



November 21, 2011

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, November 21, 2011 – Board Business Meeting -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m. ** Features the recognition ceremony (Board Closed Session beginning at 5:30 p.m.)
- Monday, November 28, 2011 – Board Work Session -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m.

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

- **New!** Reminder: All schools and offices will dismiss two hours early on Wednesday, November 23, 2011, and schools and offices will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25, 2011, for the Thanksgiving holiday.
- **New!** The National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT) recently announced that NAPT Board Past-President Dr. Linda F. Bluth and her partner Betsy Eisman endowed their 2011 field trip grant to Harford County Public Schools (HCPS). The field trip grant enables NAPT members to help bring learning to life for students in their community and enhance classroom studies in their school program. The grant covers the cost of transportation, entry fees, supplies and/or classroom resource materials so that teachers may continue using the valuable experiential learning gained from math and science, language, social studies and arts-focused field trips. Preference, this year, was given to schools that were damaged by destructive weather forces, such as hurricanes and tornadoes. HCPS was selected because of Hurricane Irene's impact, which barreled up the coast just prior to the start of the school year, leaving in its wake 75 percent of Harford schools without power, more than 50 roads impassable — due to downed trees and power lines — and power cut off to thousands of local residents. For more information, visit <http://naptonline.org/>.
- **New!** Project Lead The Way, the nation's leading provider of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) curriculum, has announced its list of the 2010-11 Model Schools, the most coveted award the organization hands out annually. Bel Air High School, is one of just 16 schools to receive the award this year out of the 4,200 eligible schools across the country. Bel Air High School is home to the PLTW Biomedical Sciences Program (BMS), a program in which students explore the concepts of human medicine and are introduced to fields such as physiology, genetics, microbiology, and public health. Through activities like dissecting a human heart, students examine the processes, structures, and interactions of the human body. Students also receive the chance to explore the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease, working collaboratively to investigate and design innovative solutions to the health challenges of the 21st century and beyond. Through the BMS program, Bel Air provides rigorous, hands on STEM curriculum that inspires students, unlocks their potential, and prepares them for the competitive, 21st Century global marketplace. For the complete press release, [click here](#).
- **New!** The entire Bel Air High School community recently joined together in the spirit of giving to collect more than 1,600 Thanksgiving food items for donation. Students contributed canned goods and boxes of non-perishable foods, and faculty and staff members brought in frozen turkeys. Approximately 50 student and teacher volunteers gathered in the cafeteria after school on Friday, November 18, 2011, to separate the items and create boxes of meals. Students packed more than 40 boxes with Thanksgiving dinners that included corn, green beans, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce and a turkey. Deliveries were made to two local charities that will distribute the dinners to local families in need and help to stock a food bank. Bel Air High School students are excited to give back to the community and ensure that more families have something to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

- Help Emmorton Elementary or Hickory Elementary win a grant from Clorox! Following a competitive nomination period, voting is now open and Emmorton and Hickory elementary schools need your help to win up to \$50,000 in The Clorox Company's Power A Bright Future grant program! The grant will secure funding for creating classroom libraries. Visit www.PowerABrightFuture.com and vote once per day through Dec. 9, 2011. Please share this great news with the community! Details and official rules available at www.PowerABrightFuture.com. Thank you for supporting Harford County Public Schools!
- Each year, HCPS sends five students to Annapolis to spend two, non-consecutive weeks serving in either the House of Delegates or the Maryland Senate, performing various tasks such as filing books, running errands and sitting in on meetings and hearings. The competitive selection process for the Student Page Program, which began months ago, starts with each public and private school in the county choosing up to two applicants. Selected students completed an application and participated in a grueling interview process where they appeared before a 12-person committee made up of students and educators from around the county. From this pool of students, an ultimate five pages and one alternate are selected, which mirrors Harford County's representation in Annapolis. The high school seniors who were chosen to serve as student pages for the 2012 Maryland General Assembly - Belawoe Akwakoku, Aberdeen High School; Christina McIntyre, Bel Air High School; Adam Hiob, Aberdeen High School; Julius Halstead, Patterson Mill High School; and Erin Chase, North Harford High School - will come together for "A Morning Together" on Thursday, December 8, 2011, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. that will include breakfast and time for the free flow and exchange of ideas. During the breakfast, the pages will have the opportunity to meet with the elected officials for whom they will support in the upcoming 90-day legislative session to take place January through April 2012. Members of the media should RSVP to Teri Kranefeld, if they plan to attend (Teri.Kranefeld@hcps.org or 410-588-5203).
- Congratulations to Edgewood High School's Chiwy Webster who was selected as one of Harford County's Most Beautiful People on October 27, 2011, along with 18 other dedicated volunteers who serve in their communities in Harford County and across America. The ceremony will air on Harford Cable Network (Comcast Channel 21, Armstrong Channel 7 and Verizon Channel 31) Sundays at 7:00 p.m. the entire month of November.
- During the Board of Education meeting on Monday, November 21, 2011, Deborah J. Heiberger, Ed.D. will be inducted into the HCPS Educator Hall of Fame for her 28-year tenure with HCPS as a dedicated teacher and administrator. 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 Harford County Reading Council has announced the 31st Annual Young Author's Writing Contest. Students in Pre-K through 12th grade can enter an original poem or short story. Award-winning students will be recognized at a ceremony and presented with certificates, ribbons, journals, gift certificates to local establishments and other prizes and gifts. All entries are due December 16, 2011. For more information on the contest and how to enter, check out the links in the Communications box on the HCPS homepage, www.hcps.org.

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