Principal’s Post
January 8, 2016

Please Note, No School on the following dates:

January 18th – No School Martin Luther King Birthday
January 25th - Professional Day No School for Students

We have completed our first full week in the new year! Now If I can only get used to writing 2016 over the next few months! How you start something is important to its final outcome. The students and teachers are re-energized from the winter break and have returned with the enthusiasm, motivation, and positive spirits that make NCC the place to be!

The third quarter begins on Tuesday, January 26, 2016. A focus of this quarter that is built into the instructional curriculum is the academic success skills - effort, persistence, and goal-setting. I encourage you to discuss goals with your children, create a plan to achieve them, and how to respond if they don’t reach their goal the first time. The start of January is of course a great time to share New Year’s Resolutions or goals for 2016 with their teachers and parents. It’s important that we talk about goals, monitor them, and have our students understand the relationship between hard work and achieving success.

“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year’s Day.” - Edith Lovejoy Pierce

Dismissal Procedures:

The end of the day is a very busy time in the classroom, with teachers giving final homework and instructions and students packing up for departure. If a student needs to leave school early for a doctor’s appointment, travel, etc., we are asking that parents pick up the student prior to
3:30 p.m. Once we begin dismissing students it is very difficult to have interruptions to the classroom.

Lost and Found Items

Please be sure and put your child’s name on anything that comes to school, especially on coats, jackets, hats and gloves. We try very hard to make sure that items are re-united with their owners, but with 390 possibilities, the name can really help. Feel free to stop by and check our L&F Closet, it is quite full of jackets and sweaters.

Spotlight on Success

Student of the Week - Each week teachers at all grade levels, as well as the specialists, select a student as Student of the Week. Students are recognized on the morning announcements for their leadership, determination, responsibility, hard work, or overall good citizenship. At the end of the month all students who were awarded Student of the Week are invited to have lunch with the principal. Please look at the showcase in the front hallway of the school and the television in the main hallway for a picture and write up of those students. Students selected for the month of November and December were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November 2</th>
<th>November 9th</th>
<th>November 16th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 -</td>
<td>Alice Caiazz-Blum</td>
<td>Eddie Cameron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 4 -</td>
<td>Pierce Tewksbury</td>
<td>Sebastian Mendoza</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 5 -</td>
<td>Emerson Delfin</td>
<td>Riley Moffett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 6 -</td>
<td>Nicolas Recio</td>
<td>Imogen Jefferies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialist -</td>
<td>Carson Cantwell</td>
<td>Liam John Theodorakos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher -</td>
<td>Mrs. Baptiste</td>
<td>Ms. Cornell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November 30th</th>
<th>December 7th</th>
<th>December 14th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3 -</td>
<td>Ivy McConarty</td>
<td>Jared Morton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Inclement Weather Procedures

Winter weather emergencies, such as snow and ice, may cause disruptions in school operations, including the closure of school, a delayed opening, or an early dismissal. Please be sure your child knows where to go should schools close early in an emergency. Talk about the plans you make before your child goes to school so he/she does not have to call you (or feel scared if you can’t be reached). Remind your child periodically of these arrangements. There is obviously no way that all students and parents can telephone each other in such circumstances and we want all children safely delivered to the proper people and locations.

When weather is severe, schools may be delayed, close early or close for the day. An announcement will be issued as soon as the decision is made. To stay informed, please listen to area radio and television stations. You may also check the Internet at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org), and a recorded telephone message at 301-279-3673. Emergency e-mail announcements are available by signing up for MCPS QuickNotes on the school system’s home page.

**Delayed Opening:** When MCPS announces a delayed opening, the school day begins two hours later than the regular school start time. The school day will begin at 11:25 a.m. Bus schedules operate on a 2 hour delay as well and, therefore, the pick-up times are two hours later than normal.

**Early Release:** When MCPS announces an early release due to inclement weather, schools close 2 ½ hours earlier than the regular school closing time. School will end at 1:25 p.m. Buses will operate on that same early schedule and, therefore, drop-off times are 2 ½ hours earlier than normal.

**School Closure:** When schools are closed all school and community activities in public facilities are canceled. In extreme conditions, administrative offices also may be closed.

*Please note that we send children outside for recess every day unless we have inclement weather or it is below 32 degrees. Please make sure that your child is dressed for going outside. Please label your child’s clothing with his/her name as we accumulate numerous items in the Lost and Found that are unmarked.*
Please Mark Your Calendar

January

14 - Third Grade GT Testing; International Night 6:30 pm.
18 – Martin Luther King Holiday Schools Closed
22 – Westland comes to NCC 11:00 a.m.
20 – Sixth grade Spanish Exam
21 – PTA Executive Board Meeting
22 – Westland Presentation at NCC for sixth grade
26 – Third Marking Period Begins
29 – Fourth Grade Fieldtrip Baltimore Museum of Industry

February

3 – PTA Cultural Arts Assembly
9 - Third Grade Field trip Imagination Stage
15 – President’s Day School Closed
16 – Clubs Pictures and Make-ups
18 – Debut Instrumental Music concert 7:00 p.m./ PTA Executive Meeting
26 – Early Release Day for students (teacher planning)

March

10 – PTA Auction/Social
Operating Budget

The FY 2017 Operating Budget—A Call to Fund Our Future

Interim Superintendent Larry Bowers submitted a $2.4 billion recommended operating budget for Fiscal Year 2017 to the Board of Education on December 8. Mr. Bowers’ operating budget recommendation includes investments to improve student literacy and math skills; build the cultural proficiency of staff; foster stronger partnerships with the community and our families to support students; and better organize the district to ensure every student is prepared for college and careers.

There are a variety of ways that you can learn more about the MCPS budget and become involved in the budget process this year, including the new Budget 101 website; Neighbor to Neighbor small-group discussions; Parent Academy workshops; and an overview of the budget and other documents available on the MCPS budget webpage. Visit the budget webpage at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/ to read more about these resources and how to make your voice heard.

Don’t miss the chance to share your ideas and views on the proposed budget at two upcoming public hearings: the first is Thursday, January 7; the second is Thursday, January 14. Both hearings will be held at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Carver Educational Services Center. Starting December 14 at 9:00 a.m., individuals may call the Board of Education office at 301-279-3617 to sign up to testify at the public hearings.

El Presupuesto Operativo para el Año Fiscal 2017—Un Llamamiento a Financiar Nuestro Futuro

El Superintendente Interino Larry Bowers presentó el 8 de diciembre al Consejo de Educación un presupuesto operativo recomendado de $2.4 mil millones para el Año Fiscal 2017. La recomendación del Sr. Bowers para el presupuesto operativo incluye inversiones para mejorar las destrezas de alfabetización y matemáticas de los estudiantes; aumentar la competencia cultural del personal, fomentar colaboraciones más sólidas con la comunidad y nuestras familias para apoyar a los
estudiantes; y, organizar mejor el distrito escolar para asegurar que todos los estudiantes estén preparados para la universidad y para carreras. Hay varias formas en que usted puede conocer más sobre el presupuesto de MCPS y participar en el proceso presupuestario este año, incluyendo la nueva página de internet Presupuesto 101; conversaciones en grupos pequeños de Vecino a Vecino; talleres de la Academia para Padres; y, un resumen general del presupuesto y otros documentos disponibles en la página de Internet del Presupuesto de MCPS. Visite la página de Internet del presupuesto en www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/ para leer más sobre estos recursos y sobre cómo hacer oír su voz.

No se pierda la oportunidad de compartir sus ideas y opiniones sobre la propuesta presupuestaria durante dos audiencias públicas que se llevarán a cabo próximamente: la primera es el jueves, 7 de enero, la segunda es el jueves, 14 de enero. Ambas audiencias serán a las 7:00 p.m., en el auditorio de Carver Educational Services Center. A partir del 14 de diciembre, a las 9:00 a.m., las personas que deseen testificar durante las audiencias públicas pueden llamar a la oficina del Consejo de Educación, teléfono 301-279-3617, para inscribirse.

**Budget 101**

**Budget 101: The Budgeting Process Explained**

MCPS has launched a new online resource to help the community better understand how the district builds its operating budget and funds its schools. The new Budget 101 site was created to answer many of the questions that parents, students, staff and community members have asked about the MCPS operating budget. The site will show you where the district’s funding comes from, how it’s spent, and how our schools are staffed to ensure we are meeting the needs of every student. Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/budget-101/index.html to check out

**Presupuesto 101: El Proceso Presupuestario Explicado**

MCPS ha lanzado un nuevo recurso en línea para ayudar a la comunidad a entender mejor cómo el distrito escolar arma su presupuesto operativo y financia sus escuelas. El nuevo sitio de Presupuesto 101 fue creado para responder a muchas de las preguntas que los padres, los estudiantes, el personal, y los miembros de la comunidad han planteado sobre el Presupuesto Operativo de MCPS. Este sitio le mostrará de dónde provienen los fondos del distrito escolar, como se gastan, y cómo se provee el personal a las escuelas para asegurarnos de estar cumpliendo con las necesidades de todos los estudiantes. Visite www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/budget-101/budget101-spanish.html para probar este nuevo recurso.

**Neighbor to Neighbor**

**Neighbor to Neighbor** gives members of the MCPS community the opportunity to participate in small-group discussions about the MCPS budget. Everyone is invited to host a Neighbor to Neighbor discussion. It can take place during a PTA meeting, a brown bag lunch at a local business or nonprofit, or in the home of a friend or family member. The Neighbor to Neighbor web-based tool includes everything you need to have a self-guided discussion about the budget and submit your feedback to
Nominate a Parent for Contributions to Education
Do you know a parent who is making a positive impact in MCPS? Now is the time to nominate him or her for the Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award, which recognizes parents who have made significant contributions to a local public school system. The award is sponsored by the Maryland State Department of Education. Visit marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/pima/index.html for more information. The deadline is January 29, 2016.

Nomine a un Padre/Madre por Sus Contribuciones a la Educación
¿Conoce usted a un padre/madre que está teniendo un impacto positivo en MCPS? Este es el momento de nominarlo/a para el Premio de Maryland La Participación de los Padres Es Importante (Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award—PIMA), que da reconocimiento a padres de familia que han brindado contribuciones significativas al sistema escolar público local. El premio está patrocinado por el Departamento de Educación del Estado de Maryland. Visite http://marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/programs/pima/index.html para más información. El plazo límite es el 29 de enero, 2016.

Plan Ahead for Next School Year

2016-2017 School Year Calendar
The Montgomery County Board of Education has approved the calendar for the 2016–2017 school year. School will begin on Monday, August 29, 2016, and is scheduled to end on Friday, June 16, 2017. The calendar was developed in partnership with the Montgomery County Council of PTAs, the school district’s three employee associations, and the Montgomery County Region of Maryland Association of Student Councils, as well as other community members and school system leadership. The calendar can be found on the MCPS website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/calendar and will soon be available in seven languages—Amharic, Chinese, English, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese.
**Calendario Escolar 2016-2017**


**Distinguished Service Awards**

19th Annual Distinguished Service to Public Education Awards

Do you know any individuals (including students), groups, and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to public education in Montgomery County? If so, consider nominating them for a Distinguished Service to Public Education Award! The Montgomery County Board of Education established the awards, now in its 19th year, to recognize and show appreciation for exemplary contributions to public education and to MCPS. Nomination forms are available online at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/) and completed nomination forms will be due in February.

**Decimonovenos Premios Anuales por Servicio Distinguido a la Educación Pública**

¿Conoce usted a una persona (inclusive un estudiante), grupos, y organizaciones que han realizado aportes sobresalientes a la educación pública en el Condado de Montgomery? ¡Si su respuesta es sí, entonces considere nombrarlos para un Premio por Servicio Distinguido a la Educación Pública! El Consejo de Educación del Condado de Montgomery estableció los premios, ahora en su decimonoveno año, para dar reconocimiento y mostrar agradecimiento por las contribuciones ejemplares a la educación pública y a MCPS. Los formularios de nominación están disponibles en línea ingresando a [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/). El plazo límite para los formularios de nominación completados será en febrero.

**PIMA Award**

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Montgomery College
Workforce Development & Continuing Education
YOUTH PROGRAMS

Don’t miss this unique opportunity to participate in one of the most exciting STEM programs for youth at Montgomery College.

THE GREAT ADVENTURE LAB

REGISTER NOW!
This one-day program is offered for students in grades 4 – 6, who want to experience high-quality, hands-on, educational and super fun programs in science, programming and engineering. The program is held on Saturday, January 23, 2016 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the Rockville campus of Montgomery College.

Students will participate in four workshops during the day. The workshops offered are: Mindstorms, Video Game Programming, Young Engineers, Electronics, Space Engineers, and 3-D Designing & Printing.

These workshops are filling very quickly, so register NOW!

For additional brochures or registration information,
contact YOUTH PROGRAMS at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917 or access brochure online at http://www2.montgomerycollege.edu/departments/wdce/youthpdf/greatadventure.pdf