

August 5, 2010

***NOTE: To help us track the usefulness of the Memo to Media, we ask that you inform us if you will be covering any of the events or information listed in the memo. Please send all correspondence to Lindsay.Bilodeau@hcps.org.**

Board Meetings

• **Monday, August 9th at 7:00 p.m.** - Board Business Meeting at the HCPS A.A. Roberty Building. For agenda, exhibits and more information, log onto www.hcps.org or call 410-588-5203.

Board meetings can be viewed at anytime from our website www.hcps.org!

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• ***New!*** Patterson Mill will hold its annual “Pup Training Camp” next Tuesday, August 10, 2010, from 2:30 to 8:00 p.m. for incoming sixth graders and from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for incoming sixth grade parents. Pup Training Camp is a program designed to help incoming sixth graders and their parents adjust to middle school. It is an exciting way for the students to ease their fears of moving into a new school. There are many activities planned for both students and parents to make the transition fun and enjoyable. For more information, contact Patterson Mill Middle School at 410-638-4640.

• ***New!*** Edgewood High School will host an informal Open House for the community to walk through the new building on self-guided tours and check it out first-hand on Saturday, August 14, 2010 from 8:00 -11:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend!

• ***New!*** Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) Superintendent, Dr. Robert M. Tomback, will attend a bus ride along with students on the first day of school, Monday, August 30, 2010! Driver of bus #944, Mr. Dave Stout, which services Havre de Grace Elementary School, will provide the transportation this year. The trip will begin and end at Havre de Grace Elementary School. If you plan to meet at the school to board the bus, you **MUST** be there by 8:30 a.m. The school will have ample parking available for your vehicles. **Please contact the Communications Office at 410-588-5203, if you plan to attend.** You can also meet the bus at a stop along its route for your photo op, if you prefer. Contact the Communications Office for more information.

• ***New!*** To view the press release regarding the 2010-11 bus schedules and routes, click here. School Bus Safety Educational Tools from the HCPS Transportation Department, as well as the 2010-11 bus routes, can be found on the HCPS website by clicking here. For more information, contact the Transportation Department at 410-638-4092.

• ***New!*** HCPS Magnet Program informational presentations set! In an effort to disseminate information to Harford County eighth graders and their parents about educational opportunities for high school, HCPS will be hosting a series of evening informational presentations within the county beginning in September. The objective of these meetings is to allow parents and students to take an introductory look at the magnet programs, located at four specific schools, that are available to students throughout Harford County. The Science and Mathematics Academy (SMA) at Aberdeen High School, the Global Studies/International Baccalaureate Programme (GS/IB) at Edgewood High School, the Natural Resources and Agricultural Science Program (NRAS) at North Harford High School, and the 19 career programs at Harford Technical High School (HTHS) in Bel Air will be showcased. The schedule for the evening presentations is as follows:

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Sept. 15th, Aberdeen High School
Sept. 23rd, North Harford High School
Sept. 28th, Harford Technical High School
Oct. 6th, Edgewood High School

Presentations will begin at 6:30 p.m. Parents and students may choose to attend any of the presentations, regardless of their districted attendance area.

Open Houses for each of the magnet programs will be held as follows:

Oct. 20th - Science & Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Oct. 26th - Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences Program at North Harford High School, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Nov. 4th - Global Studies/International Baccalaureate Programme at Edgewood High School, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Nov. 10th - Harford Technical High School, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Attendance at the open house is not required for application or admission to any magnet program. Applications to each of the magnet programs will be available at www.hcps.org.

•*New!* The kick-off event for the Third Annual Maryland Homegrown School Lunch Week (Sept. 13-17, 2010) will be held Friday, September 10, 2010, at Edgewood Elementary School. Edgewood Elementary School is the only school in the state to host this very special honor this year! There will be three components to the event: a short formal program, classroom visits and activities by local farmers and special guests, and lunch featuring locally-grown produce. This week-long education and awareness activity is part of the Jane Lawton Farm to School program. The program was created during the 2008 Session of the Maryland General Assembly when SB 158 Farm-to-School Program - Activities and Promotional Events, sponsored by Senator Jamie Raskin and Del. Sheila Hixson, was signed into law by Governor O'Malley in May 2008. The program is designed to help educate students about where their food comes from, how it is produced, the benefits of a healthy diet, as well as to expand markets for Maryland farmers. The Maryland Department of Agriculture and the Maryland State Department of Education, along with many partners, help coordinate events each year.

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