



Student Affairs Office

Lakelands Park MS, Room 120
1200 Main Street
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301-670-1419 fax 301-670-1407

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs



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Welcome Back!

On your mark, get set, GO! I hope you had a relaxing and refreshing summer vacation and are now ready to start the race. The Student Affairs Office, along with the Montgomery County Region (MCR) and Montgomery County Junior Councils (MCJC) has been working hard to prepare for a full calendar of events this fall.... advisor training, student meetings, and state conferences.

Don't forget that meeting dates, registration information, documents, and other leadership resources may be found on the Web at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs. You may also call (301-670-1419) or email (Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org) if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Have a fabulous 2008-2009 school year!!

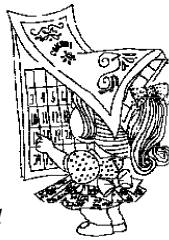
Karen Crawford, Student Affairs Coordinator

2008-2009 Student Affairs Calendar

The Student Affairs calendar for the year (including MCR, MCJC, and Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) dates) is posted on the Web at <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/studentaffairs/calendar/calendar.shtm>. Please print a copy and keep it posted on your student government bulletin board.

Please mark these important dates on your school calendar now.

- MASC Middle School Leadership Conference: Oct. 11
- MASC Educ. Forum/Dinner with State BOE: Oct. 27
- MASC High School Leadership Conference: Nov. 8
- Board of Ed Meeting with Student Leaders: Dec. 2 (evening)
- MASC Legislative Session: Feb. 7
- MASC Legislative Lobbying Day: Feb. 18
- SMOB Nominating Convention March 5, 2009
- MASC Convention: March 25-27, 2009 (Ocean City, MD)
- Voter Registrar Training (HS only) April 2, 2009 (Board of Ed)
- Election Officials' Training: High School - April 15-16, 29
Middle School April 17, 20-21
- SMOB Election April 29, 2009



MCR General Assemblies: Sept. 23, Oct. 30, Nov. 25, Dec. 19, Feb. 20, Mar. 19 (elections), and Apr. 23.

MCR Executive Board Meetings: Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6, Dec. 8, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 9, April 2, May 7, *June 4

MCJC General Assemblies: Oct. 22*, Nov. 21, Dec. 17, Feb. 26, March 31 (elections), and May 22. (The Oct. 22 meeting will include a tour of the MCPS food processing plant and culminate in a short meeting at the MCPS central office. Dr. Weast will be the guest speaker!)

MCJC Executive Board Meetings: Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 11, Dec. 11, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, No April mtg., May 5, June 2

Hosting MCR & MCJC GAs

Please consider hosting a meeting. Since large meeting space is often a problem for middle schools, they may consider hosting at their feeder high school...the high school provides the auditorium and a space for lunch, and the middle school brings the refreshments! (Call the Student Affairs Office for ideas on how to serve lunch.)



Dates Available for MCR: Sept., Oct., Nov., Feb., March, April

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Host forms are included with the Advisor newsletter.

September Events

- 1 Holiday - Labor Day
- 4 MCR Taskforce: Race/Social Issues 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafe)
- MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 8 SGA Advisors Meeting 7:00-8:30pm (CESC auditorium)
- 9 BOE business meeting (day)
- Deadline: MCR bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 9/23 GA
- Deadline: MCR School & Staff Reports
- SGA Advisors Make-Up Meeting 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- MCJC executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 18 BOE Community Forum 7:00-9:30pm (Watkins Mill HS)
- 22 BOE business meeting (evening)
- 23 MCR General Assembly (location TBD)
- 27 MASC Training of Trainers: MS Lead. Conf. (Baker MS)
- 29 Early Release Day
- 25 New HS SGA Advisors Mtg 7-9pm (Lakelands Park MS)
- 30 Rosh Hashanah - no school for students and teachers

Beginning of October

- 2 MCR Taskforce: Race/Social Issues 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafe)
- MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 3 Deadline: MCJC bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 10/22 GA

Special September Events

- 7 Grandparent's Day
- 11 Patriot Day
- 15-10/15 Nat. Hispanic Heritage Month
- 17-23 US Constitution Week
- 21 International Peace Day (UN)
- 22 Autumnal Equinox



Legislators Back to School

What is America's Legislators Back to School Program? Slated for the third week of every September, this special program gives elected officials in all 50 states the opportunity to meet personally with their young constituents and to answer questions, share ideas, listen to concerns and impart a greater understanding of the legislative processes necessary for developing effective public policy.

Sponsored by the National Conference of State Legislatures, America's Legislators Back to School Program is designed to teach young people--the nation's future voters and leaders--what it's like to be a state legislator: the processes, the pressures, and the debate, negotiation and compromise that are the very fabric of representative democracy. NCSL emphasizes that America's Legislators Back to School Program is a bipartisan event. Legislators of both political parties are urged to participate in this national event and to tell the story of representative democracy in America.

<http://www.ncsl.org/public/trust/bksdesc.htm>

Legislative Coordinator, Lena Miles
Legislative Assistant
Office of Speaker Pro Tem
Maryland General Assembly
312 House Office Bldg.
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991
(410) 841-3391 Fax (410) 841-3157
lena.miles@mlis.state.md.us

Honorable Jamie Raskin, State Senator
Senate Office Building, Room 122
11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3634 fax (410) 841-3850
jamie.raskin@senate.state.md.us



Help is only a "click" away!

Check out the Student Affairs Web site!

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs

The Student Affairs Office encourages SGA presidents (and other officers) to apply for an MCPS Outlook email account. Applications may be downloaded from the home pages of MCR and MCJC (www.montgomerycountyregion.org or www.mcjc.info). Outlook accounts for our SGA students make communication easier for all advisors and students. We encourage ALL SGA presidents to apply for an account as soon as possible. Send your application through the Student Affairs Office. Questions? Email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org



Memberships - Join NOW!

MASC: Maryland Association of Student Councils (State level secondary SGA)

MCJC: Montgomery County Junior Councils (MS level county SGA)

MCR: Montgomery County Region (HS level county SGA)

NASC: National Association of Student Councils (National level secondary SGA)

It's time to join your local county, state, and national student council organizations. If your school joins both the county level student council and the state student council by the specified deadline, MCR/MCJC will give you a \$5 discount on your dues. Email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org if you have any questions.

Applications may be downloaded (pdf file) at the bottom of the following Web sites:

mcr = www.montgomerycountyregion.org

mcjc = www.mcjc.info



All SGA Advisors

According to the MCEA stipend for SGA, there are two required meetings for advisors. This year, ALL ADVISORS will need to attend the fall meeting on Monday, September 8, 2008. High school and middle school advisors will meet from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Carver Educational Services Center (CESC- 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville).

If you have a conflict, please email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org and let her know which make-up meeting you will attend:

September 9, 2008 5:00-6:30pm, CESC Cafeteria or

October 23, 2008 5:00-6:30pm, CESC Cafeteria

Used Inkjet Cartridges



Yes - the Student Affairs Office (SAO) still needs your used inkjet printer cartridges. The office receives \$1.00 for every used inkjet printer cartridge it turns in. This is the only way that we can put money into the SAO purchasing card - the money is used to buy refreshments for advisor meetings and supplement MCR/MCJC items which can be purchased at local stores or on-line.

Please PONY your used inkjet cartridges to the Student Affairs Office, Room 120, Lakelands Park MS (Questions? Call the Student Affairs Office at 301-670-1419 or email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org)



High schools-you have an early 9/9 RSVP date to reserve a bus for the 9/23 MCR general assembly...don't miss out!

It wouldn't be MCPS without acronyms! This quick guide should help you as you read through this and future newsletters.

- **BOE:** Board of Education
- **CESC:** Carver Educational Services Center (central office—where the Board of Education meets)
- **MASC:** Maryland Association of Student Councils (the secondary, state-level student government organization)
- **MCJC:** Montgomery County Junior Councils (the middle school, county-level student government organization) - www.mcjc.info
- **MCR:** Montgomery County Region (the high school, county-level student government organization) - www.montgomerycountyregion.org
- **NASC:** National Association of Student Councils (the national student government association)
- **SGA:** student government association (sometimes referred to as student council)
- **SAO:** Student Affairs Office (works with SGA advisors, MCR, MCJC, and other student leadership programs) Karen Crawford, Coordinator and Charlotte, Secretary.
- **SMOB:** Student Member of the Board of Education (Quratul-Ann_Malik@mcpsmd.org)

Let the Student Voice be Heard!!

There are a lot of leadership/service opportunities available for students throughout the year. Go to <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/sao/opportunities> for complete details!

Student Advisory Committee

(Student Member of the Board of Education's Advisory Committee)

Sponsored by the Montgomery County Public Schools, this committee meets quarterly to discuss student issues before the Board of Education and/or general student concerns. On occasion, the group is asked to give feedback to offices and departments in central office concerning curriculum, displays, guidelines, etc.

Quratul-Ann Malik, the current student Board member is seeking at least one student from every high school and interested middle school students to serve on this committee. Interested students should contact Ms. Malik at Quratul-Ann_Malik@mcpsmd.org and give her your name, address, phone, email, school, grade in school for 2008-2009, and a statement of interest, commitment, and qualifications.

Meetings for 2008-2009 are scheduled to meet at Carver Educational Services Center (850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, 20850) from 7:00-8:30pm on:

Monday, November 10, 2008

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

Speak Up at Community Forums on Sept. 18 & Oct. 16



Parents, staff, **students** and community members are encouraged to testify at two community forums sponsored by the Board of Education.

Each person will have 3 minutes to speak on the following question: "During difficult economic times, what priorities in the Montgomery County Public Schools strategic plan should we focus on for the 2009-2010 school year to improve achievement for all students?"

How to Sign Up to Testify—Call the Board of Education office at 301-279-3617 or 1-800-735-2258 (Maryland Relay)

• Sign up for the September 18 forum starting August 28

• Sign up for the October 16 forum starting September 25

Forum Dates and Locations

• Thursday, September 18, from 7-9:30 pm at Watkins Mill HS

• Thursday, October, 16, from 7-9:30 pm at Albert Einstein HS

Interpreters will be available in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and French. Sign language interpretation can be requested at least one week prior to the event. Call: 301-517-5539 or 5582 (Voice/TTY).

SGA Presidents' Information

Please complete the President Roster form and return it to the Student Affairs Office (Pony SAO, Lakelands Park MS or email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org). MCR and MCJC want the school SGA presidents to stay connected and informed. Thanks!!



Please note: In an effort to conserve resources, only school SGA advisors will receive enclosures with their newsletter as appropriate. Students and others can download the information form the Web. Thanks for your understanding!

Send your questions, comments and concerns to:

Karen Crawford, Student Affairs Coordinator

Lakelands Park MS, Room 120

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org

301-670-1419 fax 301-670-1407

cell 301-318-6384

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs

