



## Memo to Media

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Monday, November 18, 2013

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION TO HOLD ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS ON FY15 BUDGET**

Members of the Board of Education will host two roundtable discussions to provide an opportunity for community leaders in Harford County and the Harford County delegation to meet with them to discuss the budget development process and to provide input on the development of the FY15 school system operating budget. Additional topics for discussion at the legislative roundtable will include unfunded mandates and the state aid wealth formula. The community leaders meeting will be held tonight at Edgewood High School from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The legislative meeting will be held Wednesday, December 4, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the A.A. Roberty Building. Both meetings are open to the public; however, neither agenda includes an opportunity for general public comment.

### **STUDENT PAGE BREAKFAST – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 8:00 A.M.**

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 2014 Maryland General Assembly – Karly Horn, John Carroll; Natalie Hutcheson, C. Milton Wright; Kennan Kros, Edgewood High; Jeffrey Mason, North Harford High; Rebecca Parrish, Edgewood High (alternate); and Kelly Stifler, John Carroll – will come together on Thursday, December 5, 2013, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. for a breakfast event at Aberdeen High School. 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 2014.

### **APPLICANT SOUGHT FOR SCHOOL SYSTEM ETHICS PANEL**

The Board of Education of Harford County is seeking applications from interested county citizens to fill an opening on the school system's Ethics Panel. The Ethics Panel reviews inquiries concerning potential violations of ethics on the part of school employees or Board members, provides advisory opinions regarding ethics issues and receives financial disclosure forms required to be filed by Board members and certain Board employees. Ethics Panel members serve for a term of five years, appointed at staggered intervals. Members are appointed by the Board of Education and may serve two full terms. Ethics Panel members serve without compensation but are reimbursed for travel and other expenses related to their service. Applicants should send a letter of interest accompanied by a biographical sketch to: Patrick P. Spicer, Esquire, General Counsel, Board of Education of Harford County, 102 S.

Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, Maryland 21014 by December 6, 2013. For more information, please call 410-638-4005.

### **HARFORD COUNTY SECAC MEETING ON HEALTH CARE TRANSITION FOR YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

The Harford County Special Education Citizen Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Health Care Transition for Youth with Special Needs this Thursday, November 21, from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m. in the HCPS Board Room (1st floor), A.A. Roberty Building, 102 South Hickory Avenue, Bel Air, MD 21014. The meeting will include a presentation by Antoinette Coward, transitional coordinator from the Office for Genetics and People with Special Health Care Needs. Ms. Coward will provide families and professionals with an overview of the tools and resources to use for helping youth and young adults with special needs understand their health condition(s) and develop the skills necessary to manage their own health care plans. Questions can be emailed to [HarfordSECAC@comcast.net](mailto:HarfordSECAC@comcast.net). Find SECAC on Facebook at Harford County SECAC.

### **2014-15 PROPOSED ACADEMIC CALENDAR POSTED FOR INPUT**

The [2014-15 proposed academic calendar](#) has been posted on the school system website for public review and comment. Visit our homepage, [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org), and scroll down to the bottom right-hand corner of the page. There you will find the information and the link to submit your comments. The Board welcomes your thoughts and suggestions on next year's academic calendar, and will consider all input provided prior to making a decision on the calendar on Monday, December 16.

### **SPEAK UP SURVEY – PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO PARTICIPATE!**

Speak Up is the annual research project conducted by Project Tomorrow, a national education nonprofit group that collects and reports on the views of K-12 students, teachers, administrators and parents on 21st century education and technology. Speak Up provides a unique way for the ideas and opinions of our stakeholders to have an impact on state level initiatives and in federal policies and programs, as well as providing us with data to use locally to inform technology decisions. The Speak Up online surveys are open for input until December 20, 2013. Students, teachers, parents and administrators are encouraged to go online and take the 20 minute survey at: <http://www.speakup4schools.org/speakup2013/>. Students will need the password: hcps.

### **THE CHURCH CREEK COUGARS TO TAKE ON THE HARLEM HOOPSTERS**

The Church Creek Elementary School Parent Teacher Association has organized an amazing night of fun to raise money for the school. On Thursday, November 21, come out to support the parents and staff of the Church Creek Cougars as they go to the hoops against the world renowned Harlem Hoopsters in an exciting game of basketball. The halftime show by the Harlem Hoopsters will amaze you! In addition, there will be face painting, raffles, meet and greet with the Hoopster team, food and drinks, and more! Don't miss out on the fun! Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children ages five-10 and free for children four and under. For additional information or to volunteer at the event, please contact Regina Guary at 443-307-1821 or [hoopitup4education@gmail.com](mailto:hoopitup4education@gmail.com).

### **MAGNOLIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL JANITOR IN RUNNING FOR CINTAS JANITOR OF THE YEAR**

Sponsored by Cintas Corporation (NASDAQ: CTAS), the first annual Janitor of the Year contest aims to shine a spotlight on those who truly rule the school – the janitors! Among

the 10 finalists in the running for the national award is Magnolia Elementary School Janitor Susan Suehs. “We’ve received some amazing stories of heroism, compassion and friendship,” said Dave Mesko, Senior Director of Marketing, Cintas Corp. “The top 10 finalists for this year’s award are ambassadors for their schools and true figures in their communities. We are thrilled to share their stories and look forward to seeing who the public selects as their favorite.” The 2013 Janitor of the Year will receive a \$2,500 cash prize along with \$2,500 in Cintas products and services for his or her school – not to mention bragging rights. To read more about the finalists and cast your vote, please visit [www.cintas.com/janitoroftheyear](http://www.cintas.com/janitoroftheyear). Voting will be open through Monday, Dec. 2. For more information, please contact Jennifer Petersen at 312-664-1532 or [jpetersen@mulberrymc.com](mailto:jpetersen@mulberrymc.com).

### **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF! NORTH HARFORD HIGH SCHOOL, NOVEMBER 22 & 23**

On November 22 and 23, more than 70 students from North Harford High School will bring the epic magic of the classic tale of Tevye, the milkman, and his family - Fiddler on The Roof - by Joseph Stein, Sheldon Harnick, and Jerry Bock to the performing arts center at North Harford High School in collaboration with Music Theatre International. Show times are 7:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22 and 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23. The annual musical production is a collaboration of student actors, singers, dancers, musicians, technical experts and behind the scenes crew; alumni; ten teachers; parents; and students of all ages from HCPS. Amazing talent, hearty comedy and heartfelt tragedy all make for an unforgettable evening of song, dance and storytelling not to be missed! Tickets are available online at [www.seatyourself.biz/northharford](http://www.seatyourself.biz/northharford) for the best seats at the best prices. Tickets are also available at the door. Don’t miss this classic favorite musical show with such favorites as “If I Were a Rich Man” and “Tradition.” It is a perfect example of one of the many amazing and excellent events happening in HCPS! See you at the show!

### **CULTURAL LITERACY FAIR – NOVEMBER 23**

The annual [Cultural Literacy Fair](#) will be held Saturday, November 23, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Barnes & Noble in Bel Air. There will be fun activities from around the world for the whole family!

- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) activities
- Arts and crafts from around the world
- Games from around the world
- Student performances
- ***PLUS...\$1,000 prize to the school with the highest attendance at the fair!!***

Also, visit [www.bn.com/bookfairs](http://www.bn.com/bookfairs) to support Harford County Public Schools from November 23-29 by entering Book Fair ID 1116698 at checkout. Start your holiday shopping early!

### **FALLSTON HIGH SCHOOL ART RESIDENCY**

Fallston High School applied for and received grant money from the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) that will pay for an amazing experience for 100 of the school’s art students! Sue Stockman and Bobby Manzone, professional mosaic artists, will be working with students to design a mosaic that will adorn the 45 foot bulkhead above the entrance to the school’s office, as well as a 6 foot by 9 foot span between the two sets of office doors. Mrs. Stockman and Mr. Manzone have been working with schools through MSAC for more than 10 years and teach students the math and art skills that go with the mosaic process. They also focus on recycling and reducing waste, and all materials that become part of the mosaic are up-cycled materials. The residency will begin November 5 and the

resident artists will be working with the art students the entire school day on the following days: November 5, 11, 13, 15, 19, 21 and 27.

## **BEATLEMANIA AGAIN IS RETURNING TO C. MILTON WRIGHT HIGH SCHOOL – DECEMBER 7**

The National Touring Beatles Stage Show “[Beatlemania Again](#)” will be performing a two-hour concert consisting of three acts and costume changes. The show takes you from the early Beatles, through Sgt. Pepper, straight to Abbey Road. The show is to benefit C. Milton Wright High School’s Art Department. Event details:

Saturday, December 7, 2013  
7:00 p.m., doors open at 6:00 p.m.  
C. Milton Wright High School Auditorium

Tickets are on sale. [Order now!](#)

General Admission: Adults \$20, Students \$10  
\$10 extra for VIP front row seating and a pre-show Meet ‘n Greet with the cast!

## **MARYLAND PARENT INVOLVEMENT MATTERS AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN**

Know a parent who deserves statewide recognition for his or her work to improve public education? Nominate him or her today! The Maryland State Department of Education is currently accepting nominations for the Seventh Annual Maryland Parent Involvement Matters Award (PIMA) Program. The Maryland PIMA 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. An eligible nominee is a parent or person with legal responsibility for a child in a Maryland public school who has significantly impacted public education within the last 24 months with his or her involvement in the area(s) of communication; volunteering; learning; collaborating with community; or decision making. To learn more about the program and how previous winners were involved, and to download an application, go to [www.MarylandPublicSchools.org/pima](http://www.MarylandPublicSchools.org/pima). Completed applications must be postmarked by January 31, 2014.

### **Upcoming Board of Education Meetings\*:**

-  Monday, December 9, 2013: Board Business Meeting, 5:30 p.m., A. A. Roberty Building Board Room
-  Monday, December 16, 2013: Board Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m., A. A. Roberty Building Board Room
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*\*For agendas, exhibits and more information, visit [www.hcps.org](http://www.hcps.org) or call 410-588-5203. Meetings can be viewed live on the school system website. An archive of all meeting videos also is available on the website. In addition, the meetings air Tuesdays, at 8:00 p.m., on Harford Cable Network.*

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