



January 9, 2012

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

For agendas, exhibits and more information, log onto www.hcps.org or call 410-588-5203.

- Monday, January 9, 2012 – Budget Work Session -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m. and Board Business Meeting, 8:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 18, 2012 – Budget Work Session -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, January 23, 2012 – Board Business Meeting -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m. *Features the Board recognition ceremony

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

• **Save the date!** Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) and Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union cordially invite you to attend the grand opening of the Edgewood High School Academy of Finance RAM Branch on Thursday, February 2, 2012, at 8:45 a.m. at Edgewood High School. Please RSVP to the Communications Office no later than Friday, January 20, 2012 at 410-588-5203 or communications@hcps.org. (If HCPS are closed or delayed, this event will take place Wednesday, February 8, at 8:45 a.m.)

• **New!** To maximize awareness and communication with parents, students and the community about cybersafety and cyberbullying, HCPS today launched a new page on its website, www.hcps.org. The cybersafety page features resources about online safety for elementary, middle and high school students and their parents. Links for age-appropriate videos, websites and brochures are available, as well as a link to report incidents. This new, informational site is just one piece of a larger Cybersafety Awareness campaign to reduce incidents of cyberbullying in Harford County. For the full press release, [click here](#).

• **New!** A Special Training Session on the New Learning Links: Harford County Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) is glad to have Eileen Watson from the HCPS Special Education Department present a training session on the newly released Learning Links for HCPS Educators and Harford County Parents this Thursday, January 12, 2012, at its regular monthly meeting. The presentation will be hosted at the A.A. Roberty Building, 102 South Hickory Avenue, Bel Air (6:30 to 8:00 p.m.). Learning Links provides an on-line venue for accessing valuable information and resources for families, educators and community members about issues related to Special Education and Early Intervention. For both those teaching students with disabilities and those involved with advocating for their child with a disability, discovering where to turn for help and needed information can be a difficult, if not overwhelming, task. Learning Links can help you navigate these resources needed for your child or student. We welcome all HCPS staff, caregivers and local community members. Information about an upcoming topic on Maryland's Community Mediation will also be provided. For more information, call 410-588-5246 or email comments@harfordsecac.com.

• **New!** You are cordially invited to attend the 2012 All-County Concerts. The young musicians in these concerts represent the best that HCPS has to offer, and each concert promises to be an exciting experience. The All-County Band Concert will take place on Saturday, January 14, 2012, at 12:30 p.m. at Havre de Grace High School; the All-County Chorus Concert will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2012, at 12:30 p.m. at Bel Air High School; the All-County Orchestra Concert will take place on Saturday, February 4, 2012, at 12:30 p.m. at North Harford High School; and the All-County High School Jazz Concert will take place on Saturday, April 12, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. at Patterson Mill High School. All concerts are open to the public and free of charge.

• **New!** HCPS, in partnership with Harford Community College and the Harford County Office of Economic Development, will host the Futures11 networking and career event on Thursday, March 22, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. in the gymnasium of Harford Community College. Approximately 450 high school juniors will take part, coming from the following programs: Harford Technical High School, the Science and Mathematics Academy at Aberdeen High School, the Biomedical Sciences Program at Bel

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Air High School, the Global Studies and International Baccalaureate Program at Edgewood High School, the Academy of Finance Program at Edgewood High School and the Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Program at Joppatowne High School. The event is designed to help students begin considering their post-secondary career options.

- *New!* HCPS, as well as 23 other public school systems in the state, will participate in the 2012-13 Maryland Teacher of the Year program. As in the past, any full-time classroom, resource or media teacher who spends the majority of their time teaching is eligible; school counselors are ineligible to participate. Teachers who intend to retire during 2012-13 are not eligible to be Teacher of the Year. Nominations may be self-submitted, or may be submitted by administrators, parents, colleagues, students or others. For more information and a copy of the nomination packet, visit www.hcps.org. The nomination deadline is: February 6, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. In addition, HCPS is soliciting support in providing gift cards or certificates to be given to a finalist in the HCPS Teacher of the Year program. If you are able to provide a donation, either one for the Teacher of the Year winner, or five (one gift for each finalist), please call us at 410-588-5203 to arrange for pick-up. Thank you for your support of our teachers, students, and school system. Without the outpouring of support by our generous business community, this recognition program would not be possible.

- *New!* During the Board of Education meeting on Monday, January 23, 2012, Donald R. Osman will be inducted into the HCPS Educator Hall of Fame for his 40-year tenure with HCPS as a dedicated teacher. The induction ceremony will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the A. A. Roberty Building. In addition, the ceremony and Board meeting will be aired via live stream on the school system website at www.hcps.org. The live stream link can be found in the Board box in the lower right-hand corner of the homepage, hcps.org.

- The MD Parent Involvement Matters Award is an annual award for parents (and others with legal responsibility for a child) whose exemplary contributions to public education have led to improvements for Maryland's public school children, teachers, schools, programs and/or policies. The award was created by the Maryland State Department of Education to highlight the positive impact parents have on public schools and to encourage all parents to get involved in whatever way they can. Additional information about the program and the nomination form are available online at www.MarylandPublicSchools.org/pima. Nominations must be postmarked by Tuesday, January 31, 2012.

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