

# School News



Where success is measured one student at a time

December 19, 2008

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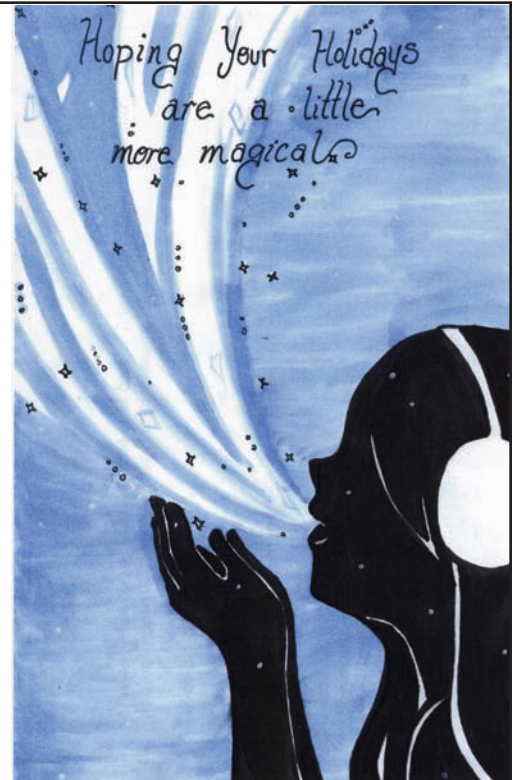
To all CCPS employees:

As 2008 ends, I want to thank all of you for your hard work and dedication in helping our students succeed. Our achievements so far this year are impressive. The school system met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), student scores on the SAT test exceeded state averages, three of our elementary schools were recognized for superior maintenance efforts, and more than 200 students were named Advanced Placement Scholars. Our students are succeeding, and your hard work is appreciated.

Enjoy your winter break and the holidays with your family and friends. You deserve a safe and relaxing break. Thank you again for all you do each day for our students and Charles County Public Schools. I look forward to beginning a new year and working with each of you.

With my very best wishes,

James E. Richmond  
Superintendent of Schools



Each year, Superintendent of Schools James E. Richmond selects a holiday card design created by a Charles County Public Schools student to send greetings from the school system. This year's card is pictured above and was designed by Christina Watkins, a junior at Maurice J. McDonough High School.

## ***Donate your car to Stethem***

The Robert D. Stethem Educational Center is accepting car donations for educational purposes. Cars that are in running condition are preferred, or arrangements to pick up a non-operational vehicle within a 20-mile radius of the school can be made. Contact Sandy Rooney, 301-932-1003, for more information.

## ***Winter break***

Schools are closed for winter break beginning Monday, Dec. 22. Students and teachers return to school on Monday, Jan. 5. Administrative offices will operate from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. during winter break and are closed Dec. 24 - 26 and Jan 1-2.

## ***LPHS It's Academic team wins***

The La Plata High School *It's Academic* team was the first-place winner in the annual Charles County Public Schools competition, held Dec. 11 at the College of Southern Maryland. The three-member team of Captain Gavin Reen, Robert Garcia and Tyler Fini scored 540 points to earn the top spot. They will compete in a regional competition against Northwest and Park View high schools on Jan. 31, which will be aired on WRC TV (NBC 4) April 4.

## ***Board to meet Jan. 13***

The next Board of Education meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 13. The meeting begins at 1 p.m. and recognition begins at 4:30 p.m.

## ***Receive School News by e-mail***

If you would like to receive *School News* by e-mail, please send your name and a valid e-mail address to Shelley Buter, sbuter@ccboe.com.

## ***Pictured at the top of the page***

Pictured at the top of the page are employees honored by the Board of Education on Nov. 18. Pictured, from left, are: Michelle Welch, fifth-grade teacher, Dr. James Craik Elementary School; Kathleen Davis, reading resource teacher, Benjamin Stoddert Middle School; Barbara Campbell, instructional specialist, Malcolm Elementary School; and Paige Baker, special education teacher, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School.

## Personnel

Apply for positions at [www.ccboe.com/hur](http://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

**Food Service Workers** – Openings at county schools; 3-hour positions. Apply by Dec. 23.

**Student Data Accounting Clerk** – Location to be determined; 11-month position. Apply by Dec. 29.

**PreKindergarten Instructional Assistant** – Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School; 10-month position. Apply by Dec. 29.

**Early Childhood Teacher Assistant, Senior Staff** – North Point High School; 10-month, hourly position. Candidates must have Child Care Administration approval for employment for senior staff or must have met 2008 regulations, and must have 1,800 documented hours of experience in a licensed child care program. Apply by Dec. 29.

**Food Service Worker** – Openings at North Point High School and Theodore G. Davis Middle School; three- and four-hour, 10-month positions. Apply by Dec. 29.

**Educational Interpreter** – Robert D. Stethem Educational Center; 10-month, hourly position. Apply by Dec. 29.

**Coordinator of Autism Services** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building; 12-month position. Candidates must be pursuing a master's degree and have three years of experience with autism at the system level.

**Instructional Specialists** – For future openings at all levels; 10-month positions. A minimum of five years teaching experience and a master's degree is required.

**Certified school psychologist** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 10.5-month position. Candidates must be eligible for MSDE certification.

**NJROTC Instructor** – Westlake High School; 10-month position.

**Language Arts Teacher** – Robert D. Stethem Educational Center; 10-month position.

**Special Education Teacher** – General Smallwood Middle School; 10-month position.

**Special Education Teacher for Science** – La Plata High School; 10-month position.

**Special Education Teachers for Inclusion** – Future high school openings; 10-month positions.

**Life Skills Teachers for Severe and Profound** – William A. Diggs Elementary and Henry E. Lackey High schools; 10-month positions.

**Second Grade Teacher** – Eva Turner Elementary School; 10-month position.

### End of year announcements

#### W-2 forms available by Jan. 30

W-2 forms will be released to all employees by Friday, Jan. 30. If you lose your forms, you must submit a completed replacement form located in the forms database on the school system Web site.

#### 2009 tax information

As of January 1, 2009, the maximum taxable wage base earnings for Social Security increases from \$102,000 to \$106,800. This means at a tax rate of 6.2 percent, the maximum amount of Social Security tax that can be withheld from employees is \$6,621.60.

#### W4, state withholding allowance forms

Employees who claim exempt from federal and/or state income tax withholdings must submit a new withholding allowance certificate(s) to payroll by Feb. 6. Withholdings for federal and state taxes will automatically change to the default of "single" with zero withholdings if a certificate is not filed by the deadline. For information on tax withholding, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

#### AFLAC flexible benefit plans

Aflac flexible benefit plans are effective from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. New deductions for 2009 will begin with the Jan. 2 paycheck.

School News is published by  
Charles County Public Schools  
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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.*