

# College Gardens Elementary School

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Principal's Updates from School: 12-16-11

This is one in a series of updates from College Gardens ES. Our "Principal's Updates from School" are scheduled for distribution weekly on Friday afternoons.

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus Performance**

Our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus is scheduled to perform at White Flint Mall on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 from 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. We look forward to our students' opportunity to perform for the general public.

## **Superintendent's Listen & Learn Events**

Superintendent of Schools Joshua P. Starr has released a summary report on the 17 Listen and Learn events held with the community, staff and students over the past three months. More than 1,800 people attended the sessions and more than 560 people submitted written comments.

The Listen & Learn Report can be found at;

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/departments/superintendent/listen/ListenandLearn-Report.pdf>

## **Comment on the FY13 Operating Budget**

The Board is scheduled to hold two public hearings on the superintendent's recommended budget on January 11 and 18, 2012. At this time, the specific date and time for Budget Testimony from the Richard Montgomery Cluster has not been finalized. You will be informed once it is. Beginning on Monday, December 19, 2011, at 9 a.m., individuals wishing to testify must register by calling 301-279-3617. Individuals will receive three minutes to testify.

- A person calling to speak may reserve only one space.
- Individuals and organizations may not cede time to others who have signed up or wish to sign up.
- The agenda for the hearing is closed when the maximum number of speakers is registered.
- Speakers are requested to submit their testimony to the Board of Education office at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing. If the testimony is not submitted in advance, speakers are requested to provide 20 copies of their statement at the hearing, for distribution to the Board, staff, and press.
- Public hearings are recorded, televised, and transmitted via webcast.

## **Superintendent's Budget**

Copies of the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2013 Operating Budget in Brief will be distributed to all schools on Monday, December 12, 2011 via the Pony. Each school will receive two copies: one copy is for the school, and the other copy is to be shared with your school's parent teacher association president. The *Superintendent's Recommended FY 2013 Operating Budget* (Management Budget) and the *Recommended Program Budget FY 2013* will be published online on the Montgomery County Public Schools website at the following address **on December 8, 2011:**

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/>

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## **Get Ready for Winter Weather**

Winter weather is coming soon. Stay on top of school closures, delayed openings or early dismissals by subscribing to the MCPS QuickNotes email news service, Alert MCPS or Twitter. Learn more about weather decisions on the MCPS emergency information website.

## **How to Receive MCPS Emergency Information**

### **MCPS Web: Home page**

**<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org>**

Weather-related messages are posted in English and Spanish.

### **Email: QuickNotes**

Weather-related messages are sent in 6 languages (English, Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese).

### **Text and Email: Alert MCPS**

Alert MCPS provides you with emergency information about school operations via text messages (i.e. SMS text or email messages) to devices you register. Signing up for Alert MCPS is free, but your wireless carrier may charge you a fee to receive text messages. This service is provided in collaboration with the Montgomery County government. Weather-related messages are sent in English and Spanish.

### **Text and Web: Twitter**

A Twitter account allows you to follow MCPS text-message updates on your computer or on your cell or other mobile device. Twitter updates will include emergency message and other school system news.

**<http://twitter.com/mcps>**

### **TV: MCPS Cable Channels**

Emergency announcements are posted on the following cable channels.

Comcast Channel 34

Verizon Fios Channel 36

RCN Channel 89

### **Telephone Information Line: 301-279-3673**

Recorded emergency information.

### **Telephone: Ask MCPS: 301-309-6277**

Staff takes calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, in English and Spanish.

### **Web: MCPS Newsfeed**

Receive alerts and news on your computer.

### **TV and Radio: Local Stations**

Tune in to local TV and radio stations for information.