



Student Affairs Office

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www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs



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Awards Information

The MCR-SGA and MCJC awards information is now posted on the Web (www.montgomerycountyregion.org or www.mcjc.info - on the right navigation bar, select Awards). Please take the time to look through the different awards for which your school can apply. Remember, MASC member schools can also apply for MASC awards; however, the nomination process must go through MCR-SGA or MCJC (except for the Felix Simon Award for SGA - schools apply and mail directly to MASC). The first deadlines (advisor and principal awards) are in January, so don't delay in starting your applications now. If you have any questions, please email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org. MASC award information may be downloaded at <http://mdstudentcouncils.com>.



Special Elections Committee



Montgomery County Public Schools is one of the only school districts in the United States which has its secondary students voting for the election of a public official. Yes, the Student Member of the Board of Education (SMOB) is a public official, sworn into office by the Clerk of the Court, just like his/her adult counterparts. Students have a lot of responsibilities in planning for this election - the Special Election Committee (SEC), comprised of middle and high school students from our public schools, runs the election process. It is very important to have representation on this committee from all of our high schools and as many middle schools as possible. This committee approves the protocols (guidelines) for conducting the election and works closely with the Montgomery County Board of Elections during the election process and for the use of the voting equipment. The SEC met in October and will meet again on November 20, 2008, 7:00-8:30pm, in the cafeteria at Carver Educational Services Center (CESC).

Information on future meetings and all SMOB events can be found on the web at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/smob (look for appropriate pages on the right navigation bar). This is one of the only "real" civic educational opportunities in which our students participate. Please begin a voter education program at your school and solicit students to serve on the Special Elections Committee.

Mix-It-Up at Lunch on November 13, 2008



Mix It Up at Lunch Day encourages people to cross lines and meet new people. 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!



2008 Harvest for the Hungry "Kids Helping Kids" Campaign

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

There's still time to participate!

November Events

- 3 Professional Day - no school for students
- 4 Holiday - General Election
- 5 Deadline: MCJC bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 11/21/08 GA
- 6 MCR Taskforce 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 10 SMOB Advisory Com 7:00-8:30pm (CESC Board Room 114)
- 11 BOE Business Meeting (day)
Early Release Day k-8 (parent conferences)
Deadline: MCR bus RSVP (3:00pm) for 11/25/08 GA
MCJC executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 12 Early Release Day k-8 (parent conferences)
- 13 MCJC Attendance/Lunch count for 11/21/08 GA
- 15 MASC HS Leadership Conference (Anne Arundel Co.)
- 19 MCR Attendance/Lunch count for 11/25/08 GA
- 20 MCR Spec. Elections Com. 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 21 MCJC general Assembly
- 25 MCR General Assembly
- 26 Early Release Day
- 27 Holiday - Thanksgiving
- 28 Holiday - Thanksgiving



Beginning of December

- 1 Deadline: MCJC bus RSVP for 12/17/08 GA
- 2 BOE Mtg w/ Student Leaders 7:00-8:30pm (CESC aud.)
Deadline: MCJC bus RSVP for 12/19/08 GA
- 4-7 NAWD (National Advisor Conference-San Diego, Calif.)
- 6 MCR Taskforce 5:00-6:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 9 MASC executive board meeting (Prince George's Co.)
State SMOB apps due (postmarked to MASC)
- 11 MCJC executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)

Special November Themes

- 1-30 American Indian Heritage Month
Am. Diabetes Month; Nat. Epilepsy Month;
Good Nutrition Month
- 2 Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 11-17 American Education Week
Nat. Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Wk
- 13 Mix It Up at Lunch day
- 14 Education Support Professionals Day
- 15 America Recycles Day
- 16 Great American Smokeout (no smoking day)
- 23-29 National Family Week
- 27 Thanksgiving



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.

Reminder—To reduce the paper and time for newsletters, only SGA advisors are receiving a hard copy of this newsletter. MCR-SGA staff, MCJC staff, and SGA presidents/liasons receive an email with a link to the newsletter. Be sure the Student Affairs Office has your SGA president's correct email! Thanks



General Assembly Buses



MCPS is fortunate to have county-wide meetings of student leaders. MCJC meets six times a year and MCR-SGA meets seven times a year in general assembly at host schools throughout the county.

The Student Affairs Office (SAO) coordinates with the field trip office for all of our meetings. All advisors and SGA presidents received a calendar listing the bus RSVP deadlines to notify the SAO if a school will or will not participate. A week before the general assembly, school need to notify the Student Affairs Office your school's delegation numbers (the number attending the meeting and the number that wish to purchase lunch). It is important that the host school have an accurate count so they may be prepared for morning refreshments and lunch.

The bus deadlines, GA dates, and host schools are posted at: www.montgomerycountyregion.com and www.mcjc.info



MASC 2008-09 Charity

The Arc is the world's largest community based organization of and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It provides an array of services and support for families and individuals and includes over 140,000 members affiliated through more than 850 state and local chapters across the nation. The Arc is devoted to promoting and improving supports and services for all people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Be on the lookout for more information from MASC about what you and your school can do. (<http://mdstudentcouncils.com> or www.masconline.info).

SGA-SSL Hours



Is your SGA following the guidelines to earn student service learning (SSL)? All SSL school coordinators attended a meeting in October with the county SSL coordinator. Be careful about promising SSL hours if the activity doesn't meet SSL guidelines. Your SGA might appoint a student SSL coordinator to review all SGA activities with your school's SSL coordinator.

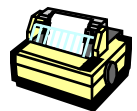
Education Support Day



Did you recognize your bus drivers during salute to transportation Week (National School Bus Safety Week: October 20-24, 2008)? If not, why not add them to the recognition on Education Support Day, November 14, 2008. This is a time you might want to do something special for your building services staff, security guards, and teacher aides. You can find ideas on the web (www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/sao/resources) under "appreciation."

Used Inkjet Cartridges

The Student Affairs Office (SAO) 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, Lakelands Park MS, Room 120. Questions? Call the Student Affairs Office at 301-670-1419 or email Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org.

Send your questions, comments and concerns to:
Karen Crawford, Student Affairs Coordinator

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Kenya Connect: MCR/MCJC Charity



Every secondary school received an informational kit and DVD (made specifically for Montgomery County) about Kikulumi Public School (Kenya) and their needs. The great thing about this organization it is allows us to "observe first-hand how our efforts promote grassroots development for families in need and facilitates character development and potentially build a commitment to philanthropy at an early age." Please arrange to air the

DVD school-wide. MCR/MCJC hopes that your school's SGA will also adopt this charity and encourage other clubs and organizations to contribute. Please take advantage of the personal contact provided by writing a letter to Kikulumi PS. Feel free to include pictures if you'd like. When you include pictures of your school, hopefully it will help you appreciate all that you have and what these students in Kenya do not have.

Kikulumi PS Motto: "The sky is the limit"

Mission: To provide quality education to our learners in a conducive environment that will enable them to compete effectively in national exams.

Colors: Light Blue and Green

Activities: Ball Games & Athletics, Debating, Forestry and Health Clubs

Total Enrollment: 306 pupils

- Fundraising Goals:**
- Water Tank: \$2,000 (MCR SGA Goal)
 - Games & Athletics Equipment: \$300 (MCJC Goal)
 - Renovation Fund: \$6,000
 - Fence: \$1,000
 - School Supplies: \$600
 - Uniform Fund: \$1,060



State SMOB Information



The Education Article §2-202 of the Annotated Code of Maryland authorizes the appointment by the Governor of a student member of the Maryland State Board of Education. This legislation specifies that the Maryland Association of Student Councils (MASC) shall have the opportunity to nominate two students for the Governor's consideration. One of these nominees will be appointed by the Governor to serve a one-year term as the Student Member of the Maryland State Board of Education. Coming soon - MASC will be mailing to high schools an application packet. Every high school is allowed to nominate one student. The strict deadline for application submission is December 9, 2008. Be on the lookout in the mail or at <http://mdstudentcouncils.com> or www.masconline.info for the application packet.

Mark Your Calendar NOW Annual Student Leaders' Meeting with the Board of Education



The Annual Student Leaders' Meeting with the Board of Education (BOE) is **December 2, 2008, from 7:00 - 8:30pm** in the auditorium at Carver Educational Services Center (CESC). The BOE will devote this evening to listening and responding to students' questions and concerns. This meeting will be facilitated by Ms. Quratul-Ann Malik, the current student member on the BOE. Student government leaders should advertise this opportunity throughout their school. Interested student need to register through their school's SGA advisor (see enclosed memo).

High school and middle school students will alternate presenting their questions and comments. (Parents and/or advisors driving students are welcome to attend and listen if there is room, however, this evening is a time for student voices.)

The BOE provides light refreshments for the evening and asks schools (through the SGA advisor) to RSVP to Karen_L_Crawford@mcpsmd.org by 3:00pm, Monday, December 1, 2008, with the number of students attending (a limit of four to six students per school due to space limitation). All secondary schools should have student representation at this important meeting.