

Memo to Media



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Here are some story ideas in which you may have an interest:

***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.Reilly@hcps.org.

Board Meetings

• **Monday, August 3rd at 7:00 p.m.** - Board Business Meeting at the HCPS A.A. Roberty Building. For agenda, exhibits and more information, log onto www.hcps.org or call 410-588-5203.

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

- Harford County Public School students performed well on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) tests taken by third through eighth graders in reading and math this past March. According to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) data released regarding the 2009 MSAs, nearly 88 percent of elementary and 67 percent of middle schools in Harford County made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). An improvement in middle school performance was clearly evident. In 2008, only three of the nine middle schools achieved AYP, and in 2009, six out of nine middle schools achieved AYP. For the press release, click here. **NEW!**
- Joppatowne High School students Joey Hightower and Matt Kelly described their Geographic Information Systems (GIS) adventures to more than 10,000 GIS users at the International Users Conference in San Diego, CA. Governor Martin O'Malley was in attendance. The presentation team was able to meet with the Governor before the presentation and on stage afterwards. For the full story and a link to the video of the presentation, click here. **NEW!**
- HCPS Board of Education General Counsel, Patrick P. Spicer, was recently featured as a guest on the regular 'Historic Harford' television show on Harford Cable Network (HCN). The episode, which was filmed in July, will air on HCN, Comcast Channel 21 and Armstrong Channel 7, during the entire month of September, Mondays at 4:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. The topic of the show includes a discussion on the desegregation of Harford County Public Schools, noting the research Mr. Spicer completed and published in the Harford Historical Bulletin, Decade of Delay: The Desegregation of Harford County Public Schools. The bulletin is published by the Harford County Historical Society. **NEW!**
- Harford County Public Schools was recently announced as the recipient of the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Program (184E) grant in the amount of \$214,913.00. The grant is for a two-year period, August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2011. For the full story, click here.
- Ethan Jennings, a science teacher at Harford Technical High School, was named a Maryland State 2009 Secondary Science Finalist for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching! He is one of three Maryland finalists. The finalists' applications are submitted to National Science Foundation (NSF) for consideration as the State winner. NSF reviews the applications in the winter to select the winner. For the full story, click here. Good luck, Ethan!
- **Save the Date** The Rainbow Graduation will be held July 31st at 10:00 a.m. Students who complete their formal high school education during the 2009 Harford County Public School summer school session will receive their high school diplomas during a ceremony held in the Aberdeen High School auditorium. The students will be dressed in caps and gowns from their home school as they march across the stage to receive their dipomas, hence the name Rainbow Graduation.

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