

BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL AWARDS
FOR
**Distinguished Service
to Public Education**
in Montgomery County



Thursday, October 21, 2010
6:00 p.m.
Carver Educational Services Center Auditorium

Purpose

The Montgomery County Board of Education established the Awards for Distinguished Service to Public Education in 1997 to recognize and show appreciation to individuals, groups, and organizations that have made exemplary contributions to public education in Montgomery County.

This evening is a celebration of all the award recipients who work tirelessly on behalf of public education and the children of Montgomery County.

2010 HONOREES

Community Individual

Samantha Lint

Kay Romero

Monte Tarbox

Community Group

Montgomery County

Students Information Technology Foundation, Inc.

Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Business

Audubon Naturalist Society—GreenKids

Michael Priddy/Intervise Consultants, Inc.

MCPS Staff

Michael Campbell

Erick Lang

Joe Rubens, Jr.

Building Services Team

College Gardens Elementary School

Pamela Slater, Vivian Nation, George Powell,
Opral Samuels, Rico Wims, and Yu-Lan Yinlin

PROGRAM

Reception & Entertainment

Eubie Blake Quartet—James Hubert Blake High School

Welcome & Acknowledgments

Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
President, Board of Education

Presentation of Awards

Members of the Board of Education

Closing Remarks

Mrs. Patricia O'Neill
President, Board of Education

Group Photograph of Award Recipients

COMMUNITY INDIVIDUAL ---

Samantha Lint

While attending Montgomery Blair High School, Ms. Lint approached East Silver Spring Elementary School and offered a free ballet class to first and second grade students. The East Silver Spring student community is very diverse, both culturally and economically. Many of the students had never been exposed to ballet nor had the opportunity to participate in an after-school activity. Many of the students were English Language Learners, for whom English was their second language. Ms. Lint skillfully introduced all of the students to the new vocabulary related to ballet, thus exposing them to rare and rich words. Her goal was to increase student confidence, creativity, movement, and self-discipline. The growth made by students was consistent and remarkable as students progressed quickly. Ms. Lint provided the students with appropriate materials and clothing, such as leotards, tights, ballet slippers, and pants.

Ms. Lint assumed all of the responsibilities related to the ballet class, including remaining with each student until he or she was picked up by parents and providing a snack for the students. She also planned a final performance for the young students. They were neither nervous nor stressed, but excited and animated. We thank Ms. Lint for her hard work and initiative in exposing younger students to the performing arts while she was a high school student.

Kay Romero

Ms. Romero has garnered a well-deserved reputation as an outstanding advocate for children and families in Montgomery County, and indeed, the entire state of Maryland. She has spent the past 15 years working tirelessly through her involvement with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). She worked her way up through the ranks of the PTA, doing a variety of jobs, culminating in her serving as Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) president for the past two years. This past November, she was elected to serve as the Maryland PTA president-elect.

In her role as MCCPTA president, Ms. Romero led 189 local PTAs and more than 50,000 members—including parents, staff, community members, and students. She spent countless hours volunteering and devoted herself to her PTA leadership as if it were a full-time job—at least 40 hours per week. Her advocacy is not limited to PTA members, but speaks to the National PTA motto: Every child. One voice.

Ms. Romero has served on numerous education-related advisory committees, task forces, and work groups. She also has testified before the Montgomery County Council and the Maryland state legislature to advocate for public education and children's needs. Ms. Romero has inspired our community with her dedication, integrity, vision, and commitment to public education.

Monte Tarbox

Mr. Tarbox has served the employees and retirees of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) since 2002 as a trustee on the Board of Investment Trustees of the MCPS Employees' Retirement and Pension System. In that capacity, Mr. Tarbox represents the interests of employees and retirees in having a well-managed pension plan. Mr. Tarbox has more than 20 years of professional investment experience and has used that knowledge and experience to improve the investment oversight of the pension system. In addition to active participation in the quarterly trustee meetings, Mr. Tarbox has provided considerable expertise to staff in establishing a monitoring mechanism for, and expanding the review of, investment manager shareholder proxy voting records. These voting rights are an important component of the investment program. Mr. Tarbox also has been instrumental in investment manager selection and monitoring activities.

Mr. Tarbox's experience, judgment, and commitment to MCPS employees and retirees through his work on the pension system have had an impact across the MCPS system through the performance of the retirement plans, the confidence that employees and retirees have that the plans will be available for their retirement payments, as well as the budgetary impact that investment earnings have to keep required Board of Education contributions at the lowest prudent level. We thank Mr. Tarbox for his many contributions over the past eight years.

Montgomery County Students Information Technology Foundation, Inc.

Founded in 2004, Montgomery County Students Information Technology Foundation, Inc. (ITF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that instruction and training in the information technology education program is a practical and meaningful experience for students. In a unique partnership between businesses and public schools in Montgomery County, ITF provides students with unparalleled classroom instruction and hands-on experience in the field of computer configuration, maintenance, repair, and networking. ITF also provides ongoing consultation to MCPS regarding appropriate skills and credentials that best serve current information technology industry needs.

ITF assisted with the development and implementation of the Network Operations program at the Thomas Edison High School of Technology. ITF worked diligently with MCPS to expand the successful Network Operations program to Clarksburg and Rockville high schools. In addition to the education component, the Network Operations classes include an ongoing entrepreneurial activity: three refurbished computer sales per school year. ITF students learn to assess, refurbish, market, and sell used personal computers. This hands-on entrepreneurial project is a key component for the Network Operations program. In addition, this program allows all Network Operations students to participate in nationally recognized industry certification tests, at no cost to the students. ITF continues to be a valued partner in educating students and preparing them for their careers.

Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

The Potomac Valley Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (“Sorority”) has used its cadre of more than 150 members and numerous partner organizations to develop and sustain programs targeting those who are marginalized in our community. The chapter recently celebrated 25 years of service in Montgomery County. Since its inception in 1985, more than 400 youth, primarily African American girls, have been mentored and groomed by Sorority members through the Delta Academy. These young women have participated in academic achievement, college selection, and career and personal development programs sponsored by the chapter.

In addition, the Sorority has partnered with MCPS and helped our students in numerous ways:

- Bringing essential resources to students through mentoring, tutoring, books, and family support.
- Raising college scholarship money for MCPS students.
- Adopting an MCPS Title I school and providing all second and third grade students at that school with books to read through its school literacy program and Reading is Fundamental.
- Having the Sorority's Education Committee work collaboratively to support at-risk students while they attend school or getting them to return to school if they dropped out.

The Sorority is commended for all of the work it does to support and ensure the success of all our students.

Audubon Naturalist Society—GreenKids

Since 2005, the Audubon Naturalist Society has been offering its GreenKids program free of charge to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). GreenKids is a grant-funded, two-year partnership with individual schools that provides 150 hours per year of naturalist support, including hands-on environmental science lessons, teacher professional development, school infrastructure projects (such as outdoor classrooms, school yard gardens, and nature trails), as well as funding support for environmental field trips (such as trips to the Chesapeake Bay and to the Audubon Naturalist Society's nature sanctuary). All GreenKids activities are tied directly to the MCPS curriculum and have brought hands-on environmental education lessons to more than 20,000 students and 1,000 teachers in 43 MCPS schools.

The GreenKids program also worked with MCPS and the Montgomery County Master Gardeners to create and launch a Creating a School Garden website. This website helps MCPS schools create outdoor learning gardens that conform to MCPS facilities requirements, as well as provides environmental lessons linked to the MCPS curriculum free of charge to teachers. In addition, GreenKids has partnered with MCPS to improve energy consideration and recycling rates in schools, as well as help several schools achieve Green School and Maryland Green School status. This prestigious award sets the bar for striving for greener operations in instruction, professional development, and building and grounds operations.

Michael Priddy/Intervise Consultants, Inc.

As president and CEO of Intervise Consultants, Inc. (Intervise), Mr. Priddy has given tremendous contributions and support to public education. He has participated in the strategic planning of the Academy of Information Technology in Montgomery County (AOIT), by serving as a board member on the National Academy Foundation (NAF). AOIT, which is a member of NAF, is a four-year academic program that introduces students to, and prepares them for, career opportunities in today's digital workforce. Over the past five years, the number of students involved in the Information Technologies Cluster has increased, due in part to Mr. Priddy's commitment and dedication to students.

Mr. Priddy has helped to mentor 150 AOIT students at local high schools, by visiting classrooms to discuss the information technology field, providing summer internships for students at Intervise, and conducting mock interviews with students to prepare them for interviews with local business professionals. In addition, Mr. Priddy has:

- Educated, mentored, and given over 40 hours of classroom instruction to three middle school students.
- Established a scholarship program under GiTEC (Government Information Technology) for disadvantaged and well-deserving high school students.
- Allocated staff research and development time to promote technology within the East Coast Corridor at Universities.
- Donated four CISCO routers for high school students to use in MCPS classrooms.

Intervise Consultants, Inc. and Mr. Priddy embody the spirit of cooperative educational partners and we are very grateful for their contributions to the students of Montgomery County.

Michael Campbell

Mr. Campbell began his MCPS career as a student at Wheaton High School and Thomas Edison Career Center (now Thomas Edison High School of Technology). His high school experience included an internship with the Department of Human Relations. Quickly, his dedication and hard work were recognized and he was hired as a full-time employee.

Mr. Campbell became the first user support specialist at Gaithersburg High School and soon started a technology internship program for the students. (Several of his MCPS student interns have now graduated and are current information technology staff for MCPS.) Through his hard work and dedication, Mr. Campbell received several promotions over the years before becoming a senior IT systems specialist. Mr. Campbell has a crucial impact on instructional technology given that he supports the systems architecture and operations of all major MCPS applications. He is personally responsible for the backups that will keep MCPS software running should an extended outage be experienced. He is responsible for balancing the load of major software applications across servers so that clients always perceive excellent performance.

Mr. Campbell also has been involved in the rollout and support of some highly visible MCPS software applications and projects such as myMCPS, myID, FORTIS, and MCPS e-mail/Outlook upgrade. Mr. Campbell's contributions to each project he works on are recognized as key, important, and vital to success. Mr. Campbell truly cares about MCPS, the staff, the students, and the community. His service to MCPS is exemplary and his contribution is extraordinary. Mr. Campbell is an inspiration to all who know him.

Erick Lang

Mr. Lang has a long and illustrious career in MCPS education, starting in 1988 as a middle school teacher. Since that time, he has positively affected thousands of students in his capacities as a resource teacher, Signature/Magnet program coordinator, acting high school principal, director of High School Initiatives, director of Downcounty/Northeast Consortia, director of School-based Curriculum Services, and currently associate superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Programs. As an instructional leader, Mr. Lang aligns staff so they can effectively impact programs, teachers, and students. He leads in a kind and compassionate manner, while still achieving full accountability for program growth. Mr. Lang was instrumental in

creating the Downcounty Consortium (DCC) and its selection process that includes five high schools and their feeder middle and elementary schools—Blair, Einstein, Kennedy, Northwood and Wheaton. Each DCC school offers distinctive academy programs designed to capture students' interests, incorporate rigorous academic coursework, explore possible career pathways, and bring real-world relevance to students' education.

As associate superintendent for Curriculum and Instructional Programs, Mr. Lang has most recently worked to ensure that strategic positions have the greatest effectiveness and impact to provide maximum student curricular value. Under his guidance, the MCPS online curriculum has been developed and implemented, enhancing the ease of teachers' accessing curriculum materials and also collaborating with peers. Mr. Lang provides a shining example of how one man's passion and commitment to education does make a tremendous impact on the community and public education.

Joe Rubens, Jr.

As principal of Colonel E. Brooke Lee Middle School ("Lee Middle School"), Mr. Rubens has established structures and processes to move the school towards operating as a professional learning community. With an understanding of continuous improvement processes and strategies, as well as a vision for improved student achievement results, Mr. Rubens has worked effectively to embrace middle school philosophy and pedagogy to benefit all students at his school.

Mr. Rubens has revitalized the professional learning community to focus on continuous improvement towards excellence for all children. He continues to work to ensure the success of all students through developing individualized academic improvement plans for students, monitoring students' performance, and ensuring that students have a personal connection with staff members. Mr. Rubens has shown his leadership courage by initiating needed changes to the instructional program, particularly in mathematics. Results in reading and mathematics have continued to increase under Mr. Rubens leadership.

Mr. Rubens has created a positive school environment. The community has embraced his leadership and has tremendous confidence in his ability to support the academic, social, and emotional needs of students. His advocacy and participation in the larger community have been an added benefit. His human relations skills and ability to work with all stakeholders has helped to build the reputation of the school. We thank Mr. Rubens for all that he does to benefit our students.

Building Services Team— College Gardens Elementary School

The College Gardens Building Services team is always friendly, flexible, and understanding. They are responsive to the needs of both staff and students. Staff members regularly sing their praises due to the high-quality services they render. For example, when College Gardens underwent complete renovation between 2001–2008, the Building Services Team—composed of Pamela Slater, Vivian Nation, George Powell, Opral Samuels, Rico Wims, and Yu-Lan Yinlin—worked hard to keep the holding school clean and prepare for the opening of the new building. This entailed the upkeep of the North Lake Center with nine portable classrooms. At the same time, the team worked with the construction company to ensure that the new building would be ready for occupation in January. This was challenging because it was a mid-year move. However, the Building Services team rose to the challenge.

The Building Services team also worked with the school’s recycling team to implement the paper monster program. This program, in conjunction with the MCPS School Energy and Recycling Team (SERT) program, encouraged students to be aware of the need to recycle paper by making a “paper monster” to cover every recycling bin in the school. The monsters served to encourage students to recycle by making it fun. Members of the Building Services team also participate in such activities as mentoring kindergarten students, joining physical education classes for activities, and creating incentives for improving lunch room etiquette. We thank Ms. Slater, Mr. Nation, Mr. Powell, Ms. Samuels, Mr. Wims, and Ms. Yinlin for being a wonderfully integral part of the school and valued partners in the education of our students.

PREVIOUS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

2009

Officer Marcus Dixon
Emily McDonell
Admissions and Enrollment Management
at Montgomery College
Junior Achievement of the National Capital
Area Montgomery County District Office
Montgomery County Students
Construction Trades Foundation, Inc.
Deloitte
United Communications Group
Karen Crawford
Susan Freiman
Daric Jackson
Susan Marks
Linda Wanner
Bernard Warfield
John Burley
Mark Freedman
John William Smith

2008

Ana Brito
Thomas M. DeGonia, II
Patti Twigg
The Christ Episcopal Church of Kensington
College Tracks
PALA: Padres y Alumnos Latinos
en Acción—(Latino Parents and Students
in Action)
Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.
Montgomery County Teachers Federal
Credit Union (MCTFCU)
Giles R. Benson
Andrea Bernal
James M. Douglas
Gail Fribush
Karen C. Woodson
Pat Adam
Anjan Choudhury
Joan Karasik
George B. Thomas, Sr.

2007

Joan Donovan
Evelyn Liu
Karen Benn Marshall, Ph.D.
Chinese American Parents and
Students Association (CAPSA)
IMPACT Silver Spring
Project Change
Jon Enten, Enten & Associates
Riderwood Village Retirement Community
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Aggie Alvez
Dianne Jones
Elaine Petrulakis
Michael A. Thomas
Aashish Dewan
Rebecca (Becky) Faherty
Paul Rockwell
Dr. Gabriel Jacobs

2006

Matt Boratenski and the American
Film Institute (AFI)
Choice Hotels International,
Office of the General Counsel
Julie Bennett
Glenn Kikuchi
Chinese Culture and Community
Service Center, Inc.
Montgomery County Police
Community Outreach Section
Project Reboot
Douglas Duncan
Robert Barnes
MCPS Green Building Program
Darryl Norwood
Diana Sayago
Bernice Albert
Robert Paulsen

2005

Mark Drury and Shapiro & Duncan
William Schlossenberg and
The Gazette
Art Billings
Nguyen Minh Chau
The African Immigrant and
Refugee Foundation
Conquista tus Sueños (Realize
Your Dreams)
Hospice Caring, Inc.
William Porter
Michael Subin
Robert Barnes
Nivea Berrios
Virginia Bumblis
Susan Bain
David Lechner

2004

Gene Kijowski
Melvyn Leshinsky
Eileen Lavine
Identity, Inc.
Progress Club of Rockville
Rotary Club of North Bethesda
Ana Sol Gutierrez
Teresa Wright
Joseph J. Lavorgna
Jerry M. Marco
Joan Rackey

2003

AmeriDream, Inc.
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Dr. Yvette Butler
Theodore W. Urban
Linkages to Learning
Margit Meissner
Susan Barrett
Dedra H. Greene
James J. Laws

2002

Fitzgerald Auto Malls
Startec Global Communications
Esther P. Gelman
John Lopes
Ruby A. Rubens
The City of Gaithersburg
Interages
Mental Health Association of
Montgomery County
Blair G. Ewing
Joseph Howard
Owen Nichols
John F. Brooks, Jr.
Carol Burke
Richard Sprecher

2001

The Nellis Corporation
Nextel Communications
Dr. Alan Cheung
Diane Cockrell
Marina McKee
Career Transition Program of
St. Luke's House
The Washington Opera
Lillian B. Brown
Robert Hines
Larry A. Bowers

2000

Wanda Brown of PEP
Elida Vargas-Carrasco
James and Linda Cafritz
Lois Stoner
Michelle Turner
Benjamin Banneker Honors Math
and Science Society
Hispanic Parents Committee at
Albert Einstein High School
Mary Ann Bowen
Lawrence Shulman
Richard Wilson
Betty Collins
Sandra Shmookler

1999

Pennie Abramson and Barry Scher
of Giant Food
GE Information Services
Ron Leung
Lois Robertson
Montgomery County Branch of the
NAACP Parents Council
After School Activity Coordination
Program (ASAC)
Gene W. Counihan
John L. Gildner
Ronald M. Feffer
Kevin Keegan
Madeline Griffin

1998

Douglas Schiffman
Montgomery County Students Automotive
Trades Foundation
African American Festival of Academic
Excellence
Sharp Street Hosts an Academic Resource
Program (SHARP)
Hanley J. Norment
Carol M. Hyatt
Samira Hussein
Phillip F. Gainous
Dr. Dawn Thomas

1997

Marriott Suites of Bethesda
General Electric Information Services
and Elfun Society
Howard Hughes Medical Institute
I. Austin Heyman
Hugh Packard
George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy
American Coalition for Assistance and
Mentoring Program (ACAMP)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Lucille Maurer
Roscoe Nix
Gerard F. Consuegra
Amado "Sonny" Narvaez
Juanita Swadner



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