



The Key



March 2011

Ridgeview Middle School PTSA/ 301-840-4770

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Dr. Carole LeVine, principal of RMS will be on leave through March 21, 2011. Ms. Nancy Schultze, retired Montgomery County Public Schools director of Middle School Programs and former Redland Middle School principal will be the acting principal effective Wednesday, February 16, 2011.

SAVE THESE

DATES:

- MSA Testing
March 7-16
- Make-Up Days
March 17-23

Please do not plan to be out of town on these dates or plan any appointments where your child would need to miss school. It is very important that all students are in school on the testing dates.

From the Desk of the PTSA President

Greetings Ridgeview Parents,

Wow, we are just cooking through the year. Can you believe there are only two PTSA meetings left? Please mark your calendars and plan to attend Tuesday, March 8th and May 10th at 7:15. These meetings are very important to setting the stage for next year's PTSA. In order for us to conduct business, we need your attendance to meet quorum. Our meeting goals:

March 8th:

- Present Formal Yahoo Communication Policy
- Approve November & February Meeting Minutes
- Approve nominating committee for next year's Board
- QOHS Marching Band Student Leadership Presentation on advantages that freshmen who join can bring. 8th Grade Students considering the QOHS Marching band are encouraged to attend our meeting with their parents.
- Carole Working, Quince Orchard HS Principal will be a speaker.

May 10th:

- Present and Approve Next Year's Board

We may have come to the end of our meetings but there are still great PTSA sponsored Spring Events to look forward to like the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament on March 18th and International Night on May 13th.

This week I attended two excellent programs: the film RACE TO NOWHERE sponsored by Quince Orchard High School PTSA, Lakelands Park PTSA & Rachel Carson PTA and Heritage Café sponsored by our own PTSA.

The film highlighted the tremendous stress and pressure that our children are under. Many parents asked, "What can we do to change it?" Bottom line is that if we want to see change, we need to be involved with legislative advocacy. (cont.)

Letter From the RMS PTSA President (cont.)

Short term, we need to listen to our kids and encourage them to follow their passions, take academically rigorous courses that appropriately challenge them but don't overwhelm. In life it's about balance and helping our children find their "best fit" instead of expecting all children to learn and perform like the top 2% of learners. Jenni Pfeiffer, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions of George Washington University said that they receive applications from many kids who graduate with numerous AP credits, participate in multiple afterschool sports and/or clubs, and have an amazing volunteer record. But at the end of the day, she considers these kids flat. GW will admit many of them but she said there is nothing that makes them stand out or gives you a sense of who they are as a person. She strongly encouraged us to let our children explore their passions even if it means one less AP credit and that not everyone needs to attend a top ten college or university to be successful. There are so many to choose from and it's all about the "best fit" for your child. (cont.)

I want to thank Miriam Mokuena, Ridgeview PTSA NAACP Parent Council Representative Chair, and her entire NAACP Parent Council team that organized this year's Heritage Night. I was so proud to be a part of this evening and that the program is made possible because of the support of our PTSA. It validates our purpose. It was a wonderful intimate setting where families had the opportunity to dine together and celebrate African American Heritage. Our own RMS Student Emcee's Lilian Makori and Radiance Talley did a terrific job leading us through the night. The evening included performances from Ridgeview Jazz Band and Step Team, RMS student poetry reading, beatboxing and rap presentation along with our Special Guest Speaker, Ms. Jennifer Donelan. The theme for the evening was "BE THE DREAM." In her speech Jennifer reminded us all that we need to believe in ourselves and follow our dreams, ignoring the naysayers. You don't have to be the smartest to be successful and achieve your dreams. You just have to want it bad enough and work really hard to get it.

We all have a story. I am dyslexic, couldn't read until 3rd grade and was told by my high school counselor that I was not college material. Many times during my formative years I was made to feel less smart than my peers and had to work really hard to keep up. What I discovered along the way is that I am just as smart. My strengths may be different as well as my path to accomplishments. In today's terms, I would be considered an "alternative learner". That's okay because it's what makes me who I am. I did go to college and graduated in 4 years with a BA in Interior Design from Mount Vernon College and now I'm your PTSA president. We can all be the Dream!

Sincerely,

Tara Murayama
Ridgeview PTSA President
Email: gmurayama@comcast.net



If you have forgotten to join the RMS PTSA, it's not too late! We are just 9 members short of reaching our goal of 400 members. Can you help us reach our goal! Remember every membership comes with a RMS Student Directory that is a valuable resource that can only be gotten if you are a member. Membership forms can be printed off the RMS website. Anyone who supports our goals can join. That includes parents, teachers, students, grandparents, aunts, uncles and the like. Your dues cover PTSA membership in the National, State and Local PTSA organizations and school directory-printing costs.

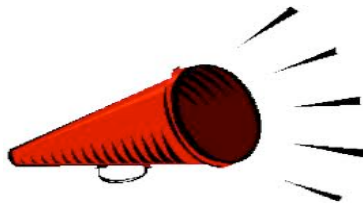
PTSA is a membership organization. Membership doesn't have to equate to a time commitment. We'd love you to be active, but we also love to have you demonstrate support through membership. We can't run without your support. By becoming a member, you are helping your child's school and we need you.

We wish you and your families all the best for 2011. PTSA in Montgomery County should be the face of every child; with your efforts and help, it will.

Seeking 3 PTSA Members for Officer Nominating Committee:



We are looking for 3 people who would be interested in participating on our officer nominating committee. The nominating committee is one of the most important committees in our PTSA unit. It is essential that the members of the nominating committee include experienced on-going leadership as well as newer members. Any member, with the exception of the current PTSA president, is eligible to serve on the nominating committee. We are looking for a new Treasurer and 2nd Vice President for next year's Board. We plan to elect our nominating committee at our March, 8th PTSA meeting. The committee will present the slate of officers at our May meeting where we will vote to approve. If you are interested and would like more information on the committee responsibilities, please contact Tara Murayama, PTSA President at 301.325.3353 or gmurayama@comcast.net.



SPREAD THE WORD!!

Have information that you would like to share with the Ridgeview Community? Please contact the following Committee Chairs to share your announcements or important information:

Leah Haworth, Key Newsletter Editor and Yahoo Group Moderator at leah.haworth@yahoo.com

Michelle Cornblatt, RMS PTSA website liaison at michellec@olstrading.com.



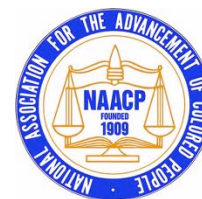
Student Service Learning (SSL) Notes **Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference**

SSL: Develops Workplace Skills.

- Participate in school-sponsored clubs and organizations that promote service.
- Consider getting involved in service on President's Day February 21 and the "Early Release" day on March 4.
- Demonstrate a good work ethic when addressing real need in the community.
- Remember: SSL is a graduation requirement. SSL along with all other requirements must be met for a high school diploma to be awarded.

- Find meaningful, high quality service-learning opportunities by searching www.mcpsssl.org.





NAACP Parents' Council

Heritage Café

Ridgeview is basking in the success of its fourth annual Heritage Café celebrating African American history month. The evening began by a classy performance by the jazz ensemble, which was followed by an attractive video of prominent African Americans scored by the African American National Anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing." The vivacious step team performed with precision and provided the perfect lead into the keynote speaker, Jennifer Donelan of WJLA Channel 7. Ms. Donelan shared some very personal experiences about her education and path to a successful career in journalism, and a near death experience. She instructed the students to follow their passions, to work hard, but also take care of their health: a true prescription for "Being the Dream." The evening was rounded out by poetry performances by Parrish Gaines, Antoin Lee Harriston Spann, and Keawe Bush; a very talented beat box duo of Kavon Badie and Patrick Paolini; and rappers Joseph Koffi and Anthony Paarporn could have easily competed with Eminem for a Grammy. Not to be forgotten was a different component at Heritage Café: Several students' video projects were displayed. The parents of Elena Yesnick, Samuel Holmberg, Brandon Nguyen, Blake Atkins, Cory Amoroso, Rachel Torvik and Tori Isaacson should be very proud, for their students' work was of a quality I have seen at the high school level.

I want to publicly express my gratitude to those who helped put the program together. Such an event cannot be put together without the work of many. The following administrators, staff, parents and students deserve special recognition: Dr. LeVine, Ms. Browne, Mrs. Jahanmir, Mrs. Brewer, Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Cromie, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Brame-Suggs, Mr. LoRusso, Mrs. McArdle, and the building services crew. Also parents Moorosi Mokuena, Greg Goodwin, Cheryl Harris, Pat and Lewis Haythe, Tara Murayama, Diana O'Keefe, Claude Kamana, and the PTSA Executive Committee were invaluable over the past few months. Students Brian and Ella O'Keefe were indispensable on the night of the event. Finally, I would like to thank the teachers and staff who took the time to attend. I truly appreciate their support. These are: Mrs. Green, Ms. Boswell, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Gibson and Mrs. LaBanca.

Black Saga

Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Branch have been working hard to prepare a group of dedicated students for the statewide Black Saga competition at Towson University in March. Students have been studying a wide range of details of African American history, from landmark Supreme Court cases, famous quotes, and important persons and events. Student participants have helped make an African American history month display for which they earned SSL hours. There is a lot of material to cover and parents are welcome to assist with Black Saga practice sessions after school. Despite the amount of work involved, there is no doubt that students benefit from this new Ridgeview program. Not only do they gain from the in-depth knowledge of history, but they are able to reflect on how the changes in American society over the past three hundred years are meaningful to them.

African American Expressions Sales

Sales of these beautiful bookmarks and magnets will continue into March. We had a significant boost in sales at Heritage Cafe. A display highlighting the sale items is in the case near the school's entrance. Please contact a NAACP Parents' Council member to make a purchase.

Other Planned Activities

We are exploring hosting a guest presenter/psychologist/actor on diversity, coordinating a visit for families to see "America I Am" exhibit at National Geographic Museum, and representation of African and Caribbean cultures at International Night.

Miriam Mokuena
Ridgeview Middle School NAACP Representative
Email: mdmokuena@netzero.net

*"We are one people.
We are one nation."*



Be a Volunteer at your child's school!

These middle school years are a great time to stay involved with your child's school and with your child. There are over 25 committees that could use your help in making this year a success. Many committees -- such as Book Fair, 3on3 Basketball, Staff Appreciation, and signing up to be a volunteer for your child's grade to help in various yearlong activities -- are great ways to stay involved and to know the happenings of your child's daily goings-on.

Volunteer Opportunities – *You will never regret being involved!*

Many thanks to all of the parents who have already volunteered to serve as committee chairs for the coming school year. We are looking forward to a great year at Ridgeview! There are a few committee chair positions that we still need to fill. Please take a look at this list to see if you could serve in one of these positions:

Display Case Coordinator – Setting up the various display cases with student work when contacted by a teacher.

Math Club - once a week 1 hour math activities at RMS. Chairperson should work on enforcing math concepts, developing children's logic, and generally engaging children in math via interesting team games and challenges, chairperson would also train children for AMC8 Olympiad. All the literature with problems and solutions is available. Please contact Ken at karapetk@gmail.com for more information.

Please give Julie Tittle a call if you are interested in being a volunteer or if you would like to find out more information about these programs at 301-869-7710 or klquypete@aol.com.



MCPS COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

The MCPS Parent Academy is Back! The MCPS Parent Academy is back for 2010-2011 with an exciting lineup of workshops for parents. All sessions are free, and they're designed to help parents become better advocates for their children and to support their success in school. Interpretation services and free child care for children ages 3-12 are available. Parent Academy workshops cover topics ranging from bus safety and nutrition, to helping with algebra homework, to understanding school assessments, communicating with school staff and financing students' college education. A complete listing of the fall's Parent Academy workshops is on the web. For more information and to register, go to www.mcpsparentacademy.org or call 301.279.3100.

Search Process for New Superintendent. The Board of Education began the process of searching for a new superintendent of schools at its Sept. 16 meeting by approving a resolution to authorize a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a search firm to help with the national search process. Superintendent Jerry D. Weast has announced that he will retire at the end of the 2010-2011 school year after 12 years of leading MCPS. The Board discussed a draft timeline for the national search. The search firm is expected to be selected by the end of the year. More information on the search is available at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/.

Homework Hotline Live! MCPS TV's Homework Hotline Live! HHL is broadcast live on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4-6 p.m. on Cable Channel 34 (Comcast), 36 (Verizon) or 89 (RCN). Students can watch on the web at www.AskHHL.org. Anyone can call, even if they don't have Internet or cable. The ask questions and get help from teachers, K-12 students can:

- Call: 301-279-3234
- Text: 724-427-5445
- Visit the web: www.AskHHL.org
- Post a message on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Homework-Hotline-Live/138296611133
- Email questions: question@AskHHL.org

MCPS COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE (cont.)

Stay Informed with Edline. Parents of middle and high school students can use the web-based Edline system to exchange emails with teachers and to track their children's progress on assignments, tests and grades. Instructions on how to activate your child's Edline account are at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/oars/.

Keep in Touch. Here are some ways to stay in touch with MCPS during the school year.

- MCPS website: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/mcps>
- Parent Guide: www.MCPSparentguide.org
- Ask MCPS: 301-309-6277 or email questions to AskMCPS@mcpsmd.org
- Alert MCPS (text or email emergency notices): <https://alert.montgomerycountymd.gov/register.php>
- QuickNotes e-newsletter and emergency announcements: www.mcpsquicknotes.org



PTSA TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Considering a bigger role next year in RMS PTSA but worried you don't know enough about the position? You're Invited to attend Maryland PTA Regional Training - right in Montgomery County!

Saturday, February 26 9am – 3pm
 White Oak Middle School
 12201 New Hampshire Ave.
 Silver Spring, MD 20904

Training is free but you must register! Contact Maryland PTA at 1-800-707-7972 or 410-760-6221 or officeadministrator@mdpta.org with you name, address, email, and phone number. Breakfast & lunch provided!



HELP RAISE \$\$\$ FOR RMS!!

Many companies offer promotions that we can take advantage of to raise money for RMS. The following are various ways we can earn some cash for RMS at no cost to you and take just a few minutes of your time. Please look over this list. Please note that you must register every year to receive credit.

Giant A+ Bonus Bucks -- RMS school code is 00811

-- Please stop by Giant or register online at <https://www.giantfood.com> (under Our Stores - click on register your card on the far right side) ASAP so we can start earning money. Or call Giant at 1-877-275-2758 and they can register you over the phone.

Safeway Card -- RMS school code is 6557446

-- Register online at www.eScrip.com.

Harris Teeter -- RMS school code is 6585

-- Please register your VIC card with Harris Teeter's Together In Education program so we earn 5% of your total purchase of Harris Teeter brand products. This can be done over the phone at 1-800-432-6111 or at: http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx

Office Depot -- RMS school code is 70046665

--Give this number when you checkout and 5% will be given to RMS. If you forget, please save your receipt and contact me by phone or email with the receipt information. This has to be done within 30 days from purchase.

Target REDcard - RMS school ID 58179

-- If you have a Target credit card, please designate RMS with the Take Charge of Education Program. We currently have 13 people enrolled and our last payout was \$224.67 in August 2010. If you know anyone who has Target credit card, please have them designate RMS so we can earn free cash at no extra cost.



HELP RAISE \$\$\$ FOR RMS!!

Searching on the World Wide Web?? Try out www.goodsearch.com

Goodsearch.com is powered by Yahoo Search. First indicate RIDGEVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA where it says "enter your charity here..." before begin your search. QOHS will receive one cent per search except for the following: 1) image searches; 2) video searches; 3) "search this site" searches; 4) searches for URL's (i.e., search terms ending in .com, .org, .net, .edu); 5) searches sites for which the URL is well known such as Hotmail, ESPN, Myspace, Facebook, GMail, AOL, etc; 6) searches for stock quotes; 7) searches for word definitions; 8) Yellow Pages searches; and, 9) any searches generated from fraudulent use of the site. This is a easy way we can earn some extra money. So try it out!

Do you shop online?

Try www.goodsearch.com and look for the tab for **GoodShop** where there is a list of stores/online retailers who will donate a percentage to RIDGEVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA depending on the merchant. You must first go through www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx and designate your charity and it will link you to the retailer of your choice. For example, Amazon.com is one of the retailers and will donate .5-1.5% to our school.

OR try Box Top Marketplace. Please register and shop online through Box Tops link so RMS can receive from .5% - 25%.
<https://www.boxtops4education.com/registration/default.aspx>

Once you register Ridgeview (Ridgeview school code 373505), then RMS will receive earnings from Bonus Box Tops awarded online on qualifying purchase from the Box Tops Marketplace. You must use the above site to link you to various merchants. If you need help, please contact me.

Recycling ink and toner cartridges -- Please bring in empty ink or toner cartridges. We can turn trash into cash for teacher supplies. Drop the cartridges in the PTSA box at the main office. If you have a large quantity, please call so I can make arrangements to pick up the cartridges. Please check with businesses you encounter that might have empty cartridges. This will also help the environment.

Box Tops -- Keep collecting Box Tops from various products. Each Box Top gives RMS 10 cents and adds up! Please put them in an envelope or a baggie with your child's name and his or her first period teacher. This will count towards our Box Top contest to see which class collects the most (minimum required 300 Box Tops which is \$30.00).



HELP RAISE \$\$\$ FOR RMS!!

Tyson Project A+ -- Continue collecting Tyson Project A+ labels from various frozen foods and lunch meat. Each label is worth 24 cents that RMS can earn. Please have your child bring them to his or her first period teacher.

Campbell Soup -- Keep collecting Campbell Soup, Pepperidge Farm, Swanson, V8, Market Day, Prego Sauce, and Franco-American products UPC barcodes. Please deposit them in the box in the main office or give them to your child's first period teacher. We no longer need the label, just the UPC code.

If you don't have your Safeway Club card, please call Safeway at 1-800- SAFEWAY. For a Giant Bonus Card call 1-877-275-2758 and for Harris Teeter call 1-800-432-6111.

Feel free to email your Giant, Safeway, or Harris Teeter card # information to buspromos@yahoo.com and I will process your registration so RMS will receive the benefit of the various promotions.

Ask your friends and family to enroll their shopping cards so our school can reap the benefits even if they don't have children at RMS. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Karen Chen at 301-963-6399 or Louise Moroney 301-963-1343.

Thank you for your support.

Karen Chen and Louise Moroney
Business Promotion

buspromos@yahoo.com

Imm114@yahoo.com

FATHERS' GROUP



The goal of the RMS Fathers' Group is to connect fathers (step-fathers, grandfathers, uncles, etc.) with the School in order to leverage the collective skill set of this underutilized resource with pressing priorities of the School. The group will be sponsoring several events and taking on various activities throughout the year. Those interested should contact Tom Sneeringer at 301-296-3642 or tom.sneeringer@mcgladrey.com.

Ridgeview Middle School Proudly Presents...



Alice in Wonderland, Jr.

Friday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 9th at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

All performances will be held at Ridgeview Middle School.

Tickets are \$5.00 for Students and \$8.00 for adults

Help support the Ridgeview Drama Department and the Spring Musical by purchasing an advertisement for your business.

Full Page - \$85

½ Page - \$50

¼ Page - \$25

Provide the following information:

Name:

Phone Number:

Ad Size:

Ad wording and or design:

Write all checks to Ridgeview Middle School.

Mail check with your desired ad to:

Lisa Torvik, 11905 Bunchberry Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

You can also email the ad to Lisa at: torvikfam@verizon.net

Deadline for submitting your ad is March 25, 2011



RMS 2011 Yearbooks

Yearbooks can be ordered online with a credit card at www.jostens.com. Click on "Buy Your Yearbook" and select "Ridgeview Middle School Gaithersburg, MD." Personalization of the yearbook is available online only and must be done by **February 25, 2011**, which is the last day to order yearbooks online.

International Festival at RMS

Ridgeview students and their families are invited to an International Festival on Friday, May 13. At the International Festival, parents and students can expect to:

- learn about the many world-wide cultures
- sample some homemade cultural food
- socialize with others



Many countries will be represented: India, Japan, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Caribbean Islands, China, Italy and Greece. Each country has a table featuring different parts of its culture. Many of the countries feature food samples!

So, please mark your calendars for the RMS International Festival on Friday, May 13. If anyone is interested in helping with an existing country or representing their own country, please contact either Diana O'Keefe 301-947-8744 or Mary Zoccola 301-963-6176.



The Annual QOHS MULCH SALE is Coming! APRIL 9TH 2011

The QOHS All-School Booster Club MULCH SALE is fast approaching.

This is the school's largest fundraiser with the proceeds going to assist the school's 68 Clubs, 38 Sports Teams and Extracurricular Programs.

Our goal this year is a VERY ACHIEVABLE 10,000 BAGS!

Please help support us again, by ordering 8 or more bags you also receive free delivery! Bags are only \$5 each, make sure to fill out your order form (available in January) and return it early to ensure delivery.

For more info go to:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/qohs/orgs/boosters/index.aspx>



QUINCE ORCHARD HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION ESPECIALLY FOR 8TH GRADE STUDENTS AND PARENTS:

** Now's a good time to get "in the know" with what's going on at Quince Orchard High School. Sign up to be on the parent email list now so that you start receiving information.

Go to the QOHS website: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/qohs/>
Scroll down the left side of the home page and click on "Parent Email List Join Today"

** If you want to play a Fall sport, note that Fall try-outs start on or about August 15th, so plan vacations accordingly. Students also need very specific paperwork completed, including a physical exam, before participating in try-outs. From the QOHS home page of the website, click on "Athletics" to get more information (Fall sport information should be posted soon). Some teams also participate in camps this summer, before try-outs, so you may want to contact the team Coach this Spring to find out details.

Sue Wingate
sjwingate@comcast.net

MCPS NIGHT AT THE WIZARDS



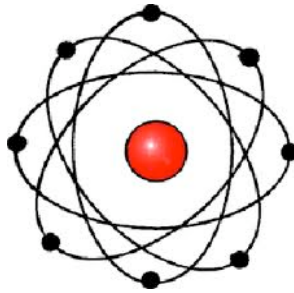
Saturday, March 5. Gates open 6:30pm. Game starts 7pm.

We invite everyone to visit our MCPS table on the concourse and to see our MCPS students perform. Please join us to help support this important and fun even at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. Discounted tickets are available with the link and MCPS code. Please go to the MCPS website <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/familycommunity/wizards/>

A portion of the ticket sales will go back to MCPS to help support our 4th Annual Back-to-School Fair. (To be held on August 27, 2011) If folks cannot attend, tickets or extra tickets still are welcomed to be donated. Please contact Ms. Gail Woolf, Partnership Manager Department of Family and Community Partnerships CESC, 850 Hungerford Drive Suite 50 Rockville, Maryland 20850.
T: 301-279-3100 Email: Gail_S_Woolf@mcpsmd.org

Apply to Become a JASON National Argonaut!

Applications due Feb. 28



Apply to Join the JASON National Argo Team to Explore Oceanography!

The JASON Project is seeking a diverse, creative, and adventurous group of students and teachers to venture into the field with scientists to perform cutting edge science explorations. The Argonauts will embark on a journey starting in Summer 2011, during which they will:

- * Work side by side with scientists in the field, completing a JASON field experience around the topic of oceanography
- * Serve as a mentor and role model for the JASON Community
- * Regularly interact with the entire JASON community through speaking engagements, message board postings, web casts, pod casts, chats and more!

Student and Teacher Argonauts will spend up to 10 days in the field during the summer of 2011. Additional participation in JASON activities such as message board discussions, speaking at events, and contributing to online content will continue after the field experience. JASON will pay for all travel, lodging, food (meals and snacks), and programming/equipment costs related to JASON Argonaut activities.

Applications are being accepted now, with a deadline of **Monday, February 28, 2011**. Student and teacher selection will be finalized by mid-May, 2011. Students should be 14 or 15 years old by June 1, 2011 to apply. Teachers need five years of classroom experience and continuation as an educator in 2011-2012. All Argonaut candidates should be willing and able to travel to an international location.

For more information or to apply, log in and visit the Argonaut Application page in the JASON Mission Center to download complete application guidelines, instructions and forms. If you haven't been to the JASON Mission Center before, you can register now for free. Additional questions regarding the JASON National Argonaut program can be sent to argo@jason.org.

Attention RMS Middle School Parents & Students!!!!!!



Quince Orchard Head Football Coach Dave Mencarini is proud to announce the first ever Cougar Middle School Football Team which will be forming in the summer of 2011.

This team will be participating in the Rockville Football League and will be comprised of middle school football players who will eventually be attending Quince Orchard High School.

These players will be taught the basics of the Cougar offense, defense, and special teams and will practice using the same drills and techniques employed at Quince Orchard.

Coach Mac's goal is to provide serious football players the opportunity to get a jumpstart on QO Football and learn the "Cougar Way".

Dave Mencarini
Head Football Coach
Quince Orchard High School
15800 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
301.840.4581 Office
301.693.7855 Cell



How Do I Get the News From RMS??



Sign up for the Ridgeview Yahoo Group
To subscribe send an e-mail to the following address:

RMS_PTSA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
(There is an underscore between RMS and PTSA)

This is a closed group for members of the RMS school community only.
Messages for school and PTSA are the only thing posted on this group –
this is NOT used for group discussions or forums.

Visit the RMS Website

<http://mcps.k12.md.us/schools/ridgeviewrms>



RMS PTSA to Sponsor 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

March madness will take over RMS after MSA testing on **Friday, March 18th, 2011** when RMS will hold its second annual **3-on-3 Basketball Tournament!** This event's goal is for participants and supporters to have fun, display sportsmanship and develop school tradition. 6th, 7th and 8th grade students will have the opportunity to build their co-ed team of three to play and compete in an afternoon of games while other students will choose to wear red, white or black t-shirts and cheer on their favorite team! We have built a tradition from the first whistle last year when we allowed our 8th grade student teams to play basketball with our very own RMS selected staff. Prizes for the winning teams will be presented, gift cards given away during the games, concessions will be sold throughout the event, game day shirts for the participating teams and intermission entertainment are all part of March Madness at RMS!

Please look for more information on the RMS 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament throughout January and February. It takes many parent volunteers to make this event a success! We look forward to a wonderful afternoon of basketball at RMS so please do not hesitate to get involved!

Kristin Paolini
klpao@comcast.net
301-977-1056

SPELLING BEE WINNER – LAURA WAGNER

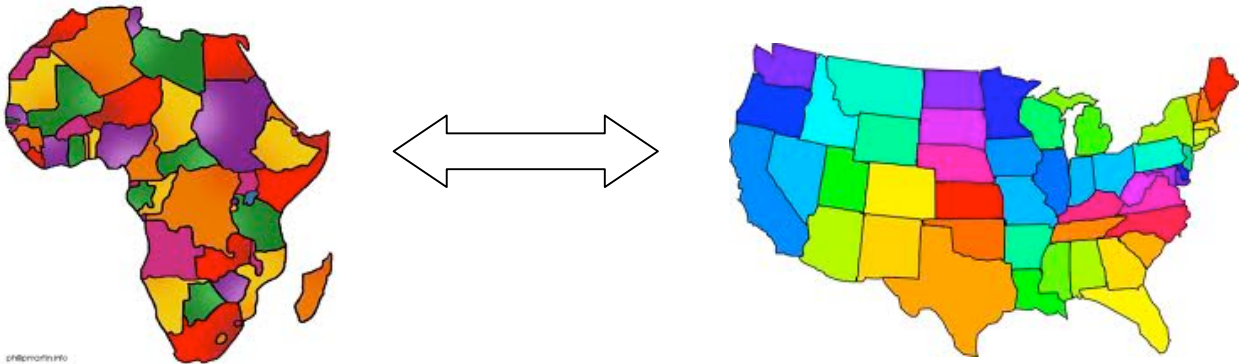


Congratulations to Laura Wagner, 6th grader, who placed first with the winning word, "wrestle," in RMS' Spelling Bee January 25th. Laura will advance to the Regional Spelling Bee, which will be held March 5th at the Fourth Presbyterian Church located in Bethesda, Maryland. Also, congrats goes to Aakruti Patel, second place winner and James Lonogan, who came in third place out of ten participants. A special thank you goes to Ms. LaBanca for serving as the official pronouncer, Ms. McArdle for allowing the event to be held in her classroom with a stage and microphone, Ms. Branch and Mr. Doggett for serving as judges for the event.

America I AM: The African American Imprint National Geographic Museum

1145 17th Street NW
Washington, D.C., 20036
202 857 7588

* Date February 2, 2011 – May 1, 2011
* Time 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily



Take a journey through trials and triumphs while exploring nearly 500 years of African American contributions to the economic, political, cultural, and spiritual development of the United States. Bear witness to more than 200 poignant artifacts from the dungeon doors of the Cape Coast Castle in Ghana to Prince's guitar.

**** RMS YAHOO Group Communications Policy ****

Dear RMS PTSA families,

RMS yahoo communications has, in the recent past, always been reserved for communications specific to RMS and our PTSA as well as Cluster and MCPS information. However, you may have noticed a couple of recent yahoo communications that went beyond those guidelines. The PTSA would like to expand the ability to communicate some additional information to you that may be relevant to our wider student community but not necessary restricting it to RMS/MCPS activities. For example, we may include community, cultural and educational opportunities as well as summer program information. These additional communications would still be relevant to RMS students and aid in the advancement of their education and/or extracurricular activities.

A formal Yahoo Communication Policy will be presented at the next RMS PTSA meeting on Tuesday, March 8th. Please plan to attend. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact any of the RMS PTSA board members directly:

Tara Murayama - gmurayama@comcast.net
Lisa Torvik - torvikfam@verizon.net
Julie Tittle - klguypete@aol.com
Michelle Cornblatt - michellec@olstrading.com
Dohi Shin - dohi.k.shin@baesystems.com

Sincerely,

THE RMS PTSA BOARD

NOTE THESE KEY DATES



February

- 21: No School – President's Day
- 24: Box Tops due
- 25: Deadline to order yearbooks – www.jostens.com

March

- 4: Early Release Day
- 8: PTSA Meeting, 7:30
- 11: Newsletter articles due
- 16: NAACP Meeting, 7:30pm Starbucks in Kentlands
- 18: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
- 25: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament (snow date)
- 30: 3rd Marking Period Ends
- 30: Eat Out Night Mama Lucia
- 31: No School – Professional Day

April

(No PTSA Meeting or Newsletter this month)

- 7: Report Cards Distributed
- 8: Fathers' Group (Friday Game Night)
- 12: Eat Out Night California Tortilla
- 13: NAACP Meeting, 7:30pm Starbucks in Kentlands
- 18-25: No School – Spring Break

