



**JAMES HUBERT BLAKE**  
**PAINT BRANCH**  
**SPRINGBROOK**

# NORTHEAST CONSORTIUM AT-A-GLANCE

# SIGNATURES



SIGNATURE PROGRAMS AT-A-GLANCE IN THE NORTHEAST CONSORTIUM OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## *NEC Students— would you like to attend a high school that...*

- provides an extensive variety of academic and elective courses, innovative programs, extracurricular clubs, activities, and sports?
- incorporates unique *Signature Programs* that focus on themes that are woven into the curriculum to help you make strong connections between your interests and authentic life experiences?
- encourages students to take numerous Honors, Advanced Placement, college-level, and specialty *Signature* courses?
- offers rigorous career development programs and related student internships that support its *Signature* themes?

If your answer is *YES*, then the information in this brochure will help you learn more about the three high schools in the Northeast Consortium (NEC)—James Hubert Blake High School, Paint Branch High School, and Springbrook High School! The unique

*Signature Program* at each of these schools is supported by rigorous course offerings and exciting student experiences! Investigate the wonderful opportunities that await you in the Northeast Consortium!



***EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE***

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## The Choice Process

### ROUND 1

Each of the three Northeast Consortium (NEC) high schools provides outstanding educational and extracurricular opportunities for students. Your middle school counselor, the NEC staff, and students from Blake, Paint Branch, and Springbrook high schools have provided you with information about the *Signature Programs* and the *Choice* process. By December 12, 2005, you and your family will select, in rank order, the high school(s) of your choice, based on the *Signature Program* in which you are interested.

Assignment to your base school is guaranteed if selected as your first choice on your *Choice* form. You will receive notification of your assigned high school in the mail by the end of February 2006. If you do not receive your first choice during Round 1, you may participate in Round 2. The *Choice* form deadline for Round 2 is March 14, 2006.

### TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students who currently attend an NEC middle school and are interested in attending an NEC high school will be eligible to participate in Round 2.



To determine your base school, please visit: <http://gis.mcps.k12.md.us/gis/PublicLocator.asp>

## Northeast Consortium High School Base Areas

Base areas are determined by where the student lives. Assignment to the student's base high school is guaranteed if indicated as first choice on the *Choice* form.



### James Hubert Blake High School Base Area

- Burnt Mills ES  
(excluding walkers to Springbrook )
- Cloverly ES  
(Ashton area only)
- Fairland ES  
(excluding walkers to Paint Branch)
- Jackson Road ES  
(East of Rte. 29)
- Sherwood ES  
(Hallowell, South of Rte. 108 only)
- Stonegate ES
- William T. Page ES

### Paint Branch High School Base Area

- Burtonsville ES
- Cloverly ES  
(excluding Ashton area)
- Fairland ES  
(Paint Branch walkers only)
- Galway ES
- Greencastle ES

### Springbrook High School Base Area

- Broad Acres ES
- Burnt Mills ES  
(Springbrook walkers only)
- Cannon Road ES
- Dr. Charles R. Drew ES
- Jackson Rd. ES  
(West of Rte. 29)
- Westover ES

### CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF

**Dr. Jerry D. Weast,**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**Mr. Larry A. Bowers,**  
*Chief Operating Officer*

**Dr. Frieda K. Lacey,**  
*Deputy Superintendent of Schools*

**Mr. John Q. Porter,**  
*Deputy Superintendent for  
Information and Organizational  
Systems*

**Ms. Jody Leleck,**  
*Associate Superintendent,  
Office of Curriculum and  
Instructional Programs*

**Ms. Susan Marks,**  
*Community Superintendent*

**Mr. Erick Lang,**  
*Director, Enriched and Innovative  
Instruction*

**Mr. Kent Weaver,**  
*Supervisor, School Counseling  
Services*

**Ms. Nancy Carlson,**  
*High School Counselor Specialist*

**Dr. Sherry King,**  
*Middle School Counselor Specialist*

### DIVISION OF CONSORTIA CHOICE AND APPLICATION PROGRAM SERVICES STAFF

**Mr. Larry Hansch,**  
*Director*

**Ms. Jeannie Franklin,**  
*Acting Supervisor*

**Ms. Karen Danco,**  
*Acting Coordinator*

**Ms. Shante Knight,**  
*Instructional Specialist*

**Ms. Natalie Tolstoi,**  
*Instructional Specialist*

**Phone: 301-649-8081**

**Principal**

Mrs. Carole Goodman

**Signature Coordinator**

Mr. Michel D. D’Anna  
301-879-1327

**James Hubert Blake HS**

300 Norwood Road  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905  
301-879-1300

**Web site:**

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/blakehs](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/blakehs)



**Fine Arts and Humanities Signature**

**SUMMARY OF SIGNATURE**

The *Signature Program* at Blake High School emphasizes the interdisciplinary nature of learning and critical thought in course work and student activities. The arts and humanities are infused, where appropriate, within a rigorous academic program.



**COURSES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE SIGNATURE**

**Humanities**

- Advanced Law
- Ancient History
- Film and American Culture
- Humanities
- Medieval History
- Russian History

**Dance**

- Ballet and Modern
- Dance Company
- Tap and Jazz (three levels)

**Performing Arts**

- Beginning Acting
- Directing for the Stage
- Music History
- Music Technology
- Music Theory
- Philharmonic Orchestra
- Stage, Costume, and Makeup Design

**Visual and Media Arts**

- New Media Arts
- Scenic Painting for the Stage

**Related Programs**

- Academy of Business Management
- Academy of Hospitality and Tourism, a National Academy Foundation program



## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT THE SIGNATURE

- Creative Writing and Literary Magazine
- Dance Club
- Digital Animation Team
- Fashion X Club
- Improvisation Team
- Marching Band
- Mock Trial Team
- Photography Club
- Recording Studio Team
- Stage Design and Technical Theatre Team
- Television Production Team
- Visual Art and Ceramic Club
- Web Page Design Team



## SPECIAL SIGNATURE INITIATIVES

- Animation workshop in partnership with the Kennedy Center
- Arts and humanities seminars
- Arts infusion into the Blake academic program
- C-SPAN Student and Leaders Program
- Creating Public Art in partnership with professional artists
- *JazzTimes* magazine—provides original jazz sheet music
- Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) partnership
- Master Classes
  - CityDance Ensemble
  - Maynard Ferguson and his Orchestra
  - Wolf Trap Artist-in-Residence Program
- Media arts collaborative projects with community partners
- Professionals-in-Residence Program
- Playwrights-in-Progress in partnership with Olney Theatre Center
- Round House Theatre: Matinee Show Program
- Summer Institute in the Arts and Humanities
- *Text Alive!* Program with Shakespeare Theatre



**Principal**

Ms. Jeanette E. Dixon

**Signature Coordinator**

Mr. Brian E. Eichenlaub  
301-989-5680

**Paint Branch HS**

14121 Old Columbia Pike  
Burtonsville, Maryland 20866  
301-989-5600

**Web site:**

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/paintbranchhs](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/paintbranchhs)



## Academy of Science and Media

### SUMMARY OF SIGNATURE

The Paint Branch *Signature Program* emphasizes the infusion of cutting edge scientific research, experimentation, inquiry, and critical thinking throughout all courses and activities, and focuses on all aspects of media instruction.

### COURSES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE SIGNATURE

#### Science

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Biology and Chemistry—  
Complete both yearlong courses  
in one semester each
- Biotechnology
- Computer Applications in  
Research and Science
- Engineering Science
- Environmental Science
- Family Life and Human  
Development
- Horticultural Science
- Medical Careers
- Medical Terminology (for college  
credit)
- Nutrition Science
- Physics in Grade 9
- Restaurant Management

#### Media

- Advanced Television Production
- Digital Art
- Film Study
- Gilder Lehrman American History  
Scholars Program
  - U.S. History in Films and  
Documents
  - The Press and U.S. History
  - Court Decisions and Their  
Influence on U.S. History
  - Economic History of the United  
States from 1776 to the Present
  - History of U.S. Foreign Policy
  - U.S. History and Culture
  - Gilder Lehrman Internships
- Journalism
- Literary Magazine
- Radio History, Technology, and  
Performance
- Stage Design
- Visual Communication
- Web Page Design
- Yearbook





### Related Programs

- Academy of Finance, a National Academy Foundation program
  - Financial Planning
  - Banking and Credit
  - Economics and the World of Finance
  - International Finance
- Japanese, Levels 1–5
- Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC)



### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT THE SIGNATURE

- Animation Club
- Computer Club
- Digital Art Club
- Environmental Science Club
- Math Team (Mathletes)
- Math Honor Society
- Medical Careers Club
- Perspectives (Theatre)
- Photography Club
- Publications
  - *Crossroads* literary magazine
  - *Felidae* yearbook
  - *Mainstream* newspaper
- Science Club
- Science Scholars
- Stage Crew
- Television Crew
- Web Page Design

### SPECIAL SIGNATURE INITIATIVES

- T3I™ Transferable Skills: Technology, Information, Investigation, and Interpersonal Skills
- Advanced Placement Fair
- Animation Artist-in-Residence workshops
- C-Span Student and Leaders Program
- Career-based experience continuum
- Freshman mentoring program
- Gilder Lehrman Trips to historic sites: New York City (Wall Street, NY Stock Exchange, Tenement Museum, Museum of the Moving Image, United Nations, New York Historical Society), Monticello, University of Virginia, Philadelphia (National Constitution Center, Independence Hall), Washington, DC
- Integrated reading for Grade 9
- Professionals-in-Residence Program
- Research continuum
- Science Expo
- Student portfolios
- Summer Institute in the Academy of Science and Media
- Writing Center for Grades 9–12

**Principal**

Mr. Michael Durso

**Signature Coordinator**Mr. John Day  
301-989-6077**Springbrook HS**201 Valleybrook Drive  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20904  
301-989-5700**Web site:**[www.springbrookhs.org](http://www.springbrookhs.org)

## Information Technology in a Global Society *and* International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program

### SUMMARY OF SIGNATURE

The *Signature Program* at Springbrook provides students with the opportunity to use computers, telecommunications, and other emerging technologies to gather, analyze, and communicate information in the context of an increasingly interdependent world.

### COURSES AND PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT THE SIGNATURE

#### Information Technology in a Global Society

- Programming: C++, Java, HTML, and Javascript
- Advanced Placement Computer Science
- Computer Graphics
- Computer Applications
- Computer Maintenance
- Computer Network Maintenance
- Computer-Assisted Drafting and Design
- Digital Art 1, 2
- Web Site Development
- Information Technology in a Global Society



#### Global Society

- French, Levels 1–7
- Advanced Placement French Language
- Advanced Placement French Literature
- German, Levels 1–3
- Italian, Levels 1–3
- Latin, Levels 1–3
- Spanish, Levels 1–7
- Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Literature
- Advanced Placement Spanish Literature
- Advanced Placement Comparative Government

**International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB)**

- IB Biology
- IB Chemistry
- IB Computer Science 1, 2
- IB English 1, 2
- IB French 4, 5, 6, 7
- IB History 1, 2
- Multivariable Calculus
- IB Physics 1, 2
- IB Spanish 4, 5, 6, 7
- IB Theater 1, 2
- Theory of Knowledge
- IB Visual Art



**SPECIAL SIGNATURE INITIATIVES**

- Computer activities in all disciplines
- Information literacy activities in all classes
- Model United Nations activity in National, State, and Local Government course
- Pre-IB classes in Grades 9 and 10
- Robotics unit in computer science courses

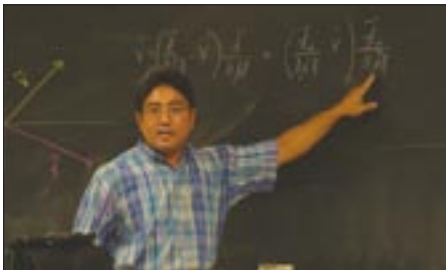
**Related Programs:**

- Academy of Information Technology (AOIT), a National Academy Foundation program
- Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Program
- 23 Advanced Placement courses
- Law, Justice, and Society career program



**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNIQUE TO SIGNATURE**

- Asian American Student Club
- BotBall (Robot Club)
- Computer Science Club
- Digital Art Club
- Harambe
- Heritage Night
- Hispanic Awareness Club
- International Club
- International Film Programs
- Model United Nations
- Muslim Student Association
- Web Design Club



## APPLICATION-ONLY PROGRAMS

Students interested in applying to one of the following programs **MUST** contact the office listed to request an application.

These programs are available to all MCPS students

## Science, Mathematics, Computer Science Magnet

Montgomery Blair High School

■ **Mr. Phillip Gainous**, *Principal*

■ **Ms. Eileen Steinkraus**,  
*Coordinator*

301-649-2880

[www.mbhs.edu/departments/magnet](http://www.mbhs.edu/departments/magnet)

## Academic, Technical, and Professional Career Education Programs

Thomas Edison High School of Technology

■ **Mr. Carlos Hamlin**, *Principal*

■ **Ms. Julie Griffin**, *Counselor*

■ **Ms. Toni Smallwood-Phillips**,  
*Counselor*

301-929-2181

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/edison](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/edison)



## Visual Arts Center

Albert Einstein High School

■ **Mr. James Fernandez**, *Principal*

■ **Mrs. Helen Smith**, *MCPS  
Coordinator of Secondary Art*

301-962-1027

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/vac](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/vac)

## Global Ecology Studies

Poolesville High School

■ **Ms. Deena Levine**, *Principal*

■ **Mr. Tom Reichenbaugh**,  
*Signature Program Coordinator*

301-972-7976

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolesvillehs](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/poolesvillehs)

## International Baccalaureate Program (IB)

Richard Montgomery High School

■ **Mr. Moreno Carrasco**, *Principal*

■ **Ms. Carol B. Solomon**,  
*Coordinator*

301-279-8418

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rmhs](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rmhs)

## NEC Middle School Principals and Counselors



### Briggs Chaney MS

1901 Rainbow Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

- *Mrs. Kimberly Johnson, Principal*
  - *Mr. Robert Petrasek, Grade 8 Counselor*
- 301-989-6010



### Benjamin Banneker MS

14800 Perrywood Drive  
Burtonsville, MD 20866

- *Mr. Samuel A. Rivera, Principal*
  - *Ms. Cynthia Cook, Grade 8 Counselor*
- 301-989-5757

### William H. Farquhar MS

16915 Batchellors Forest Road  
Olney, MD 20832

- *Mr. Scott Murphy, Principal*
  - *Mr. Charles Lawson, Grade 8 Counselor*
- 301-924-3113

### Francis Scott Key MS

910 Schindler Drive  
Silver Spring, MD 20903

- *Mr. Eric L. Minus, Principal*
  - *Ms. Tammy Wojtyna, Grade 8 Counselor*
- 301-431-7661



### White Oak MS

12201 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

- *Dr. Carol A. Dahlberg, Principal*
  - *Ms. Tee Clark, Grade 8 Counselor*
  - *Ms. Janet Lyhus, Grade 8 Counselor*
- 301-989-5790

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Are students guaranteed their base school?

Students are guaranteed their base school if it is written as first choice on the *Choice* form.

### 2. Will transportation be provided to all three NEC high schools?

All students within the Consortium attendance area who do not reside within walking distance of their assigned school, as defined by the Montgomery County Public Schools, are provided school bus transportation.

### 3. What do the NEC high schools have in common?

Each school offers a variety of academic and elective courses, innovative programs, extracurricular clubs, activities, and sports. Additionally, all three schools offer numerous Honors and Advanced Placement courses, on-level classes, and programs for special education and ESOL students.

### 4. Will NEC students be able to participate in the half-day career development programs at Thomas Edison High School of Technology (TEHST)?

Once enrolled in their assigned MCPS high school, students are eligible to

apply to TEHST. For further information, contact TEHST at 301-929-2181. MCPS bus transportation is provided.

### 5. Where can I get more information about the NEC high schools?

Visit the Web site at [www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/nec](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/nec). For questions about specific course offerings, contact the *Signature* coordinator at each high school.

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FUTURE



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