Memo to Media

Harford County Public Schools

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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 14, 2011 – Board Business Meeting -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 7:00 p.m.**

- **Monday, November 21, 2011 – Board Business Meeting -- A. A. Roberty Building Board Room, 6:30 p.m. ** Features the recognition ceremony**

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

•*New!* Homework 411 is a one hour, live homework help program for students in grades 3 – 8, airing Tuesdays and Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. on Harford Cable Network. The shows are educational and fun, with three mini lessons led by Harford County teachers. Students can call in with their homework questions or to answer trivia questions to earn points for gift card prizes. In addition, there's a monthly website contest and a chance to win passes to Liberty Mountain Resort. Watch Homework 411 exclusively on Harford Cable Network (Comcast channel 21, Armstrong channel 7 & Verizon FiOS channel 31).

•*New!* The Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) arts calendar for the month of November has been released. Visit the website at http://www.hcps.org/departments/publicinformation/artscalendar.aspx for the schedule of theatre productions, including dates, times and locations.

•*New!* Science Cafés are a fun and free way for everyone, scientists or not, to learn about a specific science and technology topic that affects our everyday lives, from a local expert. Drop in for a coffee and stay for the discussion - all are welcome! The next Science Café will be Tuesday, November 8, 2011, at Abingdon Library Branch (2510 Tollgate Rd, Bel Air) from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The topic is "Beating Superbugs in the Food Chain." Bacteria are becoming resistant to multiple drugs (e.g. MRSA) and are showing up more in our community, in humans and in animals. Learn more, get expert answers, and find out what you can do to reduce the risks. The presenter is Dr. David Donovan, research molecular biologist at Agricultural Research Services (ARS) in Beltsville, MD. Trained as a molecular geneticist, Dr. Donovan spent 15 years at the National Institutes of Health before joining ARS in 2002. His current research focuses on creating new enzyme-based antibiotics for use in livestock. RSVP's welcome, please respond to: info@nmtcsciencecafe.org or NMTC office at 443-360-9134.

•*New!* Dave Cesky, head coach of the Fallston Varsity Football Team, was recently named Ravens High School Coach of the Week for the eighth week of the 2011 NFL season. Presented by Toyota, this is the 15th year of the Ravens' award program. Fallston moved into first place in the Maryland Class 2A standings with a win over North Harford, improving to 9-0. In his 35th year as a coach for Fallston, Cesky also serves as athletic director at the school. The local product graduated from Bel Air High School and went on to play football at Western Maryland College. His father, Al Cesky, coached football at Bel Air from 1950-1965. This is Cesky's second Ravens High School Coach of the Week nod. He earned his first in 1999. Each week during the season, the Ravens honor a high school coach who has made a significant impact on his athletes. Each winner will be presented at the Ravens vs. Browns home game on Dec. 24 for the naming of the Ravens' High School Coach of the Year. Comcast SportsNet, the official sports network of the Baltimore Ravens, will also feature a weekly segment to honor the selected coach. Each weekly recipient receives a $2,000 donation to the school's football program, an award certificate signed by Ravens head coach John Harbaugh and a specially-designed Coach of the Week hat. Congratulations to Dave Cesky of Fallston High School!

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•*New!* 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 U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) is the Army's technology leader and largest technology developer. RDECom from Aberdeen Proving Ground will spend a week at Hickory Elementary School from November 7-10, 2011. They will conduct whole group and small group presentations for each grade level. The innovation road show will give each grade level a mission and the students will be given a kit of materials and told they need to build something to achieve the outcome listed in the mission scenario. The understanding is that the "invention" will not be functional; however, the students will need to be able to tell the group about what they have designed and how it "should" work. The media is invited to come out anytime during the week for coverage. For more information on the schedule for the week, contact the school directly at 410-638-4170.

• Harford County Regional Association of Student Councils (HCRASC) will hold a county-wide meeting at Patterson Mill High School on November 9, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The special guests presenting to the students will be from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the statewide charity for the Maryland Association of Student Councils. This meeting will also include training for the students. In addition, HCRASC will hold a fundraiser night for the foundation on November 14, 2011, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Panera Bread at the festival.

• American Education Week is observed annually in the Harford County Public School system as a time to promote an increased public awareness about the schools. The National Education Association's 90th Annual American Education Week is November 14-18, 2011. Visiting the public schools allows you to observe today's curriculum, current teaching methods, students and teachers at work and materials of instruction. The schedule is as follows:
Monday, November 14 - Grandparents/Senior Citizens Day & All classes open for visitation
Tuesday, November 15 - Grades Pre-K, K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, & 12
Wednesday, November 16 - Grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, & 11

• HCPS students Alex Mathoniere and Megan O'Neill from Fallston Middle School; Mitchell Roberts, Alexander Usselman, and Tyler Ziegler from North Harford Middle School; and Selena Ranney from Southampton Middle School were recently honored as some of the brightest young students in the nation at a statewide awards ceremony for gifted children sponsored by The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY). The Center honored these bright middle school students who were participants in the 2011 CTY Talent Search for their exceptional performance on a rigorous, above-grade-level test given to academically talented second through eighth grade students. For more information about the program, visit www.cty.jhu.edu.

• The Falcon Flying Feet Running Club, a group of active and dedicated students at North Harford Middle School, will participate in the Annual 5K One World Run to be held November 19, 2011, in White Hall at the Norrisville Recreation Complex. This international event takes place in many cities and countries around the world. The cause has even spread to Antarctica, so this year, there will be runners on every continent! Since the race is completely corporate-sponsored, all the race fees go to Project AIDS Orphan (PAO). PAO is a not-for-profit organization supporting children who have been orphaned by the AIDS crisis in East Africa. Funding goes directly toward Mission House of Hope which provides food, clothing, health care and education to AIDS Orphans in Kenya.

• 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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