

The Bulletin

Inside this issue:

- Award recognizes MCPS Multilingual Communications Program. Page 3.
- ESOL parents learn computer skills at B-CC. Page 4.
- Exploring science at Sligo Creek ES. Page 8.

April 16, 2007

■ Montgomery County Public Schools

■ www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

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Governor visits Great Seneca Creek ES

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley and kindergarten students at Great Seneca Creek ES use clickers to interact with a data screen as they work on a project about protecting the environment. O'Malley and other state and county government officials visited Great Seneca Creek classrooms and other areas April 11 to see the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) school in action. In addition to its energy-saving design elements, the school features state-of-the-art interactive technology.

Ten students named as semifinalists for Presidential Scholars

Ten MCPS seniors have been named semifinalists for the 2007 Presidential Scholars awards—the largest number of semifinalists the school system has had since 1994. The Presidential Scholars award is one of the highest honors given to high school seniors in the United States.

Nine of the MCPS semifinalists were selected from high school seniors nationwide for academic achievement, and one was selected for achievement in the arts. The MCPS students are among 21 semifinalists from Maryland. MCPS had nine of the state's 12 academic semifinalists;

(continued on page 2)

Poolesville teacher, Blair student win Siemens AP awards

A Poolesville HS teacher and Montgomery Blair HS student have won Siemens awards for their success with Advanced Placement (AP) in the state of Maryland.

Joyce Bailey, head of the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville HS, won the Siemens state teacher award. Matt McCutchen, a student in the Science, Mathematics, Computer Science program at Blair, is one of two state winners of the Siemens Award in Maryland.

The College Board selects up to two students from each state as winners of the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement. The awards program also recognizes one AP teacher in math, science or technology from each state.

(continued on page 2)

Noguera discusses meeting students' needs

Why does the wealthiest nation in the world have so much trouble educating its kids? How do we respond to the vast demographic changes that are occurring?

How can we engage families and teachers to meet children's needs?

These are some of the hard questions that urban sociologist Dr. Pedro Noguera asks. He asked and answered these questions and more at the March 28 Superintendent's A&S Meeting. The meeting was attended not only by Board of Education members and MCPS staff, but also by a host of community partners and government agencies, including County Council members; county police, fire and mental health representatives; NAACP Parent's Council and Identity members; and the Association of American Colleges and Universities.

Board of Education president Nancy Navarro, along with County Council member Valerie Ervin, were instrumental in helping facilitate community involvement. It was the first time this level of community had been invited and participated in an A&S meeting. All of those attending not only heard a presentation from Noguera but also participated in roundtable discussions.

"Dr. Pedro Noguera is one of America's most important voices in education reform and diversity, and an advocate for a strong and vibrant public education system," Navarro said as she introduced him. Noguera is a professor at the Steinhardt

(continued on page 5)

Teacher, student win Siemens awards

(continued from page 1)

Bailey will receive \$1,000 as Maryland's Siemens teacher award winner. "She is extremely knowledgeable, skillful and state of the art," Poolesville Principal Deena Levine says of Bailey. "She's always searching for new projects, new relationships with colleges and new partnerships with research facilities to benefit her students."

As head of the Global Ecology Program, Bailey teaches three classes of AP environmental science. The program is known for having an excellent record of student participation and student preparation, with consistently high AP scores. Bailey also was a finalist for a Chesapeake Bay Trust Award.

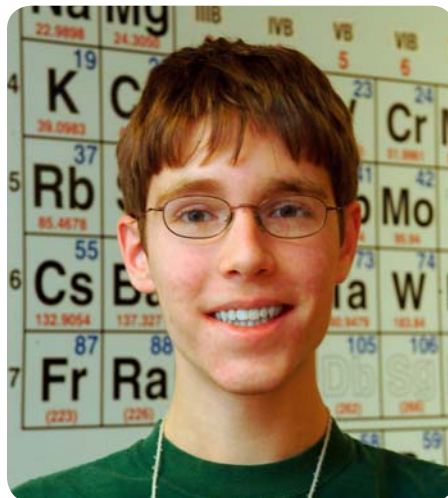
Last fall, the Global Ecology Program was joined by two other "houses," or courses of study at Poolesville HS, when the school began serving upcounty students as the first whole-school magnet model in a Montgomery County high school.

McCutchen, who was named a National AP Scholar last November, will be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship from the Siemens Foundation. The foundation offers awards for the top male and female student in each state who have earned the greatest number of grades of 5 on AP biology, calculus BC, chemistry, computer science AB, environmental science, physics C: electricity and magnetism, physics C: mechanics, and statistics.

"I love learning about topics I'm interested in," says McCutchen, who also was named a finalist this year in the Intel Science Talent Search competition for his computer science project, "Least-Unpopularity-Factor Matching." In addition, McCutchen is a past gold medal winner of the International Olympiad on Informatics. □



Joyce Bailey of Poolesville HS



Matt McCutchen of Montgomery Blair HS

Presidential Scholars semifinalists named

(continued from page 1)

Maryland also had nine semifinalists in the arts.

The MCPS Presidential Scholars semifinalists are:

■ **Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS:**

Beatrice S. Parker

■ **Montgomery Blair HS:** Andrew T.

Durnford, Kathleen J. Jee, Eric H. Su

■ **Winston Churchill HS:** Tudor

Maican (arts), Allen Yang

■ **Gaithersburg HS:** Thomas F. Ford

■ **Thomas S. Wootton HS:** Andrew L.

Chang, Mindy B. Lin

■ **Springbrook HS:** Benjamin L. Howard

From the pool of semifinalists, the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars will select up to 121 academic scholars and 20 arts scholars in May.

These scholars will be invited to Washington, D.C., in June, where they will participate in a range of activities and will receive the Presidential Scholars medallion at a ceremony sponsored by the White House. □



Announcements

Native Americans in film. All MCPS employees are invited to hear George Mason University Professor Paula Petrik lead an exploration of how Native American history and culture has been portrayed in film. The lecture will be held Thursday, April 19, 4-6 p.m., at the Center for Technology Innovation, Classroom #1, 4 Choke Cherry Road, Rockville. The presentation is part of the Teaching American History grant MCPS received in 2006. Register using PDO, but walk-ins are welcome.

Media festival. The Montgomery County Schools 2007 Media Festival will be held at the AFI Silver Theatre in Silver Spring. The event showcases prekindergarten-grade 5 student productions on Thursday, April 19, and grades 6-12 on Friday, April 20, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For information, call Gail Bailey at 301-279-3215.

Meet the candidates. "Meet the Candidates for the Student Member of the Board of Education" will air on MCPS cable channel 34 on April 18 at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30, 7:30 and 11:30 p.m.; April 20 at 7:30 p.m.; April 21 and 22 at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; April 23 at 9 a.m. and 1, 5 and 9 p.m.; and April 25 at 11:30 a.m. The program must be shown to all secondary students before the April 25 election.

Project Quality Time. Students and their parents can go to the National Gallery of Art April 21 or May 5 to look at art, answer questions and write about their views. The aim of the project is to offer a structured event for families that is different from the events they normally share. For information, visit the web site at www.Projectqualitytime.net. □

The Bulletin

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Published for the MCPS community weekly August through June. Deadline is 10 a.m. Monday for consideration in the following Monday's issue. Items are published on a space-available basis.



Award recognizes MCPS Multilingual Communications Program

Montgomery County Public Schools has been selected as one of 18 winners in the *American School Board Journal's* Magna Awards 2007 program.

The MCPS "Multilingual Communications Program" is one of five winners in the "over 20,000 student" enrollment category in the 13th annual contest, presented with the support of Sodexho School Services.

The communications program provides professional translation in multiple languages to enable MCPS to communicate essential information to its rapidly growing, linguistically diverse community.

Translators use a variety of media, working in web publishing, print and television to keep the diverse community informed. As a result of the program, MCPS has increased its capacity to get important information to its

multilingual population by 285 percent. Translations increase parents' understanding of curriculum and instruction, student rights and responsibilities, summer school and graduation requirements.

The Magna Awards recognize school districts across the country for outstanding programs that advance student learning and encourage community involvement in schools. This year's winners were selected based on three enrollment categories: less than 5,000 students, 5,000 to 20,000, and 20,000 and above. MCPS has about 138,000 students.

"This year's entries showcase excellent examples of school boards, superintendents and staff who've focused on the common threads of community, collaboration and partnership to advance student learning," said Marilee Rist, publisher of the *American School Board Journal* and assistant executive director of the

National School Boards Association. The journal initiated the Magna Awards in 1995 to recognize school boards for taking innovative steps to improve their educational programs. An independent panel of school board members, administrators and other educators selected this year's 18 winners and 15 honorable mention recipients from almost 300 submissions.

The 2007 winners are highlighted in a special supplement to the April issue of *American School Board Journal* and will be recognized formally April 16 at the School Leaders Luncheon at the San Francisco Marriott Hotel in San Francisco, Calif.

Sodexho, Inc. (www.sodexhoUSA.com), headquartered in Gaithersburg, is a provider of integrated food and facilities management in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Place orders quickly with 'Dashboard'

This is the third in a series on the new Financial Management System, which will be implemented at MCPS starting this summer. This article focuses on reporting and the dashboard.

A high school science teacher needs to order a microscope. She needs it right away. She rushes off to her business manager to see whether funds are available to buy the microscope.

The business manager logs on to the Financial Management System (FMS), checks the account and immediately calls up a balance. The money is there. The order is placed.

No guessing whether the money is available. No searching for and sorting through paper documents. No problem finding the right microscope in the system. No filling out a paper purchase order and passing it along for approval.

In a matter of minutes, the teacher is satisfied that the microscope will soon be on its way. She heads back to her classroom.

Having financial information available more quickly will allow decision makers to manage more efficiently and make decisions faster. FMS is equipped with reporting tools that will allow department heads and principals to place orders quickly, to check on account balances or to see the status of open purchase orders, funds spent and funds still available.

The FMS' "dashboard" feature shows account balances and displays reports, charts and graphs of financial information for specific operations. Those responsible for ordering and monitoring budgets will be able to quickly see the amount available in each of their accounts. They also will be able to track monthly trends and compare historical spending patterns.

FMS also has other reporting features that will offer further analyses, such as the ability to dissect the information by quarter, by vendor and expenditures by departments within a school or division.

Ordering using FMS will begin May 30. More information on FMS is available online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/fms.



In remembrance

Scott T. Alexander, occupational therapist, Physical Disabilities, and boys soccer coach at Col. Zadok Magruder HS, died March 26. He had almost 8 years of service with MCPS.

Gloria E. Doyle, third grade teacher at Jackson Road ES, died March 7. She had 18½ years with MCPS.

Sandra "Sandy" Johnson, former supervisor of elementary physical education with MCPS, died March 21 in Estes Park, Colo. She was employed by MCPS for approximately 20 years.

Heather B. Mason, Preschool Education Program teacher at Lake Seneca ES, died March 15. She had more than 19 years of service with MCPS. A fundraiser for her son's college fund will be held Friday, April 20, at Lone Star Restaurant on Clopper Road, 4-7 p.m., with a minimum \$12 donation (free appetizers). Call Annie Silbey, 301-353-0929, for more information.

Hellen R. Somarriba, paraeducator at East Silver Spring ES, died March 23. She had more than seven years of service with MCPS.

Larry Stoney, electronic technician I with the Division of Maintenance (Electronics Shop) died March 22. He had more than 29 years of service with MCPS. □



School news

The **Takoma Park MS Chess Team** won the state championship in the 2007 Maryland Match Format Team Tournament on March 3 at Towson University. In the match format team tournament, each school designated four players to play the top four players from the other participating schools. Team members were David Kaufman, Justin Chang, Kevin Chiang and Jed Tan. David Kaufman, Kevin Chiang and Justin Chang also won individual awards for being the “top scorer” on their respective boards.



The **Takoma Park MS Math Team** won first place in the Maryland State Mathcounts competition, held March 30 at Johns Hopkins University. Team members were Mario Choi, Jason Hyun, CJ Argue, Andrew Das Sarma, Peter Weng, Sam Zbarsky, Shilpa Kannan and Andrew Hu. Math teacher Sarah Manchester is the team coach. The team will now participate in the 24th annual National Mathcounts Competition May 10-13 in Fort Worth, Texas.



College Gardens ES reading teacher Thalia Tobin and Chinese Immersion parent Anne Marie Foerster Luu organized a successful Read Across America event for students in prekindergarten through fifth grade. The emphasis was on inviting bilingual parents and educators to read to students. They successfully recruited readers in nine lan-



Month of the Young Child

Joining Beall ES kindergarten students and staff at the Rockville Public Library to proclaim April the Month of the Young Child are (from left) State Superintendent Nancy Grasmick, Board of Education member Judy Docca, MCPS Superintendent Jerry D. Weast, County Executive Ike Leggett and County Councilman Marc Elrich. Right, Beall music teacher Vanessa Bond looks on as kindergarten student Michael Bradley participates. The Beall students performed a musical selection.



guages—French, Tamil, German, Korean, English, Japanese, Creole, Bengali and Italian. The event celebrated the diversity of the families and staff of College Gardens ES and the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme.



Margarita Olivencia, a special educator with the Physical Disabilities Program at **Forest Knolls ES**, planned a Valentine’s Day writing activity for students in Kimberly Macedo’s and Janelle Spalding’s fifth grade classes. The students created Valentine’s messages for veterans in the VA hospital in Washington, D.C.



Gaithersburg HS local automotive dealership representatives, MCPS personnel and Maryland State Department of Education officials joined to celebrate Gaithersburg HS’ Automotive Technology Program qualifying to become part of the Automotive Youth Educational System (AYES). AYES partners with automotive programs that already have achieved certification from the National Automotive Technology Educational Foundation. Gaithersburg’s automotive technology program now joins the ranks of MCPS’ two other AYES certified automotive technology programs, one at Thomas Edison HS of Technology and the other at Damascus HS. □

ESOL parents learn computer skills at B-CC

Parents of ESOL students and Latino parents with students attending Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster schools gather in the school’s Cyber Café to learn basic computer skills. Through the successful program, participants can learn computer skills in a bilingual format (Spanish and English). Funded by the B-CC High School Educational Foundation, the course was introduced last spring and continues this school year. Along with the help of several community volunteers, teachers instruct both Level I and Level II classes. Participants receive materials, including a version of the lesson in English or Spanish, a course book and a CD with practice exercises. In addition to computer coursework, the parents hear guest speakers from academic and community organizations during the class. They also are able to attend a parent center and adult English as a second language course before each class. The spring session includes a new Spanish reading class, La Hora del Cuento (Storytime Hour), tailored for children attending third through eighth grades.



Noguera presentation

(continued from page 1)

School of Education at New York University, co-director of the Institute for the Study of Globalization in Education in Metropolitan Settings, director of the Metropolitan Center for Urban Education and author of several books.

Noguera applauded MCPS for being able to get together so many leaders, not only in education but from the community, in one room. “I want to applaud you also because it’s not going to be easy, as you have already probably figured out,” he said. “There’s so much happening around us that makes this business of educating children very difficult and complicated.”

Noguera’s appearance set off the latest in a series of conversations about factors that limit equity and access for MCPS’s African American and Hispanic students. MCPS has been working to eliminate disparities in student outcomes by race and ethnicity since Superintendent Jerry D. Weast arrived eight years ago. About two years ago, Weast put race on the table as administrators and staff began to engage in courageous conversations about barriers limiting student success.

Noguera’s presentation touched on many of the things MCPS already has been doing to promote equity and close the achievement gap—establishing clear goals and systems for monitoring and analyzing what’s working, developing support systems for students that involve the community, providing students with role models, and involving them in leadership and service activities.

“Many of the things that make it possible for other countries to outperform us in the area of education are not about what schools do but about what society does to support children and families,” Noguera noted—such as universal access to health care and preschool and parental leave.

Building strong partnerships between schools and community organizations provides a safety net for students and a web of support that extends well beyond the schools, he told the group.

Although Congress is now considering changes in the No Child Left Behind law, in the meantime school systems must deal with that reality—and also with the reality of vast demographic changes. One in five U.S. children lives in poverty. One-third are not covered by health insurance, and 80 percent of poor children are not



Pedro Noguera, author and advocate for a strong public education system, talks with Frieda Lacey, MCPS deputy superintendent of schools. Noguera addressed MCPS administrators, supervisors and community members on the topic of “What Does it Take to Leave No Child Behind? Creating Systems to Support Students.”

enrolled in quality preschools. Many children are unsupervised after school. There is a 50 percent dropout rate in most cities.

Immigrants

The top demographic change is immigration. Schools must figure out how to deal with issues of language and culture, Noguera noted. Teachers often don’t come from backgrounds similar to students and may not have the cultural training to work with students. Students need to be connected with adults, and parents need to become involved in their education.

“Research shows that when parents are involved, when they are reinforcing the value of education to their children, achievement goes up,” he said. “So we cannot afford to leave the parents out.”

Focusing on race

Putting race on the table is difficult, Noguera said. The success of people of color in positions of leadership and authority suggests in some ways that we have transcended racial discrimination—“except the data also show that race still matters.” Racial inequality is measurable in incarceration and dropout rates and in achievement in school. African American males are particularly vulnerable.

“You’re not going to eliminate these disparities overnight,” he noted. “The goal should be to create schools where race and class do not predict success.”

Creating great teachers

The best teachers have three strengths that need to be cultivated, Noguera said. They need to know content, because teaching is intellectual work. They need to know pedagogy—to be able to teach a variety of ways to meet a range of stu-

dent learning needs. And they need professional development in how to build relationships with the kids. “If they can’t relate to the kids, nothing’s going to work,” he said. “They need to be able to create a safe environment where it’s okay for kids to make mistakes, where it’s okay to redo something and improve upon it, because that’s how you learn.”

Other factors

Many other issues also affect student performance, including social and emotional needs and different learning styles. “In special education, if you label kids as slow, they will live up to our expectations,” Noguera says. In a good special education program, students are included in all the classrooms, along with teachers with special skills who work with classroom teachers in a coordinated effort, he said. The same holds true for students who are English language learners.

Many students come from homes that are in distress. School systems also need to find ways to improve support for students who need to be taught how to conduct themselves in relation to others—knowing when standard English is necessary, or when appropriate dress is required, Noguera said. “The biggest obstacle to success in our schools is the way in which failure becomes normalized,” Noguera said. “Whenever you find a school that is beating the odds, that is making gains, you find a staff that says, ‘These are our kids, and we will find a way to meet their needs.’”

A DVD of Noguera’s presentation is being sent to all schools and participating community groups, and one of his new books, *Unfinished Business*, is being made available to administrators. □

Payment information for spring 2007 supervising teachers of student teachers

Supervising teachers of student teachers/interns must complete the following forms at the end of the supervising assignment.

The Payment Voucher Form for the spring semester must be submitted to the timekeeper at your school/office no later than April 23, 2007. The original form is to be retained at your assigned location; a copy may be sent to the Office of Human Resources along with the Payment Verification Form.

The Payment Verification Form must be completed by the supervising teacher, signed by the appropriate administrator and submitted to the Office of Human Resources, Metro Park North, on or before Tuesday, May 1.

Both of these forms can be found at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/personnel/studentteaching/. □



Turning waste into electricity

Gaithersburg HS student Sikandar Porter-Gill explains how he turns wastewater into electricity at a press event held at the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plant. WSSC has been providing Porter-Gill with wastewater sampling and lab analysis supporting his science experiment. Last year he won first place in the Montgomery Area Science Fair in the environmental sciences category for his two-chambered microbial fuel cell experiment. This year he's taking his research a step further as he uses graphite granules, which act as the electrode, in a single-chamber microbial fuel cell.

MCPS magazines, newspapers win CSPA awards

Fine Lines, Richard Montgomery HS's student magazine, received a prestigious Gold Crown award for overall excellence from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) in March.

Four other MCPS high school magazines and two MCPS high school newspapers received Silver Crown awards.

Crown Awards are the highest recognition given by CSPA to student print or online media for overall excellence. The Richard Montgomery magazine won the Gold Crown for the 2005-2006 issue of *Fine Lines*. It was the only publication in Montgomery County to receive a Gold Crown this year.

In the magazine category, Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS's *Chips*, Winston Churchill HS's *Erehwon*, Montgomery Blair HS's *Silver Quill* and Walter Johnson HS's *Spectator Magazine* earned Silver Crown awards.

In the high school newspaper category, Montgomery Blair HS's *Silver Chips* and Rockville HS's *The Rampage* won Silver Crown awards.

Individual MCPS students also won Gold Circle awards in a range of categories. Among those taking first-place Gold Circle awards were Nathan Yaffe, for his editorial cartoon "Dumb and Dumber" in Blair's *Silver Chips*; and Brett Baulsir for his single advertisement, "Deloitte," in Rockville's *Rampage*. □

Home and Hospital teachers needed

The Home and Hospital Teaching (HHT) program provides instructional services to students who are unable to attend their regular school of enrollment. At times, HHT needs additional teachers to meet the instructional needs of its students. The program is particularly in need of middle- and high-school-level teachers in the Silver Spring and Bethesda areas.

Any MCPS teacher or employee holding a bachelor's degree who is interested in teaching for HHT outside of their regular school assignment day may add their name to the HHT database. The current hourly pay for HHT is \$25.35, with reimbursement for travel.

HHT will be conducting interviews during the week of April 23. To be considered for an interview, serious candidates should forward their resume with a cover letter to Jacqueline Scholl in the HHT Office, Carver Educational Services Center, Room 167, or e-mail Jacqueline_L_Scholl@mcpsmd.org. □



Retirements

Theresa Gately, school crossing guard, will retire at the end of this school year with more than 30 years of service. She has been the crossing guard for Galway ES since December 1976. The Galway community appreciates her dedication. Cards can be sent to the school at 12612 Galway Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

Phyllis Kemp, Diane Marnane, Eleanor Sontag and Margaret Young. A retirement celebration honoring Washington Grove ES staff members Phyllis Kemp, Diane Marnane, Eleanor Sontag and Margaret Young will be held Friday, June 1, 5:30 p.m., at the Atrium Court Hotel in Rockville. Send check for \$70, payable to WGES So-Well Committee, to the attention of Gayle Crouch at the school, by May 1. Gift-only contributions are welcome from those unable to attend.

Marilyn Minkoff. Marilyn Minkoff, who has 33 years with MCPS, most recently as an English resource teacher, sixth grade team leader and sixth grade reading/English teacher at Rosa Parks MS, is retiring July 1. Good wishes, cards and memories are welcomed and may be sent to Rosa Parks MS by Pony or mail (19200 Olney-Mill Road, Olney, MD 20832). Contact Joan Most by e-mail at Joan_L_Most@mcpsmd.org for more information. □



Employment Opportunities

The jobs below were available at Bulletin deadline. All require excellent human relations skills. These are summaries of minimum & special job requirements. For staffing information, contact the Department of Staffing at 301-279-3515. Employment opportunities and written job descriptions are available at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/personnel. Applicants will be screened based on the job description & special considerations. All active permanent and temporary employees must apply on MCPS Form 446-6; outside (new) applicants must complete the Interest in an Advertised Vacancy Form, located at the Office of Human Resources reception area. Specify ad number, school or location & name of the personnel specialist following the job summary. Take tests & submit required materials by the application deadline; additional skills tests may be administered after the deadline. A job change may affect retirement/pension status; check with the Employee & Retiree Service Center, 301-517-8100. Returning from leave, involuntary transfers & reassigned employees will have priority.

Unless otherwise indicated, the deadline for all jobs is 04/24/2007. Apply by job number and title for all supporting services positions.

Faxes will not be accepted. Applications must be either hand-carried to the Department of Staffing or sent by internal or U.S. mail.

Administrative

Administrative & supervisory positions are listed in bold. If no ads are listed, no new positions are available. Complete descriptions can be found on the Office of Human Resources employment information web site (www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/personnel).

Community superintendent, Winston Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Rockville & Thomas S. Wootton Clusters—Master's degree in ed. admin., management, supervision & curric. instruction or rel. field, with eligibility for MD certification as principal; doctorate desirable; min. 5 yrs. as school-based administrator with at least 2 of those yrs. as principal; excellent skills in leadership, collaboration & analysis of data to improve school performance; demonstrated leadership & broad exper. in trng. & planning with principals & community leaders in diverse communities; abil. to motivate & supervise admin. staff to ensure high student performance & achievement; excellent communication & interpersonal skills. Submit letter of interest & resume (including names & phone numbers of 3 references) by April 16 to Susan Marks, Associate Superintendent, Office of Human Resources, 7361 Calhoun Place, Suite 401, Rockville, MD 20855, or e-mail to Ana_Stein@mcpsmd.org.

Administrative assistant for Associate Superintendent, Office of Human Resources (N)—Master's degree with coursework in ed. admin. or rel. field; admin. exper. & skills in organization, mgmt., data analysis, budget preparation & problem solving; under direction of assoc. supt., assists in coordination of work of the Office of Human Resources; excellent knowl. of tech.; excellent oral & written communication & interpersonal skills. Submit letter of interest, resume, 3 letters of reference & detailed description of how your skills & experiences

have prepared you for this position to Susan Marks, associate superintendent, Office of Human Resources, or e-mail to Ana_Stein@mcpsmd.org by April 20.

Other professional

Instructional specialist, MS social studies (B-D) Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction—Masters degree; min. 5 yrs. successful teaching exper. in MS/HS social studies with curric.; exper. developing curic. & assessments aligned with content standards; abil. to work collaboratively with other specialists to develop curricular docs. & assessments; some eve. mtgs; excel. planning, org. and oral & written communication skills. Send letter of interest and resume to Elaine Tanenhaus, Office of Human Resources, by May 15.

Supporting services

Paraeducators. All paraeducator vacancies are posted on the vacancy database at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org under For Staff/School-based Jobs: Vacancy Database. Next to "Position" select "paraeducator," "special education paraeducator," etc. To be considered for employment, all new applicants must submit a supporting services application packet along with official transcripts to the Office of Human Resources, 7361 Calhoun Place, Suite 401, Rockville, MD 20855. Only approved new candidates may send letter of interest with resume directly to the school.

#1 Bus operator (9) (4 hrs., 7-9 am & 2-4 pm) Dept. of Transportation—Driver's lic. for at least 5 yrs.; excel. driving record; abil. to obtain MD Class B commercial driver's lic.; pass phys. exam. & drug test. Sub. exper. may lead to perm. pos. (Halperin)

#2 Cafeteria worker I (substitute) (2-5 hrs.) Div. of Food Services—Food preparation exper. req. (Calavetinos)

#3 Substitute secretarial assignments (10) (multiple school & central office loc.)—Gen. secretarial/clerical skills; familiarity with Microsoft Office app. a plus; must pass MCPS typing test at 40 wpm. Sub. exper. may lead to perm. pos. Call 301-279-3291 to schedule appt. for typing test. (Arrington)

#4 Building service worker (community use) (6) (various loc.)—Gen. clng. exper., incl. repetitive lifting; abil. to maint. security of school bldg., work independently, commun. with community use groups & secure boiler cert.; flex. rotation hrs. incl. 8 hrs. Sat., 8 hrs., Sun., & 4 hrs. 1 weeknight; must have own transp.; loc. subj. to change. (Reed)

#5 HVAC mechanic I (17) (loc. TBD) Div. of Maintenance—HS grad.; compl. of recognized HVAC apprenticeship & valid universal class EPA refrigerant recovery certifi. (MD HVAC journeyman's lic. pref.); abil. to diagnose & troubleshoot complex HVAC equip. & sys. & to work from schematics, plans & drawings; valid Class C driver's lic. & thorough knowl. of current trade practices, standards, codes; MCPS written HVAC test & maint. HVAC skill test. (Arrington)

#1012 Buildings & grounds contracts assistant II (roofing) (18) (BQ) (8 hrs., 12 mos.) (Shady Grove Maintenance Depot) Contract Office—HS grad. with consid. exper. over wide range of roofing construction & maint. methods; extensive exper. managing CIP projects for various types of roofing sys. repl. & coordinating with in-house staff & outside contractors to develop contracts & ensure compliance; consid. knowl. of roofing design principals/practices & rel. laws/codes/regs.; abil. to maint. complex written records & detailed docs.; proficiency in reading & interpreting building plans & drawings; basic computer skills

using Microsoft Word, Outlook; valid driver's lic. (Arrington)

#969 Building service assistant manager I (10) (BQ) (2:30-11 pm) Lake Seneca ES—Clng. & bldg. maint. exper.; boiler course; must have, or attain within 6-mo. probationary period, Basic Skills & Supervisory & Leadership certifi.; abil. to effectively maint. safety & security of bldg./grounds & prep. routine reports. (Reed)

Building service worker (6) (SQ) (see list below)—Gen. clng. exper.; oper. power equip.; clear snow from walkways; repetitively move heavy objects. (Reed)

#958 (2 pos. avail.) (4-8 pm) Forest Oak MS

#968 (3-7 pm) Seneca Valley HS

#977 (4-8 pm) Sargent Shriver ES

#1007 (4-8 pm) Forest Knolls ES

#1011 (5-9 pm) Viers Mill ES

#981 2nd shift (2:30-11 pm) Westland MS

#967 Building service worker, part time (6) (SQ) (flex hrs.) Division of School Plant Operations—Same basic req. as #958. (Reed)

#8953 Communications assistant (16) (BQ) (8 hrs., 12 mos.) (advertised) Dept. of Communications—HS grad. college pref.; consid exper. maintaining project files, creating/maintaining tracking systems, spreadsheets/database to support office activities & departmental projects; proficient knowl. of Word, Excel or Access, Outlook & PowerPoint; prepare materials incl. memos, forms, correspondence &/or presentations; coordinate logistics for forums and mtgs; maintain schedule of director & other clerical duties; excellent written & oral communication skills; team player who can communicate with parents, staff & community members. Bilingual candidate desirable. (Arrington)

#1006 English composition assistant (14) (BQ) (4 hrs., 10 mos.) Northwood HS—BA in English or equiv. trng. & exper.; computer writing lab/word processing exper. (Merson)

#974 Food services satellite manager I (8) (SQ) (6 hrs., 10 mos.) Farmland ES—School cafeteria worker exper.; abil. to work independently, prepare accurate reports & balance cash receipts; good commun. skills; satellite mgr. test req. (Calavetinos)

#1005 Parent/community coordinator (17) (BQ) (8 hrs.10 mos.) Highland ES—BA from accredited college or univ.; coursework in ed., counseling or commun. desirable; exper. with school & community activities & prog.; abil. to work effectively with parents & staff; abil. to function as part of team; basic computer knowl. pref.; good org. skills & record keeping abil., incl. preparing parent meeting reports & minutes; abil. to coordinate school & community-based family activities; excel. human relations skills & exper. working with diverse socioeconomic groups; good oral & written commun. skills; valid driver's lic. Special consid.: fluency in Spanish req. (Merson)

#1009 Parent/community coordinator (17) (BQ) (5 hrs.10 mos.) DCC #28 ES—Same basic req. as #1005. Special consid.: fluency in Spanish req. (Merson)

#987 Parent services assistant (12) (BQ) (6.4 hrs., 12 mos.) Div. of ESOL/Bilingual Programs—HS grad., preferably supplemented by completion of some college courses; exper. in interacting with persons of other cultures; exper. serving as interpreter & performing gen. office clerical work; fluency in French req.; fluency in Spanish desired; other comb. of appropriate ed., trng. & exper. may be consid. (Merson)

#1004 Payroll assistant I (14) (BQ) (8 am-4:30 pm) Employee Retiree Service

Center—HS grad., supplemented by coursework in business & tech. subjects; exper. performing clerical work, incl. human resources, payroll, benefit & retirement processing; operational knowl. of payroll regs. & procedures; working knowl. of MCPS policies, fed./state laws, negotiated agreements, FLSA & benefit plans; skill in use of MS Office app. & Lawson software; abil. to work quickly & meet strict deadlines; strong customer skills; sustained periods of time answering phones & helping walk-in customers; some overtime req. as necessary. (Arrington)

School secretary I (11) (SQ) (see list below)—HS grad.; gen. clerical exper; computer skills incl. word processing & database; MCPS typing test. (Arrington)

#975 (main office pos.) (8 am-2:30 pm, 10 mos.) Col. Zadok Magruder HS

#983 (4 hrs., 10 mos.) Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS

#994 (main office) (8 hrs., 10 mos.) John F. Kennedy HS. Special consid.: bilingual Spanish cand. desirable.

#952 (main office) (7 am-3:30 pm, 10 mos.) Paint Branch HS. Special consid.: excel. computer skills & human relations skills req., must be exper. with Microsoft Word & Excel. (Arrington)

#1000 Secretary (12) (BQ) (8 hrs., 12 mos.) Div. of Early Childhood Programs & Services (Rocking Horse Center)—HS grad. with some college or business school pref.; abil. to maintain records, files, prepare reports & assist in organizing community meetings; MCPS typing test. Pref. given to cand. with strong computer skills in Excel, Outlook & Publisher, design & maintenance of web sites & mainframe oper. incl. online ordering & account mgmt.; knowl. of stipends & payroll process pref. (Arrington)

#985 Security assistant (14) (BQ) (8 hrs., 10 mos.) Ridgeview MS—HS grad. & college courses in criminal justice, law enforcement or rel. fields; AA degree desirable; exper. involving student/adolescent safety, conflict resolution & investigative proced. desirable; knowl. of behavior mgmt.; valid driver's lic.; first aid/CPR certifi. desirable; avail. for flex. hrs., incl. weekends, eves. & overtime; may be req. to hold violators for police, confiscate drugs/alcohol & other evidence; other comb. of ed., trng. & exper. may be consid. (Calavetinos)



Lecturers. University of MD Pre College Programs-Upward Bound seeks lecturers for Grade 9-12 mathematics, English, reading, science, foreign language, computer apps. for summer prog; June 18-July 27. For more information, visit www.precollege.umd.edu. Send a letter of application, resume & 3 references to Michael Walker, Academic Coordinator, Pre-College Programs in UGST, University of MD, by April 20.

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Exploring science at Sligo Creek ES

Sligo Creek ES fifth grader Arthur Thomas explains his electromagnet to other students during the school's Science Expo in March. Students generated their own individual questions, designed and carried out investigations, met with mentors during a lunch period, wrote report and presented their work at the expo. Several hundred people attended the evening event.



Smile awhile

One of my testing examiners got a flat tire on the way to school. When she called AAA, she told them that she was a teacher and asked if they could send someone right away since she needed to get to school before 9:30 because of MSA testing. The dispatcher said she would see what she could do, called Mrs. Raymond back and said someone would be there shortly. When the man from AAA arrived soon after the call, he told her that he knew how important the testing was because he had two younger sisters taking the tests this week. I think AAA's new motto should be: AAA supports MSA!

Pat Kelly, Principal
Westover ES



In person & print

Jackie Geer, sixth grade science teacher at Cabin John MS, received the Maryland Environmental Educator of the Year award from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation for 2007. Geer has been bringing groups of students to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation education programs for four years and has been teaching middle school science for five years. She teaches her students about how city living affects the environment and brings nature to the classroom by growing underwater grasses through Maryland's Department of Natural Resources.



Mary Cay Ricci, instructional specialist in the Division of Accelerated and Enriched Instruction, received an award from the Maryland State Department of Education for Outstanding Educator in Gifted Education in the area of primary talent development. She coordinates the Program of Assessment, Diagnosis and Instruction (PADI). The award was presented at a ceremony in Annapolis.



ESOL teachers **Rachna Rikhye** of Piney Branch ES and **Heidi Alpert** of Chevy Chase ES, were awarded honorary memberships to TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc.) for their curricular contributions to the new web-based TESOL Resource Center.



LaurenBeth Signore, an English teacher at Forest Oak MS, is published in the April edition of the online academic journal *The Looking Glass*. The article is titled "Anne of Green Gables—The Transformation from Bildungsroman to Romantic Comedy." She had previously presented the article at the Literature/Film Conference in 2005.



Karren Schultz-Ferrell, mathematics instructional specialist in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction; **Brenda Hammond**, staff development teacher at William Tyler Page ES; and **Josepha Robles**, math/science/computer magnet teacher at Rolling Terrace ES, collaborated to author the book, *Introduction to Reasoning and Proof: Grades 3-5*, which is part of the math process standards series for Heinemann. **Christine Oberdorf**, MCC at Oak View ES, co-authored another book in the series, *Introduction to Connections: Grades 3-5*.

All books contain practical ways for teachers to address the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics' five process standards and also include a CD-ROM with teaching tools and student activities customizable to match teachers' lessons.



Stephan Silverman, psychologist with Placement and Assessment Services, authored a new book, *School Success for Kids With Asperger's Syndrome*, written with former MCPS staffer Rich Weinfeld. Prufrock Press expects to publish the book in May.



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Ruth Straus Gainer, art teacher at Whetstone ES, presented "Nurturing Individual Styles in Children's Art" at the National Art Education Association Convention in New York City in March. Her article, "Children Have Style" appeared on the web at schoolartsonline.com in February. □

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