



# School News

## Important Dates Coming Soon

### Calendar reminder

As a reminder, Wednesday, April 28 is now a full-day of school for students. The date was changed from a two-hour early dismissal day in order to make up for time lost due to inclement weather conditions.

### Who do we appreciate?

National Teacher Appreciation Day is Tuesday, May 4. Be sure to thank all of the teachers in your school or center for their hard work in helping students succeed.

### SECAC annual awards

The Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) will honor more than 100 Charles County Public Schools teachers and staff members April 28 at the fifth annual Teacher and Staff Appreciation Awards ceremony. Staff members are nominated for recognition by parents in the community.

### Get the latest news

Catch the latest episode of NewsBreak 96 on Comcast Channel 96 or Verizon FiOS Channel 12 for highlights on the Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) competitions and how the school system prepares students for severe weather conditions.

### Parent volunteer

Julie Chapman, a parent volunteer at Piccowaxen Middle School and formerly at Dr. Thomas L. Higdon Elementary School, was recently named Charles County's semifinalist for the Comcast Parent Involvement Matters Award. She is one of five semifinalists eligible for the state award. Comcast and the Maryland State Department of Education will honor Chapman on May 6. Five finalists and a statewide winner, selected from the 24 semifinalists, will be announced at the awards ceremony.

## High School 2013



Design by SHW Group

## IAC recommends 1,600 capacity for new high school

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) moved closer to final approval on the next new high school this week with a change in the student enrollment recommendation of the Interagency Committee on Public School Construction (IAC).

David Lever, executive director of the IAC, wrote that the IAC had approved a

change from a 1,300- to 1,600-student capacity based on the enrollment projections beyond the seventh year. However, Lever said, "Since this is an exception to regulations it requires review by the attorney general for legal sufficiency."

This is good news for Superintendent James E. Richmond who has been lobbying

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## Stone named 2010 MD Emerging School of Character

The Maryland Center for Character Education (MCCE) recently named Thomas Stone High School as a 2010 Maryland Emerging School of Character.

The character education program recognizes schools that demonstrate outstanding character education programs that yield positive results in student behavior and academic performance. Criteria for character education awards include comprehensive character education initiatives implemented in the school community. During the past school year, Stone has implemented a student of the quarter recognition program in which students are recognized for excellence and improvement, and receive an accomplishment certificate.

The school has also implemented a year-long class competition called "Battle of the Classes." Students from each grade level

compete with one another in areas such as monthly attendance, creating homecoming banners, participation in community service projects and semester grade point averages.

Stone also launched the Capturing Kids Hearts program in 2008, in which staff focus on creating personal, supportive connections with students in order to provide positive role models and nurturing relationships.

Stone was named a 2009 Maryland School of Character, and was a state nominee for the National School of Character award. Stone will be recognized this fall at the annual MCCE awards ceremony. The Maryland Schools of Character program is sponsored collaboratively through the MCCE, the Character Education Partnership and the Maryland State Department of Education.



**On the cover**

Pictured on the cover are exemplary employees honored by the Board of Education at their March 9 meeting. Pictured, from left, are: Christine Gamble, social studies teacher, Piccowaxen Middle School; Cynthia Anderson, reading recovery teacher, Berry Elementary School; and Tracy Blake, reading resource teacher, J.P. Ryon Elementary School.

**Pay date change**

Pay dates for the 2010-11 school year are available under the forms database located on the staff services section of the school system Web site. In July, pay dates have been moved back one week in order to maintain 26 pay dates. This is a normal shift that occurs once every five years.

**Payroll audit**

Charles County Public Schools will conduct a systemwide payroll distribution audit throughout the coming months. Each school or center will be selected for the audit on one pay day in May or June. The principal's secretary will be notified the Monday prior to the pay day when the audit is scheduled to take place.

All employees will need to produce their school system identification badge or another form of identification with a picture, such as a driver's license, in order to pick up their pay check from the payroll department at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. All employees will also need to personally sign for their pay check or direct deposit statement. Employees that normally have their checks mailed to their home addresses, such as adult education, home and hospital, temporary or substitute staff, will also be audited on the same pay date as their designated school or center.

The audit is conducted once every three years in order to verify that each employee receiving a pay check or direct deposit statement is an active school system employee.

**MAC meeting**

The next Minority Achievement Committee (MAC) meeting is Wednesday, May 5. The meeting begins at 4:30 p.m. and will be held in the Board room at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building.

**New high school**

Continued from page 1

the state to approve the school for 1,600 students as originally proposed. "To build this school any smaller, with the plans of St. Charles, is a disservice to the children and this county. If we opened this school tomorrow at 1,300 students, it would already be nearly filled," Richmond said.

Earlier this school year, the IAC recommended that the state approve the school with a 1,300-student capacity, 300 students short of Charles County Public Schools request. The IAC's recommendation of 1,300 students was based on state student population formulas. In January, Richmond, along with Board of Education members, appealed to the state Board of Public Works to override the IAC recommendation, approve the school for 1,600 students and provide \$8.2 million in first-year construction costs. The school system learned in March that it had received a recommendation for planning approval and nearly \$1.9 million of construction funding, but no decision had been made on the

enrollment appeal at that time. The original target opening date for the school was 2011; however, the school system only received planning and construction approval this year. Completion date is now anticipated to be August 2013.

Charles County Public Schools seventh high school will be located in St. Charles adjacent to the Regency Furniture Stadium off Piney Church Road. The high school will serve as one of the anchors of the new green community and offer the same Program of Studies available at all CCPS high schools as well as a digital classroom, Science on a Sphere and an environmentally infused instruction.

The Board of Education has formed a committee to consider names for the high school, and a redistricting committee will be selected in the future. For a detailed overview of the high school or more information, visit the new high school Web site at <http://www2.ccboe.com/high-school2013/>.



**Lackey's Anderson is MD Athletic Director of the Year**

The Maryland State Athletic Directors Association (MSADA) recently named David Anderson, the athletic director at Henry E. Lackey High School, as the 2010 Maryland State Athletic Director of the Year. Anderson has been the athletic director at Lackey for the past 30 years, and has worked in the education field for more than 40 years.

During his time at Lackey, Anderson has coached boys' basketball and soccer, and was the lead person of contact for the physical education and athletic facilities during the renovation of the school from 1998 to 2001. Anderson also served on the addition committee in 2002 when the indoor pool was added to the school building.

Anderson also received the MSADA District Athletic Director of the Year award for District 4, which covers Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's counties, in 1997 and 2009. He served as MSADA president from 1999 to 2001, and is also heavily involved with the Southern Maryland Athletic Conference (SMAC). He chaired the SMAC soccer committee for 38 years and has attended the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association annual conference for more than 20 years.

Anderson attended Appalachian State University in North Carolina, where he earned a bachelor's of science and master of arts degree. Anderson was honored April 17 at the 34th annual MSADA banquet in Ocean City.



David Anderson



Christina Greer



Kellie Harding



Judith Bockstoe



Kimberly Stillwell



Beth Levy



Robert Bushman

## SMECO honors six CCPS teachers for excellence in math, science instruction

Six Charles County Public Schools teachers were recently honored by Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO) for their accomplishments in the area of mathematics and science.

Honored as Outstanding Mathematics Teachers of the Year were: Christina Greer of Eva Turner Elementary School; Kellie Harding of John Hanson Middle School; and Judith Bockstoe of North Point High School.

Honored as Outstanding Science Teachers of the Year were: Kimberly Stillwell of J. P. Ryon Elementary School; Beth Levy, General Smallwood Middle School; and Robert Bushman, La Plata High School.

Greer teaches elementary level geometry, probability, algebra, measurement, statistics and problem solving at Turner. She uses practical applications with her students to enforce class lessons, such as balancing a homework completion checkbook and tracking money students earn for completing assignments. Greer also works with her students to develop helpful games based on math skills that students can practice with their parents.

Harding teaches sixth grade general mathematics at Hanson and is the assistant sixth-grade team leader. She serves as the co-department chair and is incorporating a new program, Algebraic Thinking, into her lessons to assist students who struggle with math. Harding is also a member of the National Middle School Association and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Bockstoe teaches algebra, geometry, trigonometry with probability and statistics and advanced algebra with trigonometry at

North Point. She is the department chair and participates in the school's extended day program. Bockstoe also incorporates graphing calculators into her lessons and shows her students how to solve math problems with and without the use of technology.

Stillwell serves as the science resource teacher at Ryon. She sponsors the Just Say No Club, coordinates the school recycling program and teaches mathematics in the school's extended day program. She also teaches a course on robotics with fifth-grade students and is the Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) advisor. Stillwell also participates in summer engineering programs with scientists from the Department of Defense and the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), Indian Head division.

Levy teaches seventh-grade life science and eighth-grade physical science at Smallwood. She sponsors the in-school robotics program with seventh graders and works with NSWC and engineers from the College of Southern Maryland. Levy is also part of the school's extended learning opportunity program, and takes evening science workshops, project learning tree and robolab robotics training.

Bushman teaches biology and biomedical sciences at La Plata. He is the Project Lead the Way biomedical sciences master teacher and leads training sessions to guide teachers through the curriculum. Bushman also designs lab activities that provide hands-on opportunities for students to help students fully understand lesson content.

The teachers were nominated for the award by staff, students and parents, and were honored, by SMECO during a ceremony on April 21.



## Johnson named MSADA 2010 District 4 Athletic Director of the Year

Aly Khan Johnson, athletic director at North Point High School, was recently named the Maryland State Athletic Directors Association (MSADA) 2010 Athletic Director of the Year for District 4. Johnson has been the athletic director at North Point since the school opened in 2005 and served in the same position with Alexandria City Public Schools at T.C. Williams High School for 14 years.

During his tenure at T.C. Williams, Johnson taught physical education, served as an assistant football coach, coached cross country and track and field. He also coached the first combined boys' and girls' program for cross country and track and field in



Aly Khan Johnson

Alexandria, which led to numerous district, regional and state titles.

Johnson also earned the title of Track Coach of the Year by the *Washington Post* seven times throughout the duration of his career in Virginia, and was inducted into the Virginia High School League Hall of Fame in 1999. The District 4 Coach of the Year award is Johnson's first as athletic director at North Point, and he was selected from athletic directors nominated in Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's counties.

Johnson attended Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina, where he earned his bachelors degree in 1972. He was honored by the MSADA on April 17 at their 34th banquet, held in Ocean City.

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Seven Charles County public schools, as well as area private schools, received a \$3,000 literacy grant from Dollar General. Accepting on behalf of their schools, from left, are Parks Principal Kristin Shields; Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy Vice Principal Diane Laveglia; Smallwood Principal Cynthia Baker; Indian Head Principal Toni Melton-Trainor; Jackson Routh of Dollar General; Gale-Bailey Principal Carrie Richardson; Bill Black of Dollar General; Potomac Heights Christian Academy Administrator Garland Foreman; and Lackey Principal James Short.

## Seven Charles County public schools receive literacy grants

Seven Charles County Public Schools recently received \$3,000 grants from Dollar General's Literacy Foundation program.

Gale-Bailey, Indian Head, J.C. Parks and Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy elementary schools, General Smallwood and Matthew Henson middle schools and Henry E. Lackey High School received checks for the funds at a presentation ceremony held Wednesday, March 24, at the Bryans Road Dollar General store.

The program is funded through store donations and the Bryans Road store collected more than \$30,000 in 2009. These Charles County public schools were chosen as grant recipients because they are located in the Bryans Road and Indian Head areas.

The grants will support literacy and education initiatives and are given in recognition of the Bryans Road store's support of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

## Personnel

Apply for positions online at [www.ccboe.com/hur](http://www.ccboe.com/hur). Positions are open until filled unless otherwise noted. All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and MSDE certification requirements.

### Job Openings

**HVAC Mechanic 1** – Maintenance Shop, 12-month position. Apply by April 23.  
**Painter 1** – Maintenance Shop, 12-month position. Apply by April 27.  
**Security Alarm Technician** – Annex Building, 12-month position. Apply by April 27.  
**Senior Student Data Accounting Clerk** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by April 30.  
**Student Records Coordinator** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Apply by April 30.  
**Instructional Specialist** – Future openings at all levels, 11-month positions.  
**Reading Resource Teachers** – Future openings at all levels, 11-month positions.

**Secondary Instructional Resource Teacher** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position.

**Science Teacher** – Benjamin Stoddert Middle School, 10-month position.

**Reading Recovery Teacher** – To be determined, 10-month position.

**Library & Media Specialist** – Elementary school level, 10-month position.

**Special Education Teacher for Science** – Benjamin Stoddert Middle School, 10-month position.

**Special Education Teacher of the Emotionally Disturbed** – F. B. Gwynn Educational Center, 10-month position.

### Extra pay positions

**La Plata High School** has the following openings:

- Girls soccer coach
- Tennis coach

Contact Principal Evelyn Arnold, 301-753-1754, to apply.

**Henry E. Lackey High School** has the following openings:

- Boys' varsity soccer coach
- Boys' assistant soccer coach
- Girls' varsity soccer coach
- Girls' assistant soccer coach
- Fall varsity cheerleading coach
- Fall assistant cheerleading coach
- Winter varsity cheerleading coach
- Winter cheerleading assistant coach
- Junior varsity field hockey coach
- Girls' varsity basketball assistant (female)
- Junior varsity wrestling coach
- Assistant wrestling coach
- Varsity baseball coach
- Assistant baseball coach
- Varsity softball coach
- Assistant softball coach

Please send resumes to Lackey by June 1 to the attention of James Short, principal, or David Anderson, athletic director. Call 301-753-1753 for more information.