



Blue Note: Galway Chronicle

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THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER—MS. CURTIS

This past week, I have been meeting with Grades 2 & 3 to continue with Counselor Introductions as well as supporting individual students. In the 2nd grade, I have been supporting the social studies unit by conducting a lesson on Familiar and Unfamiliar people. We talked about features of familiar people that include: (1) Feeling safe, (2) Feeling Comfortable, (3) Spend time with, (4) Share experiences and (5) Know a lot of information about. If one of these features is not present then the person is considered unfamiliar. During my next visit, we will discuss actions and words that might cause a student to feel unsafe and uncomfortable by familiar and unfamiliar people and determine how to access help when necessary.

GIRL SCOUT INFORMATION SESSION

There will be a Girl Scout information session at Galway on Wednesday, September 28th, at 7 p.m., for interested parents. The Field Director of the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital will share information and answer questions regarding a new Girl Scout Troop for Galway students. Volunteers are needed to get the troop started and to make a difference with scouting. Girls can gain developmental skills needed to *discover themselves, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place*. If you have any questions you may contact Sabrina Breedlove at SabrinaBLuv@msn.com or (301) 526-8010.

LAVENDER'S FALL FUNDRAISER

Today marks the half way point for the PTA's fall fundraiser. Don't forget to get out there and sell! Please support our wonderful school - all monies raised from the fundraiser directly benefit the students and staff. All students who sell at least ONE item will win a prize! Order forms are due on Monday, October 3, 2011. Contact Rena Surana-Nirula with any questions - rsurana@bgmw.com or 301-890-0777.

MAGNET PROGRAMS

The Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) is made up of three schools -- Argyle, Loiederman, and Parkland middle schools -- each of which offers an innovative and challenging magnet curriculum. Interested parents are invited to attend the Information Meeting and Open Houses in the fall to learn more about the three magnet schools. Each MSMC middle school will host an open house at their respective building: Wednesday, October 5 at Argyle Middle School, Wednesday, October 12 at Loiederman Middle School, and Wednesday, October 26 at Parkland Middle School.

Families can access the *Choice* form on the MCPS website on or before October 14. The deadline to turn in *Choice* forms is **Monday, November 7, 2011**. Selection for the MSMC schools is done by lottery.



Calendar Items

- Wed. Sept. 28 - Early Release Day - 1:00 p.m.
- Thurs. Sept. 29 - NO SCHOOL - Rosh Hashanah
- Fri. Sept. 30 - DEADLINE—Free & Reduced Meals form
- Tues. Oct. 4 - PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs. Oct. 6 - Dads - N - Donuts & 45 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
- Mon. Oct. 10 - Open House 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
ESOL Night 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Wed. Oct. 12 - Grade 5 Field Trip to Strathmore Hall
- Mon. Oct. 17 - Grade 5 Parent Meeting - Galway, 7:00 pm.
Middle School Magnet Programs

THANK YOU - BACK TO SCHOOL PICNIC

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for sponsoring a great Back-To-School picnic. I know I am not alone when I say, "We ALL had a great time!"

Principal's Comments!



Dear Families,
FREE AND REDUCED MEAL FORMS/APPLICATIONS

Each family should have received a Free and Reduced Meal Form/Application. These forms/applications need to be returned **only** if you are applying for Free or Reduced meals. If your child received free or a reduced payment meal last year, **you must reapply**. These students will continue to receive free or reduced meals only until October 1, unless they are re-approved this year. All applications must be returned ASAP.

Sincerely,
Ms. Stanislaus, Principal

HIGHLY GIFTED CENTER APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Elementary Centers for the Highly Gifted (HGC) were mailed the first week of September directly to all parents of **Grade 3 students** in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). **This is a reminder that if you are interested in having your child considered for the HGC, you must complete the application and return it by November 7, 2011, to:**

HGC Application Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services
11721 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902

If for some reason you did not receive an application in the mail, and are interested in the program, contact the school or access it from the website at

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/. The packet also is available in Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

There will be a parent information meeting about the HGC on the following date, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 10th, at Wheaton H.S. 7 p.m. [Presentación español disponible](#).

COLUMBUS DAY - OPEN HOUSE

Mark your calendar! Galway's Parent Visitation Day/Open House is scheduled on Columbus Day, Monday, October 10. Parents/grandparents are invited to visit their children's classrooms starting at 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

RESOURCES FOR OUR PARENTS

MCPS has several resources to help parents and the community stay on top of school system activities and resources. Here's how to stay connected:

MCPS Website

Check out the MCPS website for regular news updates. The Parents page, is packed with resources, useful tips and upcoming deadlines for parents.

ASK MCPS Coffees

Hosted by the Department of Family and Community Partnerships (DFCP), these meetings give parents and community members an opportunity to ask questions and get information on school system programs and services. Parents also can learn how to stay in touch via Edline and other MCPS Web resources. Mark your calendar for this fall's ASK MCPS Coffee - **Thursday, Oct. 6, from 4-7 p.m. in DFCE's offices, 850 Hungerford Drive, Suite 50 in Rockville.**

Alert MCPS provides you with emergency information about school operations via text and/or email sent to your cell phone or other electronic devices. Messages are sent in English and Spanish.

Twitter

Follow us on Twitter and receive school system news, emergency messages and important reminders on your computer or mobile device.

Participate in Community Roundtables

Two community roundtables for parents, staff, students and other community members will be held on Wed., Oct. 12, and Thurs., Oct. 27. The roundtables provide an opportunity to offer input on the school system's strategic plan. Information shared at the forums will be used to help set priorities for the Fiscal Year 2013 Operating Budget. Parent Advisory Council Seeks 15 New Members

The MCPS Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

PAC provides a great opportunity for parents to become involved and offer important input to the school system. The 30-member PAC works with the Department of Family and Community Partnerships (DFCP) to provide feedback on systemwide parent outreach. Council members must be parents with at least one child in the school system, and be able to serve a two-year term. The PAC meets Mondays eight times a year at Carver Educational Services Center in Rockville and is currently seeking 15 new members. Nominations are due September 23. The first two meetings of the year are on October 17 and November 14.

Download nomination forms or call DFCE at 301-279-3100 for more information.