



# School News

## Important Dates Coming Soon

### Three pay dates this month

There are three pay dates this month. The only deductions taken from the third paycheck are taxes and retirement. Other deductions, such as health insurance, are not deducted from the third paycheck in months with three pay dates. Visit the staff services page of the school system website to view a list of additional pay dates for the 2012-13 year.

### Destination Imagination

The annual Charles County Public Schools Destination Imagination tournament is Saturday, March 16, at North Point High School. The event starts at 7:30 a.m. and an awards ceremony will take place at 5:30 p.m.

### Students show off skills

Student engineers, scientists and mathematicians will put their skills on display as part of the upcoming regional Maryland Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) competitions. The elementary-level regional MESA tournament is Tuesday, March 26, and the secondary event is Thursday, March 28. Both competitions are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at North Point High School in the gymnasium. A recognition ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m. both days.

### Third marking period

Charles County Public Schools third-quarter assessments will be administered to students on March 11-22. The third marking period ends on Thursday, March 28. The fourth marking period begins on Monday, April 8.

### Calling all history buffs

The annual CCPS History Fair is Saturday, March 23 at Maurice J. McDonough High School. Judging begins at 9 a.m., and the awards ceremony is at 6 p.m.

## Board announces three Superintendent candidates

The Board of Education of Charles County has narrowed its field of superintendent candidates to three. Finalists are Kimberly Hill of Charles County Public Schools, Jeanice Kerr Swift of Colorado Springs School District 11, and Carey Wright of District of Columbia Public Schools.



**Kimberly Hill**

### Kimberly Hill

**TITLE:** Principal, Charles County Public Schools, North Point High School for Science, Technology and Industry, Waldorf, Md.

**EXPERIENCE:** Principal, North Point High School for

Science, Technology and Industry, Charles County Public Schools, Md., 2007-present; Vice Principal, North Point High School, 2005-2007; Coordinator, Charles County Career and Technology Center, Charles County Public Schools, 1998-2005; Vice Principal, Maurice J. McDonough High School, Charles County Public Schools, 1993-1998; Social Studies Teacher, Maurice J. McDonough High School, 1986-1993.

**EDUCATION:** Ms. Hill earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science and history from High Point University in North Carolina, and a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Maryland, College Park. She is a doctoral candidate in Educational Leadership and Policy at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.



**Jeanice Kerr Swift**

### Jeanice Kerr Swift

**TITLE:** Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum, and Student Services, Colorado Springs School District 11, Colorado Springs, Colo.

**EXPERIENCE:** Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum and Student Services, Colorado Springs School District 11, July 2011-present; Executive Director, K-12 Schools, Colorado Springs School District 11, 2009-2011; Principal, Charles M. Russell Middle School of the Performing Arts and Science, Colorado Springs School District 11, 2004-2009; Assistant Principal, Charles M. Russell Middle School, Colorado Springs School District 11, 2002-2004; Literacy Resource Teacher Coach, Jenkins Middle School, Colorado Springs School District 11, 2001-2002; Middle School English Teacher, North Middle School and Jenkins Middle School, Colorado Springs School District 11, 1998-2001; High School and Junior High Teacher, English and Spanish, Hurst-Euleless-Bedford Independent School District, Bedford, Texas, 1984-1991, 1995-1998.

**EDUCATION:** Dr. Swift earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education, with a major in English and a minor in Spanish, at the University of Texas, Arlington. She earned a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Colorado and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership at the University of Denver.

### Carey M. Wright

**TITLE:** Chief Academic Officer, District of Columbia Public Schools

**EXPERIENCE:** Chief Academic Officer, District of Columbia Public Schools, 2010-present; Deputy Chief for the Office of Teaching and Learning, District of Columbia Public Schools, 2009-2010; Associate Superintendent for the Office of Special Education and Student Services, Montgomery County Public Schools, Md., 2003-2009; Director of Special Education and Student Services, Howard County



**Carey M. Wright**

**See Superintendent candidates, page 2**

## Notebook

### On the cover

Pictured on the cover are employees who were honored by the Board of Education March 12. Pictured, from left, are: Cynthia Harrison, pupil personnel worker, Thomas Stone High School; Van Connor, pupil personnel worker, General Smallwood Middle School; and Alexis Howell, third-grade teacher, J.P. Ryon Elementary School.

### Two-hour early dismissal

The next two-hour early dismissal for students is Wednesday, March 27.

### Spring break

Spring break for students and teachers is April 1-5. Schools and administrative offices are closed on Friday, March 29, and offices are also closed on Monday, April 1. During spring break, the school system will operate on a 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. schedule.

### Retirement session

The Charles County Retired School Personnel Association and the Division of Human Resources are hosting a retirement planning session on March 20, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. in the staff development room at North Point High School. The session will concentrate on the retirement forms required for employees who are considering retirement at the end of this school year. The meeting will include guest speakers and handouts. An RSVP is required. RSVP to Janice Spatz, 301-934-2146 or [jspatz@comcast.net](mailto:jspatz@comcast.net).

### Participate in Cancer research

Southern Maryland residents can fight back against cancer by enrolling in the American Cancer Society's new research study called the Cancer Prevention Study-3 (CPS-3). By joining CPS-3, you can help researchers better understand the genetic, environmental and lifestyle factors that cause or prevent cancer. Learn more and sign up to participate at <http://www.CPS3CharlesCounty.org>. You must sign up on the website and then attend one of two enrollment sessions: March 19, 4 - 7:30 p.m. at the Greater Waldorf Jaycees Community Center, 3090 Crain Highway, in Waldorf, or March 20, 4 - 7:30 p.m., at Bel Alton High School Community Development Center, 9501 Crain Highway, in Bel Alton.



## Neal students get a lesson on kindness

After the tragedy that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December, Today Show news reporter Ann Curry challenged people across the country to perform 26 acts of kindness in remembrance of the 26 victims. National Geographic joined the effort and donated 26 books to 26 schools in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, including Mary B. Neal Elementary School. Bianca Bowman, National Geographic Editorial Assistant to the Kids Book Department, visited Neal last month to read to Amber Kirk's kindergarten class. Bowman, pictured left, presented the classroom with a set of National Geographic Kids magazines and gave 26 National Geographic non-fiction books to the school library. Kennedy Austin, center, and Benjamin Cooperman, right, wanted to get a closer look as Bowman shows the class a book of facts before leaving.

## Superintendent candidates

Continued from page 1

Public Schools, Md.; Principal, Elkrige Elementary School, Bollman Bridge Elementary School, and Waverly Elementary School, Howard County Public Schools, Md.; Principal on Special Assignment to the Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Howard County Public Schools, Md.; Teacher, Prince George's County Public Schools, Md., 1972-1976.

**EDUCATION:** Dr. Wright obtained her Bachelor of Science, Master of Education and Doctor of Education from the University of Maryland, College Park.

The Board is selecting a new Superintendent of Schools to replace long-time Superintendent James E. Richmond, who has announced he is leaving at the end of the 2012-13 school year.

In August, the Board hired consultants from the Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) to assist with the

search, which was advertised nationwide. The Board received 24 applicants for the position, screened all applications, held two separate interview sessions and selected three finalists. The finalists will now participate in a series of focus group interviews next week. The Board will select and announce Richmond's successor on April 9 at its regular monthly meeting.

Board members are scheduled to reconvene next week after school system and community focus groups meet to discuss the feedback and qualifications of the superintendent finalists. "We feel we have selected highly qualified finalists for the position," Board Chairman Roberta Wise said.

Visit the Charles County Public Schools website at [http://www2.ccboe.com/superintendent/superintendent\\_search.cfm](http://www2.ccboe.com/superintendent/superintendent_search.cfm) for more information.





## Read Across Charles County

Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, said it best: "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Charles County Public Schools celebrated Read Across Charles County on March 1. Guest readers, green eggs and ham, and plenty of costumes and special events highlighted the annual celebration. The yearly event is a reading motivation and awareness program that invites children in the community to celebrate literacy and reading, and the birthday of Dr. Seuss.

Pictured, clockwise from top left, are: Berry Elementary School kindergartners Catherine Larsen and Naomi Harris; Berry kindergartners Isabella Caudill and Lindsay Greene with parent volunteer Simonetta Marchi; J.P. Ryon Elementary School kindergartner Diana Portillo-Mejia; Gale-Bailey Elementary School kindergartner Jordan Adams and second grader Adam Bowman; Pinch, the Southern Maryland Blue Crabs mascot, with Ryon third graders Lesly Valenzuela-Delacruz, Tyler McLeese, Amya Pinkney, Dina Jones, Brelyn Jackson, Catherine Acosta-Delfin, Jaymison Tillery and Danielle Strong; Berry kindergartner Quincy Manier; and Gale-Bailey kindergartners Nolani Green and Kayla Brown.





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

## Board of Education Members

Roberta S. Wise, Chairman  
Maura H. Cook, Vice Chairman  
Jennifer S. Abell  
Patricia Bowie  
Michael K. Lukas  
Pamela A. Pedersen  
Donald M. Wade  
Azeezat Adeleke, Student Member

## Superintendent of Schools

James E. Richmond

## Editor/Writers

Katie O'Malley-Simpson  
Shelley Mackey  
Kara Gross  
Amanda Burgess

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

# Nominate an outstanding vice principal for recognition

Charles County Public Schools is looking for outstanding vice principals. The school system is accepting nominations for its annual Outstanding Vice Principal award to be presented to a vice principal who exemplifies excellence. Teachers, parents, students and administrators may submit nominations, and employees cannot nominate themselves.

The winner will be announced at a ceremony during the Board of Education's June 11 meeting. Nominees must be full-time employees, employed by Charles County Public Schools as a vice principal for at least three years, and have not received this award in the past five years. Nominees must meet criteria in the following areas:

- Educational Leadership – Nominee implements strategies to improve teaching through effective programs; involves teachers and other staff members in achieving goals of the school; assists in ensuring that the school climate is positive and reflects high staff and student morale; and functions effectively as a member of the school's leadership team.
- Resolving Complex Problems – Nominee maintains awareness of current and emerging issues, manages time and tasks efficiently, and utilizes technology to address educational situations.
- Developing Self and Others – Nominee is

committed to continued professional growth, teaches, coaches and helps students and colleagues, and demonstrates and fosters creativity and imagination in bringing about positive student growth.

- Community Service – Nominee involves the community in school events and uses community resources for students, and establishes partnerships with community groups to strengthen programs and support school goals.

Nomination materials must be submitted in a presentation binder and include:

- A brief list of careers to include dates, location and positions worked;
- A description of contributions in each area of the nomination criteria; and
- A maximum of 20 current statements of support, including one from the school principal.

Nomination binders should be forwarded to the division of human resources by Friday, April 26. A committee composed of administrative personnel will make the final selection. The recipient of the award will be registered as a member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

For more information, contact Jeanette Sudik at [jsudik@ccboe.com](mailto:jsudik@ccboe.com). Nomination materials are also posted on the school system website at [http://www2.ccboe.com/PDF/recognition/outstanding\\_vice\\_principal\\_2013.pdf](http://www2.ccboe.com/PDF/recognition/outstanding_vice_principal_2013.pdf).



## Personnel

### Job Openings

#### Content Specialist for High School Math

– Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Master's degree, an Advanced Professional Certificate in math and a minimum of five years teaching experience required. Three years of leadership experience is preferred. Apply by March 15.

**Secretary to the Principal** – Arthur Middleton Elementary School, 12-month position. Apply by March 18.

**Supervisor of Maintenance** – Maintenance Shop, 12-month position. Five years of experience in maintenance at a supervisory level required. Apply by March 18.

**Secretary, Home and Hospital** – Robert D. Stethem Educational Center, 12-month position. Apply by March 19.

**Secretary** – J.C. Parks Elementary School, 11-month position. Apply by March 22.

**AF JROTC Instructor (NCO)** – Henry E. Lackey High School, 11-month position.

**AF JROTC Instructor (Officer)** – Henry E. Lackey High School, 11-month position.

**Library Media Content Specialist** – Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, 12-month position. Master's degree and a minimum of five years of experience in a teaching or library media center position required. Three years of leadership experience is preferred.

**Spanish Teacher** – Mattawoman Middle School, 10-month position.

**Summer School opportunities** – Charles County Public Schools has the following openings for the 2013 Summer School program: Foundations of technology; Spanish, high school English, Algebra, middle school language arts/reading, LSN government and media specialist. Interested applicants should be current CCPS teachers and be certified in the area of interest. Contact Doug Lamb, [dlamb@ccboe.com](mailto:dlamb@ccboe.com), or Sandy Rooney, [srooney@ccboe.com](mailto:srooney@ccboe.com), for additional information or to apply.

### Staff Notes

#### University of Phoenix offers scholarships

The University of Phoenix is offering six full-tuition scholarships to recipients pursuing either a Bachelor of Science in Education or Master of Arts in Education. Applicants must be current teachers or those that wish to become a teacher. Open application began March 5 and will continue until April 11. For eligibility requirements and information on how to apply, visit [www.phoneix.edu/teacherscholar](http://www.phoneix.edu/teacherscholar).

#### Calling all athletic trainers

The Rehabilitation Center of Southern Maryland is looking for part-time certified and licensed athletic trainers to cover high school athletic practices and events in Charles County for the 2013-2014 school year. The expected work load is 15-20 hours per week, Monday through Friday, with some weekend hours. Contact Neil Brown at 301-870-7366 or [rcsmneilb@gmail.com](mailto:rcsmneilb@gmail.com) for details.