiatus Program, Henry E. Lackey High School;
- Kerry S. DeFraia, media specialist, Eva Turner Elementary School;
- M. Jacqueline Grabis-Bunker, director of support programs, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building;
- Susan L. Grote, pupil personnel worker, La Plata High School;
- Marlene F. Hoffman, secretary to the principal, John Hanson Middle School;
- Rosellen H. Houser, specialist in social studies, Starkey Building;
- Lucille W. Kidwell, human resources, certification, Starkey Building;
- Jervie S. Petty, principal, Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- Robert M. Pitts, science teacher, Thomas Stone High School;
- Minnie L. Reynolds, director of minority achievement and multicultural education, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building;
- Linda D. Salley, instructional specialist, Robert D. Stethem Educational Center;
- Helen E. Shannon, secretary to the principal, La Plata High School;
- Christine L. Smith, instructional specialist, John Hanson Middle School;
- Freda M. Weirich, media instructional assistant, William B. Wade Elementary School;
- Charles L. Wineland, assistant superintendent for supporting services, Starkey Building;
- Sandra P. Yates, secretary to the principal, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School.

30 years of service

- Karen A. Allison, mathematics teacher, Thomas Stone High School;
- Deborah M. Brown, vice principal, Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School;
- Joseph I. Brown, vice principal, La Plata High School;
- Joyce A. Carter, pupil personnel worker, North Point High School;
- Louis F. Cate, vocal music teacher, Arthur Middleton Elementary School;
- Paula K. Cureton, elementary teacher, Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School;
- Diane Grant, help desk senior, Starkey Building;
- Julia Z. Habash, mathematics teacher, General Smallwood Middle School;
- Julia T. Hammonds, food service manager, Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- Charlene L. Haynie, social studies teacher, Henry E. Lackey High School;
- Willeitha J. Jackson, special education teacher, John Hanson Middle School;
- Dody L. Kundreskas, instrumental music teacher, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School;
- Janis R. Milman, science teacher, Thomas Stone High School;
- Hilda B. Osborne, English teacher, La Plata High School;
- Cathy A. Posey, secretary, J.P. Ryon Elementary School;
- Francis L. Price, building service assistant manager, T.C. Martin Elementary School;
- Noreen O. Sahakian, program coordinator teacher, Starkey Building;
- Wanda M. Sellers, instructional specialist computer technology education, Starkey Building;
- Joan M. Stup, Reading Recovery teacher, Eva Turner Elementary School;
- Ronald E. Stup, principal, Matthew Henson Middle School;
- Theresa H. Tipword, special education teacher, Maurice J. McDonough High School; and
- William S. Watts, building service worker, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School.

25 years of service

- Octavia P. Butler, kindergarten teacher, J.P. Ryon Elementary School;
- Ruby A. Butler, building service manager, Eva Turner Elementary School;

- Paula H. Collins, media specialist, Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- Karl T. Craton, social studies teacher, La Plata High School;
- Maurita M. Edwards, special education teacher, T.C. Martin Elementary School;
- Gregory K. Ehman, mathematics teacher, Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- Linda D. Flanagan, specialist English and language arts, Starkey Building;
- Marilyn C. Ford, special education teacher, IEP facilitator, La Plata High School;
- John F. Frederick, special education instructional assistant, Milton M. Somers Middle School;
- Susan M. Gray, special education teacher, Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School;
- Martha J. Hickman, elementary teacher, Dr. James Craik Elementary School;
- Rebecca S. Irwin, elementary teacher, Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School;
- Sally J. Jacobus, media specialist, Piccowaxen Middle School;
- Daniel F. Jenifer, building service worker, General Smallwood Middle School;
- Barbara A. Linsmeier, math teacher, Thomas Stone High School;
- Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., social studies teacher, Matthew Henson Middle School;
- Susan J. McCormick, vice principal, Thomas Stone High School;
- Mary F. McPhaul, mathematics teacher, Maurice J. McDonough High School;
- James T. Moore, II, English teacher, Henry E. Lackey High School;
- Maralee M. Shoemaker, special education teacher, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School;
- Joan C. Simms, Reading Recovery teacher, William B. Wade Elementary School;
- Judith G. Simpson, social studies teacher, La Plata High School;
- Joseph R. Swann, building service assistant manager, F.B. Gwynn Educational Center;
- Darlene M. Willett, switchboard operator, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building;
- Ismay J. Williams, foreign language teacher, Matthew Henson Middle School; and
- Joan I. Withers, coordinator of high school instruction, Starkey Building.

Personnel

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

Job openings

Principals – Screening for all levels; eligible for Maryland State Department of Education Professional Certificate with Administrator II endorsement; five years successful school experience with a minimum of three in classroom teaching. Apply by March 9.

Vice Principals – Screening for all levels; 11- or 12-month positions; master's degree and Advanced Professional Certificate by the Maryland State Department of Education. Must be eligible for the MSDE Administrator I certificate and have three years of successful teaching experience. Apply by March 9.

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

Food Service Worker – North Point High School; three-hour, 10-month position.

RPG/JAVA Programmer Analyst – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position; bachelor's degree in computer science or related discipline required.

Student Data Account Clerk – Work loca-

tion to be determined; 11-month position. Apply by March 9.

Food Service Worker – Berry Elementary School; three-hour, 10-month position. Apply by March 9.

Computer Analyst – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Apply by March 12.

Secretary – Theodore Davis Middle School; 11-month position. Apply by March 13.

Secretary – Theodore Davis Middle School; 10.5-month position. Apply by March 13.

Secretary to the Principal – Indian Head Elementary School; 12-month position. Apply by March 13.

Instructional Assistant, Adult Education – Lifelong Learning Center; part-time position. Apply by March 13.

Food Service Worker – William B. Wade Elementary School; three-hour, 10-month position.

Mathematics Teachers – Positions open at La Plata High School, Mattawoman Middle School and Robert D. Stethem Educational Center.

Occupational Therapist – Openings for all age levels.

Family and Consumer Science Teacher – John Hanson Middle School.

Power Reading Teacher – General

Smallwood Middle School.

Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten Teachers – Indian Head Elementary School.

Speech Language Pathologists – All elementary schools; 10-month positions.

Reading Resource Teacher – Dr. James Craik Elementary School.

Reading Recovery Position – Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Elementary School.

Special Education Teachers – Thomas Stone, La Plata and Henry E. Lackey high schools.

English Teacher – Robert D. Stethem Educational Center.

Summer Academy Administrators – Elementary school level; must be a vice principal or administrative assistant at a CCPS elementary school. Apply by March 6.

Summer Elementary School Academy Site Coordinators – All elementary schools; master's degree or Advanced Professional Certificate required. Apply by March 6.

Summer High School Academy Site Coordinators – All high schools; master's degree or Advanced Professional Certificate required. Apply by March 6.

Summer Middle School Academy Site Coordinators – All middle schools; master's degree or Advanced Professional Certificate required. Apply by March 6.

School News is published by
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The mission of Charles County Public Schools is to provide an opportunity for all school-aged children to receive an academically challenging, quality education that builds character, equips for leadership, and prepares for life, in an environment that is safe and conducive to learning.