



Student Affairs Office

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www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs



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MS Student Leadership Training



For the best deal in town be sure to register to attend the October 11, 2008, MASC Middle School Leadership Conference, hosted this year in Montgomery County at Baker Middle School! The cost is only \$25 per student/advisor. Workshops are communications, project planning and evaluations, and parliamentary procedures. Students will be able to participate in a mock general assembly where they will be able to practice some of these skills. Registration is on-line at www.mdstudentcouncils.com. Hurry as registration closes October 7th. Hopefully all of MCPS middle schools will be represented this year since we are hosting!!!



2008 Harvest for the Hungry "Kids Helping Kids" Campaign

- An official program of the MD State Dept. of Ed.
- Student Service Learning Opportunity

October 20 to November 12, 2008 - What is "Kids Helping Kids"? Students hold a food drive; Manna Food Center collects the food, and hungry families get the food they desperately need. "Kids Helping Kids" is an official Maryland State Department of Education program. If you register your school through the Manna Food Center here in Montgomery County, Manna will work with your school to make your food drive as successful as possible. The good news is that Manna Food Center will come to your school to pick up the food at the end of your drive. Last year, MCPS had 93 schools collecting 75,000 pounds of food. Let's beat that record! Questions? Contact Manna Food Center at 301-424-1130 or info@mannafood.org.



Student Pledge Against Gun Violence October 22, 2008

The Student Pledge Against Gun Violence is a national program that honors the role that young people, through their own decisions, can play in reducing gun violence. This campaign against youth gun violence culminates each year on a Day of

National Concern about Young People and Gun Violence. The program provides a means for beginning the conversation with young people about gun violence. It refers teachers, counselors, and community leaders to valuable resources, includes curriculum suggestions that can be integrated with existing academic programs, and contains information about how your school can participate. Go to <http://www.pledge.org> for planning ideas and resources and to download the information sheet, brochure, and pledge

Mix It Up Day at Lunch - Nov. 13, 2008

On November 13, 2008, join millions of young people for the sixth annual Mix It Up at Lunch Day. Students will step outside of their comfort zones to meet someone new. Bring down the social and cultural walls dividing your school. Go to <http://www.tolerance.org/teens> to download free materials, apply for a grant, or just to get lots of ideas!



MCR SGA Taskforce on Race & Social Issues

Join MCR every month in discussion about race and social issues in our schools. Participate in a Study Circle with MCR or at your school. Contact Brittney_Johnson@mcpsmd.org for more information

October Events

- 2 MCR Taskforce on Race & Social Issues 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 3 Deadline: MCJC bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 10/22/08 GA
- 11 MASC MS Leadership Conference (reg. closes Oct. 7)
- 14 BOE business meeting (day)
- Voter Registration closes for November 2008 election
- MCJC executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 16 Deadline: MCR bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 10/30/08 GA
- MCR Fundraiser at Chevys, Gaithersburg (4:00-10:00pm)
- BOE Community Forum 7-9:30pm (Einstein HS)
- 17 MSTA Convention-no school for students & teachers
- 22 MCJC General Assembly (Food Processing Plant & CESC)
- 23 Advisors Make-up Mtg 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- MCR Sp. Elections Com Mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 24 Deadline: MD Page Program Applications (HS Seniors)
- 27 BOE business meeting (evening)
- 28 MASC ExBd, Educ. Forum, & Dinner w/ BOE (at MSDE)
- 30 MCR General Assembly (Location TBD)

Beginning of November

- 3 Professional Day: no school for students
- 4 Holiday: General Election VOTE (or encourage others to vote!)
- 5 Deadline: MCJC bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 11/19/08 GA
- 6 MCR Taskforce on Race 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)

Special October Themes

- 1-31 Computer Learning Month (www.computerlearning.org)
- Crime Prevention Month (www.ncpc.org)
- 8 National Walk to School Day (www.walktoschool-usa.org)
- 13 Columbus Day
- 7-13 Fire Prevention Week (www.nfpa.org)
- 16-18 Nat. School Lunch Week (<http://docs.schoolnutrition.org/meetingsandevents/nslw2008/nslw.asp>)
- 21-27 Nat. School Bus Safety Week (www.napt.org)
- Salute to Transportation Week
- 23-31 Red Ribbon Week (www.nfp.org/redribbon)
- Boss' Day
- 22 Nat. Day of Concern about Young People and Gun Violence
- 24 United Nations Day



It's Never Too Early for Appreciation/Recognition

It's never too early to begin planning appreciation activities for the staff and students in your school. You can find ideas on the web (www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/sao/resources) under "appreciation."

Salute to Transportation Week (National School Bus Safety Week) is October 21-27, 2008. Consider a certificate, card, or small gift for the bus drivers at your school who transport students safely to and from school every day!!



A Student's Guide to Rights & Responsibilities

All schools should have received the 2008-2009 English version and translations of *A Student's Guide to Rights & Responsibilities*. Students need to be aware of the information the guide contains. You can also access the guide (all translations are posted) on-line at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/students/rights/index.shtm>

2009 Maryland General Assembly



Student Page Program

The Maryland General Assembly is extending an opportunity to selected high school seniors who are at least 16 years of age and attend public or nonpublic schools within the State of Maryland to participate as pages for members of the Maryland General Assembly during the

2008 session. These students must have an interest in government and history as well as a record of good conduct, be competent, courteous, and reliable, have an average or above average scholastic record, and be outgoing and like to meet people.

The legislative session runs from January 14, 2009 to April 13, 2009. Each selected page will serve two nonconsecutive weeks in either the House of Delegates or the State Senate. Pages stay in homes within a short walking or driving distance of the State House. To cover the cost of lodging and meals, each page receives a stipend for each day worked.

Application forms are available in high schools or online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/sao/page. The deadline for applications is 4:00 p.m. on October 24, 2008.

Special Elections Committee Oct. 23, 2008



The Special Elections Committee (SEC) meets throughout the year to help plan and run the election of Montgomery County's Student Member of the Board of Education (SMOB). It is imperative that the SEC has representation from EVERY high school (middle school representation is highly encouraged). Schools could form their own committee for running the SMOB election and have these students rotate attendance at the county meetings. This would be a great way to get a head start on your school's election participation and serve on the SEC. Remember, this committee handles the election logistics of a public official. It is one of the few real civic educational opportunities in which students participate. Please actively recruit students at your school to join the SEC! SSL hours apply. All of the meeting dates are posted on the web at



Subscribers to QuickNotes receive a monthly e-mail newsletter with the latest news and information about programs and activities for students, links to helpful publications and interesting Web sites, plus emergency announcements. Please encourage all students to register for QuickNotes. They can specify exactly the type of information they wish to receive (i.e. information just for students, emergency weather closings, Board of Education information, etc.).

Go to www.mcpsQuickNotes.org to sign up!

Student Affairs Office Going Green!

In an effort to conserve on the amount of paper this office uses, the Student Affairs Office is only printing and sending the newsletter to SGA advisors. SGA Presidents, liaison, and MCR/MCJC staff should go on-line to read the newsletter. Karen Crawford will email a reminder to those student leaders for whom she has contact information. Please be sure to share this information with the student leaders at your school. Remember, there is a lot of information posted on the web. Please check out the Student Affairs Office Web site at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs. The site has resources, pictures, calendars, opportunities for students to serve on committees, and so much more!

BOE Forum – October 16, 2008

Thursday, October, 16, from 7-9:30 pm at
Albert Einstein High School

Parents, staff, students and community members are encouraged to testify at 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)
- Please submit a copy of your testimony to the Board of Education office by October 15 so that a packet of testimonies may be prepared for each Board member to have on the night of the forum.
- Your testimony may be sent by hand delivery, mail, email (boe@mcpsmd.org) or fax (301-279-3860).
- If you do not submit your testimony in advance, please bring 25 copies of your testimony with you to the forum and provide it to the staff member at the speaker registration table.
- Information also is available on the MCPS web site at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/community/forums/.

The student voice needs to be represented at this forum. It is important that students know this is the time to give their opinion, thoughts, and suggestions about the way the Board of Education should allocate money to programs. Please actively recruit students from your school to attend!

Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 23-31)



The Red Ribbon Campaign is now the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week, October 23-October 31 each year. Wear your Red Badge proudly and have the courage to say no to drugs! It is an ideal way for people and communities to unite and take a visible stand against drugs. Show your personal commitment to a drug-free lifestyle through the symbol of the Red Ribbon. For information and ideas, go to <http://www.nfp.org>.

County, State, National SGA Memberships

Have you joined the county, state, and national student government organizations? If you need an application, go to:

MCJC - www.mcjc.info (The MASC application is next to the MCJC application at the bottom of the page)

MCR-SGA - www.montgomerycountyregion.org (The MASC application is next to MCR-SGA application application at the bottom of the page)

NASC - <http://www.nasc.us> (on the left navigation bar, select "How to Join")

★ MCR SGA at Chevys - Oct. 16, 2008 ★

Invite your friends and family and join MCR SGA at Chevys Restaurant from 4:00-10:00pm (668 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg) on Thursday, October 16, 2008. Chevys will give 25% of the proceeds to MCR SGA! Please support our fundraiser and enjoy a great meal!

Send your questions, comments and concerns to:

Karen Crawford, Student Affairs Coordinator

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