



Student Affairs Office

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www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs



Volume 11, Issue 1

September 2009



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 new school year. 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 2009-2010 school year!!

Karen Crawford, Student Affairs Coordinator

2009-2010 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.

In planning your school's student government activities for 2009-2010, please consider working around these dates.

- Board of Education Meeting with Student Leaders: (7:00-9:00pm) December 1, 2009
- SMOB Nominating Convention March 4, 2010
- MASC Convention: February 24-26, 2010 (Ocean City, MD)
- Voter Registrar Training (High School only) April 7, 2010
- SMOB Election Officials' Training: HS - April 7-8, 2010 MS April 9, 12-14, 2010
- SMOB Election April 28, 2010 (PLEASE - get this on your school calendar NOW - especially MS...during the MSA Science testing window)
- MCR Gen. Assemblies: Sept. 25, Oct. 29, Dec. 17, Feb. 19, Mar. 16, Apr. 22.
- MCJC Gen. Assemblies: Oct. 20, Nov. 23, Dec. 22, Feb. 18, Mar. 19, April 19.
- Special Elections Committee (evening mtgs 7:00-8:30pm): Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Jan. 28, Feb. 23, Mar. 18, Apr. 20 (3:00-5:00pm Board of Elections), Apr. 28 (Election Day 2:00-6:00pm Board of Elections), May 13.
- MCR Executive Board Mtgs: Advance (3:00-8:30pm) Sept. 3, regular exbd mtgs (7:00-8:30pm) Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 2, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, Mar. 11, Apr. 8, May 6, June 3
- MCJC Executive Board Mtgs (7:00-8:30pm) Sept. 8, Oct. 5, Nov. 9, Dec. 7, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 12, May 4, June 1 (Advance Sept 11-12: Smith Center)



Hosting MCR & MCJC General Assemblies (GA)

Would your school like to host a MCR or MCJC general assembly for this school year? Links for hosting requirements / applications can be found at the bottom of the MCR and MCJC home web page (www.montgomerycountyregion.org and www.mcjc.info) as well as the links to apply to host.



If space is a problem for middle schools, they may consider hosting at their cluster high school—the high school provides the auditorium and the middle school brings the refreshments - split the profit from selling lunch!

If no high school steps up to host the Sept. 25 GA (needed by Sept 9), the GA will be at CESC. We need a middle school to host the Oct. 20 GA (needed by Oct. 1) or we will have to cancel the GA.

September Events

- 1 Deadline: MCR Advance Registration (see MCR exbd web)
- 3 MCR Advance 3:00-7:00pm (CESC cafeteria)
- MCR Executive Board Mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 4 Deadline: MCJC Advance Reg. (see MCJC exbd web)
- 8 BOE business meeting (day)
- MCJC executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 9 Deadline: MCR Bus Reservations for Sept. 25 GA
- 11-12 MCJC Advance (Smith Center)
- 15 New SGA Advisors Mtg 3-4:30 or 7-8:30pm (SAO Office)
- 17 BOE Community Forum 7:00-9:30pm (Quince Orchard HS)
- 21 BOE business meeting (evening)
- 22 Deadline: MCR Attendance Registration for 9/25 GA
- New SGA Advisors Mtg 3-4:30 or 7-8:30pm (SAO Office)
- 25 MCR General Assembly (location TBD)
- 26 MASC Training of Trainers (location TBD)
- 28 Yom Kippur - no school for students and teachers

Beginning of October

- 1 Deadline: MCJC Bus Reservations for Oct. 20 GA
- MCR executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 5 MCJC executive board mtg 7:00-8:30pm (CESC cafeteria)
- 7 SMOB Town Meeting 6:00-9:00pm (CESC auditorium)
- 8 SMOB 2.0 Policy Meeting 6:00-8:00pm (CESC room 114)

Special September Events



- Sept. 15-Oct. 15 National Hispanic American Heritage Month
- 11 Patriot Day
 - 13 Grandparents Day
 - 16 National Student Day
 - 17 Constitution Day
 - 17-23 U.S. Constitution Week
 - 21 International Day of Peace
 - 25 Native American Day
 - 26 National Good Neighbor Day

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 is a national civics program where state legislators visit classrooms to talk about the Legislature. The program is designed to educate young people about what it is like to be a state legislator: the processes, the pressures, and the debate, negotiation and compromise. It is also an opportunity for legislators to let students know that their ideas count. Refer to the web site and contacts below.

<http://www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabID=746&tabs=1116,88,407>

Legislative Coordinator, Lena Miles
Leg. Assist., Office of Speaker Pro Tem
House Office Bldg. Room 312
6 Bladen Street 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
senatorjamieraskin@gmail.com

NEW Advisors Mandatory Meeting

NEW advisors may choose from the following dates/times to attend a mandatory meeting with the coordinator of Student Affairs (as outlined in the MCEA stipend requirements for sponsoring SGA): 3:00-4:30pm or 7:00-8:30pm on Tuesday September 15, Tuesday September 22, or Monday October 12. The meeting will be held in the Student Affairs Office, Lakelands Park Middle School, room 120. Important information for the year will be covered. With three dates and two different times for each date, hopefully all NEW advisors will be able to attend. Veteran advisors are welcome, but not required to attend. To register your attendance at one of the meetings, go to <http://tpilot.mcps.k12.md.us/tpilot/schools/sga/SGAadvisorMeeting.tp3> (no password is needed - just click on "request").



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!

SMOB Initiative 2.0

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

This year, Tim Hwang, the student member of the Board of Education, has started a new project called the "SMOB 2.0" initiative to give every student a chance to get involved in the decision making process. He needs a dedicated and hard-working staff to be able to carry out the project. Students will be given a chance to make a real impact on the decision making process and will be able to hone their leadership skills over the course of the year.

For full details and links for the application, go to <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/smob/news09.10.shtm>

Speak Up at Community Forums on Sept. 17 & Oct. 15

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 2010-2011 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) three weeks prior to the forum date

- Sign up for the September 17 forum starting August 27
- Sign up for the October 15 forum starting September 24

Forum Dates and Locations

- Thursday, September 17, from 7-9:30 pm at Quince Orchard HS
 - Thursday, October 15, from 7-9:30 pm at Kennedy HS
- Please submit a copy of your testimony to the Board of Education office by noon on the day of the forum 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 (301-279-3806). If you do not submit your testimony in advance, please bring 25 copies with you to the forum and provide it to the staff member at the speaker registration table.



MCR and MCJC Membership

It's never too early to join MCR/MCJC and MASC for the 2009-2010 school year. It's a simple on-line process, then pony the membership check to the Student Affairs Office. As before, MCR and MCJC offer a \$5 discount (limited time offer) to schools that join MASC at the same time they join MCR or MCJC. The links are at the bottom of the MCR and MCJC home web pages.

MCJC = Montgomery County Junior Councils
www.mcjc.info

MCR = Montgomery County Region of the Maryland Association of Student Councils
www.montgomerycountyregion.org

MASC = Maryland Association of Student Councils
www.mdstudentcouncils.com

NASC (National Association of Student Councils) can be downloaded at www.nasc.us



New SGA Presidents' Info

We need the student leaders in your school to be connected. Again this year, information about events will be emailed not only to SGA advisor, but to the student leaders in the school.

High Schools: Please have the new SGA president and MCR Liaison register with their contact information at the bottom of the MCR web page (www.montgomerycountyregion.org) under "other requested documents."

Middle schools, please register contact information at the bottom of the MCJC web page (www.mcjc.info) under "other requested documents."

Special Treat: Kenya Connect



At the October 1 MCR Executive Board meeting and the October 5 MCJC Executive Board meeting, we are excited to have the Kenya executive director of Kenya Connect, Mr. James Muskoya and the USA executive director of Kenya Connect, Mr. Tim Gregory. Many of our schools contributed funds to this non-profit organization and were excited to see the results of their efforts (see pictures at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/sga/mcr/news0809.shtm#kenyaconnect> or on YouTube: search for Kenya Connect). Please be sure that your school is represented at these special meetings!

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 (Timothy_T_Hwang@mcpsmd.org)

Used Inkjet Cartridges

Please PONY your used inkjet cartridges to the Student Affairs Office. 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.

Help is only a "click" away! Check out the Student Affairs Web site!

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs



High schools—you have an early 9/9 RSVP date to reserve a bus for the 9/25 MCR general assembly...don't miss out! Special Presentation on Cyber Safety!!

Send your questions, comments and concerns to:

Karen Crawford, Student Affairs Coordinator

Lakelands Park MS, Room 120

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

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