

**\*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](mailto:Lindsay.Bilodeau@hcps.org).**

## Board Meetings

For agendas, exhibits and more information, log onto [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) or call 410-588-5203.

- **Monday, June 13, 2011 – Board Business Meeting -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 7:00 p.m. \*features Recognition Ceremony**
- **Monday, June 27, 2011 – Board Business Meeting -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m.**

**Board meetings can be viewed at anytime from our website [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org)!**

- ***New!*** Congratulations to the Bel Air High School Destination Imagination Team, comprised of students from both Bel Air and Patterson Mill high schools, that won first place at the Global Competition in Tennessee May 25-28. This is only the second time in the history of the event that a Maryland team has netted first place at this competition. The team participated in the Verses! Foiled Again! challenge, which focused on the STEM disciplines of architectural design, structural engineering, construction, material science, research, innovation and design process, mathematics, theater arts, poetry and teamwork. The team, led by managers Vicki Manning and Sharon Cunn, included members: Carolyn Conn, 12th grade, Patterson Mill High School; Jordan Huna, 9th grade, Bel Air High School; Kelly Manning, 11th grade, Patterson Mill High School; Grace Mumby, 12th grade, Patterson Mill High School; Jacob Rose, 10th grade, Bel Air High School; and Cassidy Schirmer, 7th grade, Bel Air Middle School.
- ***New!*** Forest Hill Elementary School will hold a Rain Garden Dedication and Ceremony on Wednesday, June 8, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. in the rain gardens and gymnasium of the school. A small group of gifted and talented students, now fifth graders, have been working diligently on this project for one year to help reduce the storm water pollutants. The students researched facts about water quality, benefits of a rain garden and native plants that survive well in a rain garden environment. They participated in the design and layout, the plant selection and planting and educating their school community. Engineers from the Harford County Department of Public Works assisted with preparing the designated area at the school. The school will be recognizing everyone at this event who helped to make the rain garden possible.
- ***New!*** Fallston Middle School began a very exciting STEM project for its 6th grade students this year. In early May, Dr. Don Thomas, a former NASA astronaut, visited the school to help kick-off the program and introduce a challenge to the students. Twenty-three students applied to the program and were accepted. They were each given a copy of the science fiction book, "Have Space Suit Will Travel" by Robert Heinlein to read and discuss in an online book club through [www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com). Next, they were asked to think of an adaptation they would make to the space suit depicted in the book and create a power point presentation and/or model to propose their ideas. To conclude the project, the school will host a Space Suit Fair on June 8, 2011, from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. at the school for the students and their families involved in the project. Dr. Thomas will attend the event and give the students who have not yet had a chance to try on a space suit the opportunity. Students will be displaying their power point presentation and/or their model on the day of the fair.
- ***New!*** Harford County Public Library, in partnership with Harford County Public Schools (HCPS), has received a grant in the amount of \$49,735 through the Barbara Bush Foundation to support preschool literacy at George D. Lisby at Hillsdale, Edgewood and Magnolia elementary schools. Harford County Public Library will provide weekly story times for preschool classes at these three Title 1 elementary schools as well as in-class lending libraries and Story Sacks for home use.

- *New!* Members of the North Harford High School (NHHS) Chapter of Future Farmers of America (FFA) will participate in a community service event on Saturday, June 4, 2011, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. as part of the Living to Serve grant awarded to NHHS for the second year. This year, students will serve Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding, assisting with general maintenance and construction of a sensory learning trail.
- HCPS is excited to announce the completion of six, large-scale solar electric generation sites. HCPS, in conjunction with SunEdison, will host a “throw the switch” celebration to commemorate this momentous occasion on Thursday, June 16, 2011, on Edgewood High School’s rooftop at 6:00 p.m.
- Once again, Electric Violinist Mark Wood, formerly from Trans Siberian Orchestra, will be returning to Youth’s Benefit Elementary School this year to share his talents and compose the “Electrify Your Strings Orchestra.” On June 6 and 7, 2011, he will work with the Youth’s Benefit Elementary and Fallston Middle string students to compose an orchestra rock concert that will be performed at Fallston High School on June 7, 2011. This is always an amazing concert, and Mr. Wood is a wonderful teacher, musician and role model to all students. Mr. Wood is an accomplished musician who has played with Billy Joel, Celine Dion, Lenny Kravitz and Paul McCartney, just to name a few. Recently, he has been featured on The Today Show, as well as many other local television and radio shows as he tours the United States and performs with young students.

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