



## Summer enrichment classes provide fun ways to learn

Roarette is a stuffed lion that travels to a different classroom every day. When she visits, she brings along with her a journal, or “Roar” as they call it, which students write journals about what they are learning each day. This is just one of the activities that occurred this summer during the 2009 Charles County Public Schools Summer Success Academy.



**Jeni Cox, right, a teacher at Mary B. Neal Elementary School, works with Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School first grader Tanesia Adney, left, on a reading enrichment assignment during the Summer Success Academy held at Matula earlier this month.**

The Summer Success Academy is a three-week intensive grade appropriate program for elementary, middle and high school students. The academy bolsters skills, inspires academic focus, and provides students with fun and motivating learning opportunities and activities during the summer.

Jeni Cox, a Mary B. Neal Elementary School teacher, taught a first grade reading class this summer at the academy held at Mary H. Matula Elementary School. Cox said the summer classes are more than just a way for students to stay sharp over the summer, but a

way to provide students with an intensive learning environment. She instills in her students the importance of reading while at home and during summer vacation.

Since the class sizes are generally smaller, Cox said she is able to cover more material. But, since it is the summer, Cox said she really does try to “focus on the fun.”

Cox’s students said they had a good time

learning during the academy. Hannah Lind, a third grade enrichment student from Matula, talked about how much fun she had researching lions in the computer lab using search engines on the Internet. Matula fourth grader Canisha Mason-Wills enthusiastically talked about the article she found on the Web site Space Junk that her class read. She said that the Summer Success Academy was like regular school, “but more fun,” and she especially liked the SSR time, Sustained Silent

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## Summer hours reminder

Charles County Public Schools has changed summer office hours to 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in selected schools and centers. The schedule will remain in effect until Monday, Aug. 17. For a complete listing of schools and centers affected by the change and additional information, visit [www.ccboe.com/pr](http://www.ccboe.com/pr).

## School times changing

Two schools, Arthur Middleton Elementary School and Henry E. Lackey High School, have adjusted their times for the 2009-10 school year. Middleton will operate on a 9:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. schedule, a change of five minutes. Lackey will operate on a 7:25 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. schedule, a change of five minutes to the opening time.

## New teacher orientation

New teacher orientation is Aug. 10 - 12 at North Point High School.

## Bus route information online

Charles County Public Schools is changing the procedure for communicating bus route information to parents. Bus route information for every address eligible for transportation in Charles County will be posted on the school system’s School Locator Web site at [www.ccboe.com/schoollocator](http://www.ccboe.com/schoollocator). The online bus route feature will be available Aug. 10. Principals will send information home to parents on how to access the Web site. Schools will also have computers available for parents during orientations to find their child’s closest bus stop to their home.

The school system will no longer mail the entire bus route list to each parent. This change is estimated to save the school system up to \$5,000.

## Staff to receive additional day off next school year

This year’s negotiated agreements for all employees includes one less workday next school year. It is a one-time change. Days off vary for different employees.

The changes include an extra paid holiday for 12-month employees. That day is December 23, 2009, which was previously scheduled as a workday.

The following groups of employees will begin the new school year one day later than originally scheduled:

- 11-month employees start August 4, 2009;

- 10.5-month employees start August 11, 2009;
- teachers and instructional assistants begin work for the 2009-2010 school year on August 18, 2009;
- food service managers and assistant managers begin August 17, 2009; and
- food service workers begin August 19, 2009.

If you have questions about your start date or the day deducted from your work year, please ask your supervisor.



### ***Space Institute spots open***

Space is still available for teachers interested in participating in the 2009 Charles County Public Schools Space Discovery Institute. The institute is available only for CCPS teachers and certificated staff. The institute includes six, weeklong sessions and are as follows: Biological and Physical Research, July 20-24; Earth Systems Science, July 20-24; Astronomy Principles for the Classroom, July 27-31; Space Technologies in the Classroom, July 27-31; Rocketry, Aug. 3-7; and Mars Exploration/Base Construction, Aug. 3-7.

All courses will be held at North Point High School and taught by Space Foundation staff. Call 301-934-7327 to register.

### ***News to Know***

Charles County Public Schools quarterly newsletter, titled *News to Know*, will be mailed to all student and staff households the week of Aug. 23. The report, the third to be produced this year, contains back to school information, student and staff accomplishments, and a welcome message from Superintendent James E. Richmond.

Call 301-934-7220 for additional copies of newsletters or more information.

### ***On the cover . . .***

Pictured above are staff from Henry E. Lackey High School. Pictured, from left, are: Sgt. Clarence Matthews Jr., JROTC instructor; Monica Angel, world languages teacher; William Phipps, building service worker; and Juin Lai, media assistant.

## **Partial calendar for 2009-10 school year**

The following is a partial calendar for the 2009-10 school year. The calendar is subject to change. The 2009-10 Parent Handbook/Calendar will be distributed to schools the week of Aug. 10.

- Aug. 18, 2009** - First day for returning teachers
- Aug. 24, 2009** - First day of school for students, grades K-12
- Aug. 31, 2009** - First day for Three's program and PreK students, category 1,2
- Sept. 7, 2009** - Labor Day, schools/offices closed
- Sept. 8, 2009** - First day for PreK students, category 3
- Sept. 18, 2009** - Teacher in-service day; schools closed for students
- Sept. 30, 2009** - Two-hour early dismissal, AM PreK attends
- Oct. 12, 2009** - Columbus Day, schools open
- Oct. 16, 2009** - MSTA Convention, schools closed
- Oct. 21, 2009** - Two-hour early dismissal, PM PreK attends
- Oct. 29, 2009** - Two-hour early dismissal, AM PreK attends
- Nov. 5, 2009** - Teacher in-service day; schools closed for students
- Nov. 11, 2009** - Veterans Day, schools/offices closed
- Nov. 25-27, 2009** - Thanksgiving holiday, schools/offices closed
- Dec. 2, 2009** - Two-hour early dismissal, PM PreK attends
- Dec. 21-22, 2009** - Winter break, schools closed
- Dec. 23-25, 2009** - Winter break, Christmas Eve/Christmas, schools/offices closed
- Dec. 28-31, 2009** - Winter break, schools closed
- Jan. 1, 2010** - New Year's Day, schools/offices closed
- Jan. 18, 2010** - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, schools/offices closed
- Jan. 22, 2010** - Semester break, schools closed for students
- Jan. 27, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, AM PreK attends
- Feb. 5, 2010** - Teacher in-service day, schools closed for students
- Feb. 15, 2010** - Presidents Day, schools/offices closed
- Feb. 24, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, PM PreK attends
- March 4, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, AM PreK attends
- March 24, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, PM PreK attends
- March 29-April 1, 2010** - Spring break, schools closed
- April 2, 2010** - Spring break, schools/offices closed
- April 5, 2010** - Spring break, schools/offices closed
- April 8, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, AM PreK attends
- April 28, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, PM PreK attends
- May 12, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, AM PreK attends
- May 26, 2010** - Two-hour early dismissal, PM PreK attends
- May 31, 2010** - Memorial Day, schools/offices closed
- June 7, 2010** - Graduation ceremonies for Henry E. Lackey, La Plata, and North Point high schools
- June 8, 2010** - Graduation ceremonies for Westlake, Thomas Stone and Maurice J. McDonough high schools
- June 16, 2010** - Last student day\*
- June 17, 2010** - Last teacher day\*

\* 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 needed, they will be added to spring break, beginning with March 29 and continuing with March 30, 31 and April 1.

Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled for the following dates: Sept. 8, 2009; Oct. 13, 2009; Nov. 10, 2009; Dec. 8, 2009; Jan. 12, 2010; Feb. 9, 2010; March 9, 2010; April 13, 2010; May 11, 2010; June 1, 2010; Aug. 10, 2010; and Sept. 21, 2010.

## Register for fall staff development, graduate courses

The Office of Program Support is accepting registration for certified professional development (CPD) courses. Participants enrolled in Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) courses can receive CDP credit(s). Additionally, CCPS has partnerships with local universities and colleges. Tuition for CPD courses offered through CCPS will increase by \$10. Each CPD credit will be \$50, effective in July. Courses being offered this fall will be the first courses affected by the tuition increase.

Available courses are listed below. To register for CPD courses, complete the registration form located on the CCPS Web site, [www2.ccoeb.com/staffdev/courses](http://www2.ccoeb.com/staffdev/courses). To register for graduate courses, contact the college or university directly. Contact Barbara Palk at 301-392-7501 for more information.

### McDaniel College

**Course:** *Group Dynamics*

**Dates:** Aug 25 – Oct. 1, Tues. and online hours

**Time/Location:** 5:30 – 9 p.m., Thomas Stone High School

**Course:** *Curriculum Analysis and Planning*

**Dates:** Aug. 25 – Dec. 1, Tues. and online hours

**Time/Location:** 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *School Leadership in the Twenty-first Century*

**Dates:** Aug. 26 – Oct. 14, Wed.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 9:30 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Introduction to Research Methodology*

**Dates:** Aug. 27 – Dec. 3, Tues.

**Time/Location:** 6 – 8:30 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Learning and Instruction,*

**Dates:** Aug. 27 – Oct. 15, Thurs. and online hours,

**Time/Location:** 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Assessment for Reading Instruction*

**Dates:** Sept. 1 – Nov. 3, Tues.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 9:30 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Reading in the Content Areas, Part I*

**Dates:** Sept. 10 – Dec. 3, Thurs.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 9:30 p.m., La Plata High School

**Course:** *Reading in the Content Areas, Part II*

**Dates:** Sept. 12 – Oct. 24, Sat.

**Time/Location:** 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Maurice J. McDonough High School

**Course:** *Making It Happen Through Creation, Implementation, and Facilitation*

**Dates:** Sept. 29 – Nov. 12, Tues., Thurs.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 8:00 p.m., John Hanson Middle School

**Course:** *Resilient Classroom: A Comprehensive Approach to Classroom Management*

**Dates:** Sept. 26, Oct. 24, Sat., remainder of classes online

**Time/Location:** 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Hanson

**Course:** *Conversation Spanish for Staff, Part I*

**Dates:** Oct. 6 – Nov. 12, Tues. and Thurs.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 7:00 p.m., North Point High School

**Course:** *Working Successfully with ESOL & Special Needs Students in the Regular Classroom*

**Dates:** Oct. 8 – Nov. 19, Thurs.

**Time/Location:** 4:15 – 6:15 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Introduction of Reading*

**Dates:** Oct. 20 – Dec. 10, Tues. and Thurs.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 8:00 p.m., La Plata

**Course:** *School Law*

**Dates:** Oct. 20 – Dec. 8, Tues.

**Time/Location:** 4:30 – 9:00 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Supervision and Evaluation of School Personnel*

**Dates:** Oct. 21 – Dec. 16, Wed.

**Time/Location:** 5 – 9:30 p.m., Stone

### Bowie State University

**Course:** *Appraisal, Assessment and Evaluation*

**Dates:** Aug. 31 – Oct. 23, Wed.

**Time/Location:** 4:55 – 9:55 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Appraisal, Assessment and Evaluation*

**Dates:** Oct. 26 – Dec. 17, Tues.

**Time/Location:** 4:55 – 9:55 p.m., Stone

**Course:** *Foundation of Education*

**Dates:** Aug. 31 – Oct. 23, Wed.

**Time/Location:** 4:55 – 9:55 p.m., McDonough

### Gratz College/Regional Training Center

**Course:** *Wellness: Creating Health and Balance in the Classroom*

**Dates:** Oct. 2, 3, 4, 17 and 18

**Time/Location:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., Sat. and Sun., 6 – 9:15 p.m., Fri., Hanson

**Course:** *Styles of Teaching: Personality Type in the Classroom*

**Dates:** Oct. 30, 31; Nov. 1, 14 and 15

**Time/Location:** 8:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., Sat. and Sun., 6 – 9:15 p.m., Fri., Hanson

## Academy

From page 1

Reading, because she could read whatever books she wanted to read. The Summer Success Academy is just one part of summer learning opportunities available for students. The academies offer students enriching opportunities for the summer that enhance skills to accelerate student learning and to prepare students for the upcoming school year.

According to Judy Estep, the assistant superintendent of instruction for Charles

County Public Schools, traditional summer school programs were previously seen as an obligation where students were provided with repeated information over and over again. Summer learning opportunities now take a different approach to learning, and students are offered enrichment programs that help them get from where they are academically to where they want to be.

The Summer Success Academy provides each grade level a wide array of learn-

ing disciplines. At the elementary school level, math, reading, technology, and in some Title I schools, world language learning classes are included. Classes at the middle school level include math, reading and technology. Programs new to students this summer at both the elementary and middle school level are enrichment programs that include the Rising Readers Program, Page Turners, Beyond the Books and Lego Robotics, to name a few.

## 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

**Secretary, Staff Development** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by July 17.

**Building Service Worker** – Thomas Stone High School, 4-hour position. Apply by July 17.

**Instructional Assistant, STAY Program** – F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position. Apply by July 21.

**Instructional Specialists** – Future openings at all levels, 10-month positions.

**Special Education Teachers** – Openings at all age levels, 10-month positions.

**Science Teacher** – Middle school level, 10-month position.

**English Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

**Language Arts Teacher** – Matthew Henson and Mattawoman middle schools, 10-month positions.

**Gifted Education Resource Teacher** – Future openings at all levels, 10-month positions.

**Reading Resource Teacher** – Future openings at all levels, 11-month positions.

**Counselor, Secondary** – Location to be determined, 10-month position.

**Speech Language Therapist** – Openings at all age levels, 10-month positions.

**Electronics Teacher** – North Point High School, 10-month position.

**Family and Consumer Science Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

**Earth Science Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

**Physics Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

**Mathematics Teacher** – Benjamin Stoddert and Mattawoman middle schools, North Point High School, 10-month positions.

**Spanish Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

**Technology Education Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

**Computer Science Teacher** – High school level, 10-month position.

### Staff Notes

Board to meet next month

The Board of Education's next regular meeting is Tuesday, Aug. 11. The meeting begins at 11 a.m. to adhere to the summer hours schedule for the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building.

EACC crab feast

The Education Association of Charles County's (EACC) annual crab feast is 3:30 to 8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 21, at the Charles

County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance. The event is open to all employees and space is limited. The deadline to purchase tickets is July 31. Call 301-392-0150 for more information. Channel 96 feature shows

Comcast Channel 96, the school system's educational television station, is highlighting Charles County Public Schools Summer Success Academies, and other summer learning opportunities, such as the engineering camp for middle school students, in original programming throughout the months of July and August.

To see what's new on Channel 96, visit [www.ccboe.com/publicinfo/channel96](http://www.ccboe.com/publicinfo/channel96) for the most up-to-date programs and broadcast information. Original programming is produced by the Charles County Public Schools communications department and highlights student and staff accomplishments, as well as other school system events.

Benefits analyst handling retirement

Charles County Public Schools benefits analyst is Christeda Warner. She is located in the human resources department at the Starkey Administration Building and coordinates medical coverage, life insurance, AFLAC plans and retirement for current and retired employees. Call 301-934-7459 or e-mail [cwarner@ccboe.com](mailto:cwarner@ccboe.com) to make an appointment.

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