



*It's All About
Teaching
and Learning.*

Charles County Public Schools

School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Virtual plays set

Maurice J. McDonough High School is hosting a virtual play Friday, Jan. 8, and Saturday, Jan. 9. The drama department will stream "Game of Tiaras (one-act): Stay-At-Home Edition" by Don Zolidis. The show is set to stream virtually on Jan. 8-9. Interested viewers can access the link online at <https://mhsdrama303.booktix.com/>. Check the website for updates. The drama department is also collecting community donations on its website to support production costs. Questions can be directed to Jana Heyl, McDonough drama director, at jhey@ccboe.com.

Westlake High School Westlake High School is hosting two virtual events this month. The drama department will stream "The Day the Internet Died" by Ian McWethy and Jason Pizzarello starting Jan. 15, and "Identity Play; or Who You Are If You Think You Are" by Jon Jory and Jason Pizzarello starting Jan. 22. Both shows will run for a week. Interested viewers should email the Westlake theatre arts department to request a link. Email requests should be sent to Westlake teachers Bryan Grosbach at bgrosbach@ccboe.com, or Jackson Long at jlong@ccboe.com. The department is also collecting community donations to support production costs. Check donations can be sent by mail to Westlake High School, Attn: Theatre Arts Department, 3300 Middletown Road, Waldorf, MD 20603.

Board meets Jan. 12

The Board of Education of Charles County will meet Tuesday, Jan. 12. The meeting will be held virtually. The meeting starts at 1 p.m.

Schools, offices closed

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) schools and offices are closed Monday, Jan. 18, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

Art & Basketball

Shelton Hawkins, an art teacher at St. Charles High School, is on the cover of the January/February edition of *Shore Magazine*, a publication focused on the people and lifestyle on the Eastern Shore. A Easton native, Hawkins spent time during quarantine bettering his community with his creativity. Before 2020 kept people indoors, Hawkins combined his love of basketball and art to start *Play In Color*, a project that transforms outdoor basketball courts into usable works of art that foster a sense of community. Read more on Page 2.



CCPS delivering meals to a neighborhood near you

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is expanding its mobile meal bus service to more locations in Charles County. School buses started to deliver meal bags Jan. 6 to additional locations convenient for all students and their families. Buses will deliver mobile meals to the sites Monday through Friday.

Additional sites will be added as they are finalized. On days when CCPS calls an inclement weather code or delay, mobile meal service is canceled.

Mobile meal bags are free for all children ages 2 to 18 and include heat-and-serve food items, similar to items included in weekend meal bags handed out at CCPS curbside meal distribution sites.

Curbside meal sites operate 7 to 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Details about the CCPS curbside [meal sites are posted here](#).

Children can pick up mobile meal bags or parents can pick them up. Parents picking up meal bags without their child present must show some form of identification for their child (student ID card, report card, birth certificate). Parents, caregivers and guardians should check meal bags for any items that may cause a dietary or allergy issue for a child. Items that may be included in mobile meal bags are posted on the CCPS website at <https://tinyurl.com/y738e2ca>.

The following is the mobile meals schedule. Children, families and/or parents can pick up a meal bag from any of the sites listed below, Monday through Friday.

10:30 to 11 a.m.

- Pinefield neighborhood community park, bus will stop on the shoulder by the park, 2224 Pinefield Road, Waldorf, MD, 20601

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On the cover

The Board of Education of Charles County honored outstanding employees at its December meeting including Wanda Woodland, instructional assistant, F.B. Gwynn Educational Center, left; and Trevor Gillum, computer analyst, General Smallwood Middle School.

Mental health website

CCPS Student Services recently launched a website dedicated to providing mental health resources for students and their families. School counselors and school psychologists work to support CCPS students and families with efforts being highlighted at <https://www.ccboe.com/ss/mental-health/>. The site sheds light on the support available for CCPS students. The page can be accessed from the Quick Links, Students and Parents tabs at www.ccboe.com.

Arts teacher awards

The Charles County Arts Alliance (CCAA) Arts Teacher of the Year Award is a new program honoring an elementary, middle and high school teacher who exemplifies excellence in arts education. The program honors three Charles County's arts educators with recognition and financial support for guiding students while navigating circumstances brought on by the pandemic. Nominations may be self-submitted, by the teacher's current or former students, parents of the students, the teacher's professional colleagues or a school administrator. To fill out a nomination form, go to <https://forms.gle/ZpUh3iMf7SbvCe898>. The deadline to submit a nomination is Feb. 5.

Employee Assistance Program

CCPS has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provider, Deer Oaks EAP Services. The EAP benefit covers six confidential short-term counseling visits for contracted employees who work more than 20 hours per week and their immediate families. Deer Oaks coordinates with CCPS's health plan for cases that require treatment under the medical benefit. For information, call 888-993-7650 or go to <https://www.deeroakseap.com>. The member login and password are ccboe.



A basketball court at Idlewild Park in Easton was transformed into a functional piece of art with the help of St. Charles High School art teacher, Shelton Hawkins.

SCHS teacher's talent is a 'Shore' thing

A St. Charles High School art teacher is experiencing what it's like to be the subject of a work, rather than the creator.

Shelton Hawkins recently landed on the cover of *Shore Magazine*, a publication centered on the people and way of life on the Eastern Shore.

The magazine named Hawkins one of the local millennials making a difference in the world.

He said the cover and accompanying article are a result of projects he embarked on during the COVID-19 quarantine.

"I used the time to really focus on finding my voice, standing up for what I believe in," Hawkins said. "I feel it's important to try and give back to the community."

He worked with Converse on a COVID-19 campaign, and he was the project manager for a painting of the words "Black Lives Matter" on Race Street in Cambridge.

The painting of the street was completed by community members and its design, created by Eastern Shore artist Miriam Moran, incorporated the Maryland flag and an image of Harriet Tubman, Hawkins' great-great-great aunt.

"I am so excited about all the projects he's affiliated with," said Leith Phillips, art chair at St. Charles and Hawkins' former teacher at Easton High School. "I knew when I asked him if he wanted to interview [for a teaching position], he would be an asset to Charles County and the students he would come in contact with."

Long before the quarantine of 2020,

Hawkins was invested in his community.

A third year teacher at St. Charles, Hawkins is also a working artist who refurbishes outdoor basketball courts with art. The concrete canvases meld two of his loves — basketball and art.

The endeavor — Play In Color — started in his hometown of Easton after Hawkins noted the once bustling basketball court in Idlewild Park sat dormant. Working with local leaders to secure funding, the courts at Idlewild Park and another at Moton Park were expanded, resurfaced and painted in the summer of 2019. The colorful designs are part of a national art movement transforming neglected courts into pieces of oversized and useable art meant to strengthen community bonds.

Hawkins said it was Phillips who helped him figure out he didn't have to choose between art and basketball. "Shout out to Ms. Phillips," he said. "She showed me that I could be into art and basketball."

"He was a great kid with a lot of energy," Phillips remembered about meeting Hawkins in his sophomore year of high school. They struck a deal back then — if he made the effort to devote an hour of class to his artwork, he could spend the last 30 minutes in class decompressing.

At the time, Hawkins didn't think his art was any good. "I always told him that it's about the process and how art makes you feel," Phillips said. "Everyone has a voice when creating art."

MOBILE MEALS

continued from Page 1

- Potomac Heights Community Center, parking lot, 822 Glymont Road, Indian Head, MD 20640
- William B. Wade Elementary School, parking lot, 2300 Smallwood Drive, Waldorf, MD, 20603
- Bel Alton Volunteer Fire Department, parking lot, 9765 Bel Alton Newtown Road, Bel Alton, MD 20611

11 to 11:20 a.m.

- Wakefield Community Center, parking lot, 2002 Nantucket Drive, Waldorf, MD 20602

11 to 11:30 a.m.

- Port Tobacco Community Center, parking lot, 8190 Port Tobacco Road, Port Tobacco, MD 20677
- Huntington Community Center, parking lot, 3281 Huntington Circle, Waldorf, MD 20602

11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

- Indian Head Worship Center, parking lot, 4404 Indian Head Highway, Indian Head, MD 20640
- Paul Barnhart Elementary School, parking lot, 4800 Lancaster Circle, Waldorf, MD, 20603
- Idlewood Trailer Park, parking lot area, 12498 Idlewood Park Road, Waldorf, MD 20601

11:30 to 11:50 a.m.

- Smallwood Village Shopping Center, parking lot near Safeway, 10 King Street, Waldorf, MD 20602

11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- Bryans Road Trailer Camp, bus will stop at the corner of Empress Place and Skyline Place, trailer camp is located at the corner of Billingsley and Livingston roads, Bryans Road, MD 20616
- Mary B. Neal Elementary School, parking lot, 12105 St. Georges Drive, Waldorf, MD 20602
- Spark Apartments

11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

- Cobb Island, Fisherman's Field Park, 17057 Cobb Island Road, Cobb Island, MD 20625
- Phoenix Run Apartments, bus will stop on the shoulder of Car-

oline Drive near Caroline Jones Park, 720 Caroline Drive, La Plata, MD 20646

12 to 12:30 p.m.

- Charles Landing South, bus will stop at the shoulder of Blair Road, near the main entrance to the apartments, 41 Jameson Court, Indian Head, MD 20640
- Hughesville Volunteer Fire Department, parking lot, 15245 Prince Frederick Road, Hughesville, MD, 20637
- Arthur Middleton Elementary School, parking lot, 1109 Copley Avenue, Waldorf, MD 20602
- Ell Lane Apartments, parking lot, 12135 Ell Lane, Waldorf, MD 20602

12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

- Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer Elementary School, parking lot, 2820 Jenifer School Lane, Waldorf, MD, 20603
- Strawberry Hills Estates, stop at the corner of Strawberry Drive and Boxwood Circle, near the water tower, neighborhood is located off Marshall Hall Road, Bryans Road, MD 20616
- Bannister Community Center, parking lot, 1001 Armes Drive, Waldorf, MD 20602
- Wexford Village Park, Hamilton Road area, bus will stop near Hamilton and Raby roads, 11365 Raby Road, Waldorf, MD 20601

12:30 to 1 p.m.

- Gleneagles South neighborhood, bus will stop on the shoulder near the playground at Continental Drive and Sandhurst Place, Waldorf, MD 20602

CCPS expanded the mobile meal delivery program to ensure children have access to free meals. The delivery program also provides parents with additional locations and opportunities to pick up food for their children. At mobile meal sites, children can pick up their own meal bag. More information about meal service programs is posted on the CCPS website at ccboe.com.

CCPS staff is eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine. A one-question survey helps with plans

All Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) employees, as well as contracted school bus drivers and attendants, are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

CCPS is working with the Charles County Department of Health and the Maryland State Department of Education to plan for CCPS vaccine needs.

CCPS has been asked to provide the local and state health departments the number of people who will take the vaccine. The COVID-19 vaccine is optional.

Staff members can help with the plan by taking the quick, one-question survey at <https://tinyurl.com/yyxhxpfa>.

The school system will share more information about vaccine dis-

tribution dates, locations and times as it becomes available.

The deadline to complete the survey is 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 11.

CCPS is teaming up with the Charles County Department of Health, the Education Association of Charles County (EACC) and American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for a virtual town hall at 4 p.m., Jan. 21. The Town Hall will stream live at www.ccboe.com and focus on vaccination information.

Staff members with questions and concerns can contact Jason Stoddard, director of school safety and security, at jstoddard@ccboe.com or 301-392-5550.

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The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Kathy Kiessling, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (students) or Nikial M. Majors, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (employees/adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, MD 20646; 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.

CCPS provides nondiscriminatory equal access to school facilities in accordance with its Use of Facilities rules to designated youth groups (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts).

Updated inclement weather codes during Phase 1

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) has adjusted its inclement weather procedures for the 2020-21 school year.

The procedures take into account the virtual learning schedule currently in place for all CCPS students.

The following are the updated procedures effective during Phase 1 of virtual learning.

— Virtual instruction on-time during inclement weather

Virtual instruction starts on time.

Any student currently in a CCPS learning or internet center, or doing virtual learning from a CCPS school would participate in online learning from home.

Virtual instruction on-time will only be announced under certain inclement weather conditions.

— Virtual instruction one-hour delay, Code 1

Virtual learning starts one hour late for students.

Learning support and internet centers at all schools are closed.

Curbside morning meal service and the mobile meals program are canceled. Meal sites will operate the afternoon distribution as usual from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Students enrolled in the morning prekindergar-

ten program start classes one hour late.

Afternoon prekindergarten students start classes on time.

— Virtual instruction two-hour delay, Code 2

Virtual learning begins two hours late for students.

Learning support and internet centers at all schools are closed.

Curbside morning meal service and the mobile meals program are canceled. Meal sites will operate the afternoon distribution as usual from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The morning prekindergarten program is canceled.

Afternoon prekindergarten students start classes on time.

— Schools closed, Code Red

No virtual instruction takes place.

Essential CCPS staff report on time.

School buildings and offices are closed.

CCPS meal sites are closed.

— Schools closed, Code Blue

No virtual instruction takes place.

No employees report to work.

School buildings and office are closed.

CCPS meal sites are closed.

Personnel

Apply for positions online at www.ccboe.com/jobs/currentopenings.php. All teaching positions require a bachelor's degree and MSDE certification requirements.

Job Openings

Food Service Manager — Malcolm Elementary School, 10-month position. High school diploma or equivalent is required, and a minimum of three years of experiences in food service management. Apply by Jan. 11.

Vice Principal Pool for 2021-22 — All high schools, 12-month position. Master's degree from an accredited college or university, a Maryland Advanced Professional Certificate with Administrator I endorsement by March 1, three years of satisfactory teaching experience required and three years of satisfactory experience as a vice principal. Apply by Jan. 15.

Vice Principal Pool for 2021-22 — All middle schools, 12-month position. Master's de-

gree from an accredited college or university, a Maryland Advanced Professional Certificate with Administrator I endorsement by March 1 and three years of satisfactory teaching experience required. Apply by Jan. 15.

Vice Principal Pool for 2021-22 — All elementary schools, 11-month position. Master's degree from an accredited college or university, a Maryland Advanced Professional Certificate with Administrator I endorsement by March 1 and three years of satisfactory teaching experience required. Apply by Jan. 15.

IEP Clerk — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 10-month position. A high school diploma is required. Apply by Jan. 20.

Administrative Instructional Assistant — All schools, 10-month position. A high school diploma is required. Position open until filled.

Elementary School Building Service Assistant Manager — Location to be determined,

12-month position. A high school diploma and one or more years of work experience required. Position open until filled.

Middle School Building Service Assistant Manager — Location to be determined, 12-month position. A high school diploma and one or more years of work experience required. Position open until filled.

School Bus Driver — Annex 1, 10-month position. A high school diploma is required. Position open until filled.

Computer Analyst I — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. A high school diploma is required along with one to three years of technically progressive current work experience in information networks and user supports. Applicable industry certifications preferred. Position open until filled.

New Teacher Mentor — All middle schools, part-time position. Position open until filled.