



Wisniewski is 2007 Vice Principal of the Year

Lisa Wisniewski, vice principal at Dr. James Craik Elementary School, has been named the 2007 Charles County Public Schools Vice Principal of the Year.

Wisniewski started her career in 1985 as a special education teacher at Henry E. Lackey High School. In 1993, she transferred to C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School as a special education teacher and in 1999 she became a resource teacher at Craik. She served as an instructional specialist at Arthur Middleton Elementary School and was named as a vice principal at Craik in 2004. She has her bachelor's degree from Frostburg State University, her master's in education from George Washington University and her administrative and supervisory certification from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

Nominated by Craik Principal Penny Berg Nye, Wisniewski was honored for her work to improve instruction, her dedication

to the development of a professional learning community and her efforts to ensure student involvement in the improvement process. Described as a life-long learner and motivator of students, Nye said Wisniewski constantly looks for new ways to foster learning for students, teachers and support staff.

In a supporting letter, PTA Treasurer Sandie Huntt wrote, "Our school community has benefited greatly by having Mrs. Wiz, as she is known by students, not only for her contributions during the school day, but also her participation in evening and weekend school functions."

Wisniewski was honored by the Board of Education on June 12. The Board honors one outstanding vice principal each year.



Lisa Wisniewski



Support staff recognition

The Board honored five classified employees as support staff members of the year for 2007. Honored, from left, are: Linda Norcross, instructional assistant, Milton M. Somers Middle School; Raymond Lancaster, building service manager, Piccowaxen Middle School; Darlette Smith, food service manager, Milton M. Somers Middle School; Art Turlington, HVAC III, maintenance shop; and Janelle Camp, secretary to the principal, J.C. Parks Elementary School. See page 3 for story.

Summer newsletters

This is the final issue of *School News* for the 2006-07 school year. It is being mailed to all 10-month employees. *School News* will be published in July and August, but will not be mailed to employees unless requested. The newsletter will be available on the school system website, www.ccboe.com on the staff services page. An email link to the newsletter will be sent to all employees each publication date. Any employee who would like a copy mailed during the summer is asked to email komalley@ccboe.com with a mailing address.

Board meeting

The Board of Education will meet in executive and open sessions on June 25, 6 p.m., at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building.

Executive session, 6 p.m.

- Personnel
- Legal issues

Open session/action items

- Personnel
- Educational Facilities Master Plan
- High school education specifications

Resignation deadline

Resignation deadline for tenured teachers is 5 p.m., Monday, July 16. Support staff are expected to give at least a two-week resignation notice.

Board approves principals

The Board of Education has approved appointments of four new principals, filling spots at North Point High School, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School, William A. Diggs Elementary School and Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School with vice principals from each school. New principals are: Kimberly Hill at North Point, Sue DeLaCruz at Stoddert, Sandra McDuffie at Diggs and Thadine Wright at Jenifer.



Tuition reimbursement

Tuition reimbursement for all employees must be submitted no later than June 29 for classes completed during the 2006-07 school year, which is from July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007. If grade slips or official transcripts are not available by the deadline, requests must still be in by June 29, but reimbursement will be held until original grade slips, transcripts and documentation of tuition fees are submitted. Classes starting after July 1 will be charged to the 2007-08 tuition reimbursement allotment. All course work must be pre-approved. Certificated employees with last names beginning with A-K should call 301-934-7243 and certified employees whose names begin with L-Z should call 301-934-7241. Support employees should call 301-934-7232.

Space camp for teachers

Charles County Public Schools and the Space Foundation are offering two free sessions for county teachers as part of a summer institute program. Participants will receive MSDE credit or can pay a fee of \$155 to earn three graduate credits per session through the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

Teachers may sign up for one or both sessions and space is limited. For applications or more information, contact Sue Gray at 301-934-7368 or segray@ccoeb.com.

On the cover

Pictured on the front page are employees from Milton M. Somers Middle School. Pictured, from left, are: Kenneth Tojek, guidance counselor; Dedra Van Gelder, language arts teacher; Christina Baert, secretary; and Charles Jamieson, physical education teacher.

Calendar 2007-08

The following is a partial calendar for the 2007-08 school year. The calendar is subject to change and all early dismissal days are not listed. Please note the change in Primary Election Day in 2008 due to action by the Maryland General Assembly.

- **Aug. 13-17, 2007** -- New teacher orientation week
- **Aug. 20, 2007** -- First day for returning teachers
- **Aug. 27, 2007** -- First day for students
- **Sept. 3, 2007** -- Labor Day, schools/offices closed
- **Sept. 14, 2007** -- Fair Day, schools closed for students; staff activities
- **Oct. 19, 2007** -- MSTA Convention, schools closed for students/teachers
- **Nov. 7, 2007** -- Teacher in-service day; schools closed for students
- **Nov. 12, 2007** -- Veteran's Day, schools/offices closed
- **Nov. 21-23, 2007** -- Thanksgiving holiday, schools/offices closed
- **Dec. 21, 2007** -- Two-hour early dismissal/winter break begins
- **Dec. 24-25, 2007** -- Winter break, schools/offices closed
- **Dec. 26-28 & 31 2007** -- Winter break, schools closed
- **Jan. 1, 2008** -- New Year's Day, schools/offices closed
- **Jan. 18, 2008** -- Semester break, schools closed for students
- **Jan. 21, 2008** -- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, schools/offices closed
- **Feb. 12, 2008** -- Primary Election Day, schools closed for students; staff activities
- **Feb. 18, 2008** -- Presidents' Day, schools/offices closed
- **March 21, 2008** -- Spring break, schools/offices closed
- **March 24, 2008** -- Spring break, schools closed/offices closed
- **March 25-28, 2008** -- Spring break, schools closed/offices open
- **May 26, 2008** -- Memorial Day, schools/offices closed
- **June 13, 2008** -- Last student day (with four inclement weather days added)
- **June 16, 2008** -- Last teacher day (with four inclement weather days added)

Four inclement weather days are built into the calendar. If they are not used, they will be deducted from the end of the school year. If additional inclement weather days are used, they will be deducted from Spring Break, beginning with March 28 and continuing with March 27, 26 and 25.

Stone's Shah sworn in as student member of the Board

Ashin Shah, a rising senior at Thomas Stone High School, is the student member of the Board of Education of Charles County for the 2007-08 school year.



Ashin Shah

Shah was recently selected for the position along with the officers for the Charles County Association of Student Councils (CCASC).

As the student board member, Shah, who served as president of the CCASC this past school year, works with a student liaison committee throughout the school year. The following students were selected as members of the student liaison committee:

- Jessica Mundi, alternate student board member and La Plata High School liaison;
- Diane Berringer, Maurice J. McDonough High School liaison;
- Tiara Brown, Henry E. Lackey High

School liaison;

- Alina Duchak, Westlake High School liaison;
- Caitlin Floyd, Thomas Stone High School liaison; and
- Cailyne Skym, North Point High School liaison.

CCASC is an organization consisting of student leaders from the county's six high schools. Students meet throughout the year to discuss issues, as well as provide input to school system leaders on programs.

The following students were selected as the CCASC officers for 2007-08:

- Tiara Cunningham, president, Stone;
- William Le, first vice president, Stone;
- Bradley Tipper, second vice president, La Plata;
- Chandra Thompson, secretary, Stone; and
- Alphonso Gaston Lopez, middle school representative, Mattawoman Middle School.

Board honors support staff for outstanding contributions

The Board of Education honored five employees with Outstanding Support Personnel Awards on June 12 as part of their annual recognition of support staff. Honored were:

- Darlette M. Smith, food service manager, Milton M. Somers Middle School;
- Art Turlington, HVAC Mechanic III, Maintenance Shop;
- Raymond Lancaster, building service manager, Piccowaxen Middle School;
- Janelle R. Camp, secretary to the principal, J.C. Parks Elementary School; and
- Linda Norcross, media center instructional assistant, Somers.

Darlette Smith

Smith is the 2007 Outstanding Food Service Worker. Described as a superb manager, Smith was honored for her positive attitude and commitment to high professional standards.



Darlette Smith

Principal Stephanie Wesolowski wrote that Smith takes pride in everything she does and manages a cafeteria that serves more than 1,240 students and serves an average of 70 breakfast meals and 800 lunches over the course of five consecutive lunch shifts. "She consistently goes above and beyond her responsibilities to ensure that customer satisfaction is guaranteed. Her flexibility in working with students, teachers and the community is modeled for her staff and has proven to be a contagious attribute among the cafeteria staff," Wesolowski said.

Art Turlington

Turlington is the 2007 Outstanding Maintenance Employee. Coworker Brian Ball described Turlington as an efficient and hard worker who is committed to CCPS. Turlington



Art Turlington

began his career as a mechanic in the Maintenance Shop in December 2003. Supervisor of Maintenance Jerome

Butkiewicz wrote that Turlington goes above and beyond his duties and excels at defining and assessing problems. "Art is an exemplary performer. He is always ready to pitch in and do whatever it takes to contribute to team efforts. He is extremely thorough and pays meticulous attention to every detail in his jobs," Butkiewicz said.

Raymond Lancaster

Lancaster is the 2007 Outstanding Building Service Worker. Lancaster has been with CCPS since March 1999 and serves as the Building Service Manager at Piccowaxen Middle School. He is responsible for school appearance, handles classroom requests made by teachers and other staff members, and enhances specific areas of the inside and outside of the building. Piccowaxen Vice Principal Cheryl Smith said Lancaster demonstrates excellence on the job and is a dependable and motivated worker. "He continuously assists teachers with classroom requests and has a good rapport with staff and students," Smith said. Piccowaxen Principal Kenneth Schroeck said he admires Lancaster for his commitment and dedication to the job. "Mr. Lancaster possesses many outstanding qualities necessary to manage a school. He is a model leader who leads by example," Schroeck said.



Raymond Lancaster

Janelle R. Camp

Camp is the 2007 Outstanding Secretary. Camp has been secretary to the principal at J.C. Parks Elementary School since 1996. Parks Principal Cassandra Blacktree described Camp as a valuable asset to the school and as an employee who has mastered every aspect of school operations. "She has a rare blend of leadership coupled with her superior management abilities that assure success in



Janelle Camp

any assignment. She has earned a deep sense of respect by all of who she comes in contact with," Blacktree said. Before starting her career with CCPS, Camp was active in the Parks PTO organization and volunteered at the school for several years.

Linda Norcross

Norcross is the 2007 Outstanding Instructional Support Employee. Norcross was named the media center instructional assistant at Somers in December 2000. She works to improve the



Linda Norcross

condition of books, decorates bulletin boards and displays, and is a first responder for technology concerns. Somers Principal Stephanie Wesolowski said Norcross exhibits multiple characteristics that make her a valuable asset to the school. "Ms. Norcross' personal characteristics such as patience, consideration, strong work ethics and good judgment are great assets to the school. Her enthusiasm, innovativeness and genuine concern of the educational opportunities for students are exemplary," Wesolowski said.

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The Board each year honors exemplary support staff in different job categories. The goals of the awards are to recognize exemplary employees in the areas of building services, food services, maintenance, secretarial services and instructional support, and to encourage employees to provide creative and quality services that support the effective and efficient operations of the school system.

To be eligible, the employee must be a full-time support employee, employed by Charles County Public Schools for a minimum of three years and employed in the area for which they are nominated for a minimum of three years. Nominees must be support personnel who: are resourceful in seeking and completing job responsibilities; seek new knowledge and skills; know and understand all aspects of the assigned job; utilize technology where appropriate; foster cooperative relationships.

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

Instructional Specialists – Openings at county elementary and middle schools; 11-month positions. Master's degree required.

Food Service Workers – Openings at North Point High School, William A. Diggs Elementary School and William B. Wade Elementary School; three-hour, 10-month positions.

Food Service Driver – Robert D. Stethem Educational Center. Open until filled.

Building Service Assistant Manager – Berry Elementary School; 12-month position. Apply by June 22.

Security Alarm Monitor – Maintenance Shop; part-time position. Apply by June 25.

Coordinator for Judy Centers – Position serves Judy Centers at Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, Eva Turner and C. Paul Barnhart Elementary Schools. Bachelor's degree required. Apply by June 30.

Computer Analyst – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Bachelor's degree required. Apply by July 3.

Instructional Specialist – Openings at county elementary and middle schools; 12-

month positions. Bachelor's degree required.

Title I Instructional Specialist for Technology – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Master's degree required. Apply by July 5.

Occupational Therapist – All age levels. Bachelor's degree required.

Speech Language Pathologists – Openings at all age levels.

Reading Resource Teachers – Openings at county elementary and middle schools; master's degree required.

Reading Recovery Teacher – Openings at Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon and Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy elementary schools; master's degree required.

Guidance Counselors – Openings at all age levels. Master's degree required.

IEP Facilitators – Openings at all non-public elementary, middle and high schools. Apply by June 21.

Gifted Education Resource Teachers – Openings at county elementary and middle schools; master's degree required. Apply by July 3.

Other teaching positions

Charles County Public Schools is seeking **teacher candidates** who meet the certification requirements established by the MSDE for the following areas:

- Mathematics teachers
- Family & consumer science teachers
- Business teachers

- English teachers
- Library & media specialists
- Spanish and French teachers
- Science teachers
- Pre-K & kindergarten teachers
- Biology and chemistry teachers
- Theatre arts teachers

Staff notes

Retirement requirements

The U.S. Treasury Department is changing legal requirements effective January 1, 2008, for the administration and oversight of individual retirement accounts sponsored by employers. The school system plans to conduct an independent review of all current Tax Savings Annuity (TSA) plans over the summer and make recommendations for improvements to insure compliance with the new regulations. The review may result in changes to the vendors now used based on fees, charges, withdrawal penalties, performance benchmarks, company ratings and other criteria.

Part-time and full-time employees are eligible to contribute to a tax sheltered annuity. The list of approved vendors is available by going to <http://www2.ccboe.com/staffservices/forms.cfm> and searching the data base for the Tax Sheltered Annuity Listing.

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