



School News

Important Dates Coming Soon

Show time at schools

Henry E. Lackey High School is staging "Aladdin Jr." at 6:30 p.m. March 29 and 30 at the school. Tickets are \$7 for adults, and \$5 for students, seniors and military members. Lackey also provides free admission to CCPS employees, and one guest, who show their employee identification badge. Call 301-743-5431 for more information. North Point High School will present "Saturday Night Fever" the weekend of April 4-6. Show times are April 4-5 at 7 p.m., and April 6 at 1 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, and \$5 for students and senior citizens. Call 301-753-1759 for more information. Upcoming shows include "In the Heights" at Maurice J. McDonough High School, "All Shook Up" at Thomas Stone High School, "Smokey Joe's Cafe" at Westlake High School and "Cabaret" at La Plata High School. Stay tuned to *School News* for information about upcoming shows or go to <http://tinyurl.com/y248pqnp> for a full list of dates and show times.

Cross wins county contest

Kendall Cross, a fourth grader at Dr. James Craik Elementary School, recently entered a contest called "Why is Charles County a great place to live?" offered to all Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) fourth graders. Cross' submission was chosen as the overall contest winner and she served as Charles County's representative for the Historic St. Mary's City Maryland Day celebration.

"I was pretty excited because I worked so hard on it. I looked up facts and my mom helped me do research," Cross said. As part of the celebration, student representatives from each Maryland County, as well as Baltimore City, participated in the March 23 flag ceremony. Cross carried a flag to represent Charles County.



Something to sing about

Matt Sallee, front row third from left, and Thomas Stone High School choir teacher Charnice Frazier, front right, have a laugh with Thomas Stone choir members during an a capella clinic held March 23 at the school. Sallee, a Maurice J. McDonough High School graduate, sings bass in Pentatonix. He returned to Charles County to visit family and friends, and lead the singing clinic for middle and high school students from Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's county schools. More than 350 students participated, along with choir teachers. Sallee performed with former Ramtations — McDonough's male a capella group — members, including Gabe Gray, the music teacher at William A. Diggs Elementary School, and Stephen Hilson, vocal music teacher at McDonough.

CCPS tests drinking water at schools, centers

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) is testing drinking water at schools, centers and office buildings for the presence of lead. The testing is not the result of any concerns with drinking water in Charles County schools.

CCPS is conducting the testing to comply with a new state regulation, which was signed into law in May 2017, and requires all Maryland schools, public and nonpublic, served by public water to test for the presence of lead in all drinking water outlets.

The new regulation requires the school system to test or re-test all water outlets used for consumption during a single school year

and while schools are in session. Testing is limited to water outlets where the water is intended for consumption. This includes water sources like drinking fountains, cafeteria sinks, classroom combination sinks, teachers' lounge sinks and any other outlet used for drinking or food preparation. It does not include water outlets like utility and bathroom sinks. CCPS will post signs in the area of the faucet that has not been sampled to ensure it is not used for drinking.

Schools served by well water are not included in the state's new regulation because they are already covered by other leg-

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isolation. However, CCPS has 10 schools/centers where water is supplied by a well. Although it is not required, CCPS plans to test drinking water outlets at these schools, which include Dr. James Craik, Gale-Bailey, Dr. Thomas L. Higdon, Malcolm, T.C. Martin and Mt. Hope/Nanjemoy elementary schools, Piccowaxen Middle School, Henry E. Lackey High School, Robert D. Stethem Educational Center and Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center. CCPS will also conduct testing at all office buildings.



“CCPS is taking Maryland’s new legislation seriously when it comes to making sure that school drinking water is safe to consume,” said Assistant Superintendent of Supporting Services Michael Heim. “Even though it is not required, we plan to test or retest drinking water outlets in all CCPS buildings and make those results readily available to parents and staff,” Heim said.

CCPS water testing began in March and will be completed by June 30. CCPS staff will send samples to Martel Laboratories JDS Inc., a state-certified laboratory for water analysis. CCPS will post results on the ccboe.com website as the school system receives them. CCPS will post full lab reports and summaries at <https://www.ccboe.com/index.php/water-quality-reports>.

North Point PTSO to host safety town hall

Superintendent of Schools Kimberly Hill and Jason Stoddard, director of school safety and security for Charles County Public Schools (CCPS), will present information and answer questions about school safety and security at a Town Hall meeting 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 4 at North Point High School in Waldorf.

The North Point Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) is sponsoring the countywide school safety and security Town Hall that is open to the public.

The meeting is in the school’s staff development room.

The meeting is set to end at 8 p.m.

CCPS staff will address safety and security issues, and recent updates to background checks for volunteers, see something, say something reports and building safety enhancements.

Following a brief presentation, staff will answer questions and take suggestions. Attendees wishing to speak should arrive by 6:15 p.m. to sign up in advance.

The Town Hall will stream live on the CCPS website, ccboe.com.

Viewers can submit questions in advance or during the meeting through Twitter by using #ccpsafety. North Point is located at 2500 Davis Road in Waldorf.

Nominations due April 1 for volunteer awards

The “Be the Difference” Outstanding Volunteer awards program recognizes outstanding school volunteers for their valuable contributions to schools, students, staff and CCPS. Nominees should be individuals, parents, businesses or community organizations who volunteer to give their time, energy or expertise to CCPS or a particular school that results in positive experiences for children. Volunteers are defined as people who give assistance to the CCPS community and receive no compensation for their efforts. Any CCPS teacher, staff members, student or parent can submit nominations. The nomination deadline is April 1. For more information and nomination guidelines, go to <https://www.ccboe.com/index.php/be-the-difference-outstanding-volunteer-award>.



On the cover

Pictured on the front cover are employees Rebecca Wheaton, a fourth-grade teacher at C. Paul Barnhart Elementary School, and Jacob Terlecki, an eighth-grade science teacher at John Hanson School. Both were recognized by the Board of Education at its March 12 meeting. Timothy Headley, right, is an English teacher at the Robert D. Stethem Educational Center and is Stethem’s nominee for the Charles County Teacher of the Year and *The Washington Post’s* Teacher of the Year programs.

Summer camp registration open

CCPS is sponsoring summer enrichment camps for students in kindergarten through Grade 9. Camps begin the week of June 24 and run through the week ending on Aug. 2. More than 40 sessions are available and camps run Monday through Friday. To register, go to <https://www.ccboe.com/index.php/summer-camps-2019>. Cost is \$90 per camp session and students should be registered by the grade level they will begin at the start of the 2019-20 school year. The majority of camps are located at Maurice J. McDonough High School in Pomfret. Most camps for kindergarten students are located at Dr. James Craik Elementary School. A walk-in registration session is set for Thursday, May 9 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building. At this session, parents can pay for camps by either cash or check. Contact Joyce Campbell at jcampbell@ccboe.com.

Reviewing discipline procedures

Superintendent Kimberly Hill has established a Discipline Review Committee to look at the CCPS *Code of Student Conduct* and the school system’s disciplinary practices. The 41-member, volunteer committee is composed of Board of Education members, a bus contractor and bus driver, NAACP representatives, parents, students and staff, Education Association of Charles County (EACC) representatives, teachers, vice principals and principals. There are two committee chairs, Kathy Kiessling, director of student services, and Patricia Vaira, retired director of student services. To read more about the committee’s progress, go to <https://www.ccboe.com/index.php/ccps-discipline-committee>.

Educators encourage students to say 'yes' to opportunities

Students in North Point High School's education careers program, along with their peers who wanted an up-close look at the field, stopped by the school's staff development room on March 14 for a Women in Education event.

Superintendent of Schools Kimberly Hill and Kim McClarin, principal of Theodore G. Davis Middle School, spoke to students about their careers and the paths they took to get to where they are now.

Hill opened by waving a magic wand, a gift she received from a colleague after being appointed superintendent in 2013. "There's no such thing as magic wands," Hill said. "But those of you in education careers know you need a hook to get people's attention."

She told the students when she was their age and attending Maurice J. McDonough High School, she wasn't going into teaching. Following graduation, she went on study political science and history at High Point University in North Carolina. After earning her bachelor's, she headed to law school. "I hated it," she said. "I went for one semester then I had to do something I never did. I had to quit."

She returned to McDonough, this time as an English and social studies teacher. She didn't have a classroom, she taught from a cart. "I was trying to stay a page ahead of the kids," Hill said.

When she was tapped to fill a spot as an acting vice principal, Hill found a job she enjoyed. "I loved it. I got to sit down and talk to kids," she said. It was when she became a principal at North Point that she knew she was where she belonged. "Hands down, high school principal is the very best job I ever had," she said. "As a principal, you get to impact lots and lots of kids every day."

When former superintendent James E. Richmond announced his retirement, Hill's colleagues encouraged her to apply for the job. She told the students to say 'yes' to opportunities. "You never know when the next door is going to open," Hill said. "Be ready when someone says, 'Hey, why don't you ...'"

Like Hill, McClarin didn't set out to be an educator. She was a communications major who wanted to be a writer or journalist. After graduating college, she went into the hospitality field and landed a nice job. She had to travel to the Bahamas once or twice a month, but even that grew tiresome, she said.

She returned to her hometown of Fort Lauderdale and signed up to be a substitute teacher. Her interview led to her being offered a job as a sixth-grade reading teacher.

"It was the worst year of my life," she said.

Time management, lesson planning and being willing to change course when something was not working helped her persevere. "I signed up to do the things no one wanted to do," she said. "Every opportunity was an opportunity to grow and learn. And prepared me for



Theodore G. Davis Middle School Principal Kim McClarin, left, talks with North Point High School senior La'Niya Johnson about her experience as an educator. McClarin, along with Superintendent Kimberly Hill, visited North Point on March 14 to talk with students in the education careers program and others who wanted to stop by during NEST, the school's one-hour lunch.

my next journey."

Seven years after taking the teaching position, McClarin moved to Bowie and taught in Alexandria, Va. In 2007, she became a vice principal at North Point, working with Hill who was the school's principal. "It turned out to be one of the best times in my career — the eight years I spent at North Point, because I got to learn from the best in the industry," McClarin said.

She advised the future educators to build relationships with their students. "You have that power to change lives," she said. "I see so much potential in you."

"Ultimately, we are preparing you. When you become adults, your real world starts immediately. And everything that people poured into you, you're going to apply it to every single thing that you do," McClarin said. "We're passing the baton and making sure that you all are ready. I need you all to teach my children — I need you to be that champion."

A teacher job fair will be April 13, apply online by April 6

Charles County Public Schools (CCPS) will hold a Teacher Job Fair 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 13.

CCPS is hiring qualified teachers in all subject areas for the 2019-20 school year.

Candidates must have a bachelor's degree and Maryland Teaching Certificate or a valid out-of-state teaching certificate that meets certifi-

cation requirements as established by the Maryland State Department of Education.

To register for the fair go to www.eventbrite.com and search for Charles County Public Schools.

Applicants must fill out an online application prior to the fair by April 9 at www.ccboe.com/jobs.

School News is published by Charles County Public Schools
301-932-6610
301-934-7220
Fax: 301-932-6651

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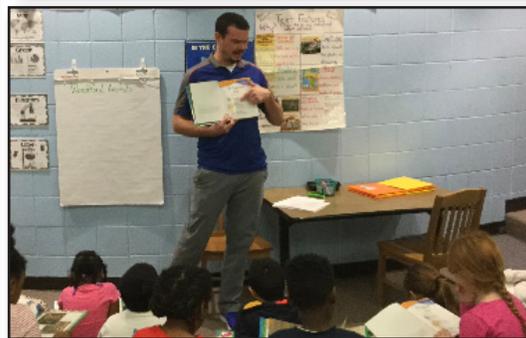
The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Kathy Kiessling, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 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.



From the ground up

Students at Eva Turner Elementary School meet with Principal Ingrid Williams-Horton to work on math programs in a small group outside her office.

Submitted by Eva Turner PR Liaison Keith Juarez.



Group text

Matthew Hauser, a first-grade teacher at Dr. Gustavus Brown Elementary School, leads students in a lesson about text features such as title pages, table of contents and glossaries.

Submitted by Dr. Brown PR Liaison Donna Fowler.

State of the art

F.B. Gwynn Educational Center employees recently got together to express themselves artistically. A Dip and Paint event brought together staff to boost morale and enhance employee relationships.

Submitted by Gwynn PR Liaison Julia Reppucci.



Personnel

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

Fingerprint Technician — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Technicians operate and monitor a Live Scan System, maintain certifications through the state, FBI and Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) screening systems, and must have positive human relation skills. Apply by April 1.

Special Education Instructional Assistant (IA) — Henry E. Lackey High School, 10-month position. A high school diploma is required. Applicants must have an interest in working with school-aged children. Apply by April 1.

Elementary Gifted Education Instructional Specialist — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 11-month position. A minimum of

five years of successful teaching experience, a master's degree in the appropriate field and Advanced Professional Certificate are required. A gifted and talented specialist certification is recommended. Apply by April 2.

Substitute Teacher — Location to be determined, 10-month position. A bachelor's degree is preferred with certification requirements as established by the Maryland State Department of Education. Apply by May 3.

Building Service Worker — Location to be determined, 12-month position. High school diploma required. Applicants must have a willingness to work overtime when necessary. Position open until filled.

Food Nutrition Services Culinary Development and Training Specialist — Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. An associate's degree in culinary arts, with minimum five years of experience preferred. Position open until filled.

Building Service Worker Floater — Location to be determined, temporary position. High school diploma required. Applicants must have a willingness to work overtime when necessary. Position open until filled.

Food Service Substitute — Location to be determined, temporary position. A high school diploma desirable or sufficient education to have basic skills in reading, record keeping and math. Position open until filled.

Temporary In-School Retention Instruction Assistant (IA) — Location to be determined, temporary position. The ability to work with school-aged children of various backgrounds, excellent human relations skills and organizational and communication skills are a must. Position open until filled.

Extra Pay Position
Head Varsity Softball Coach — Westlake High School. Apply by May 21. Call 301-645-8857.