

Memo to Media



Harford County Public Schools • 102 S. Hickory Ave. • Bel Air, MD 21014 • www.hcps.org

Teri D. Kranefeld • Manager of Communications • teri.kranefeld@hcps.org • 410-588-5203 • (cell) 443-752-2062

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

March 19, 2009

***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 Amanda.Spencer@hcps.org.

Board Meetings

- **Monday, March 23rd at 6:30 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!

Save the Date

The 2009 HCPS Teacher of the Year Banquet will be Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at the Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace!

- The 2009 Commencement Ceremony schedule has been revised. [View the new schedule here.](#)
- The Maryland State Department of Education is recognizing 24 local Harford County public schools for the academic performance of students. The recognition program honors schools for their performance on the 2008 Maryland School Assessment (MSA) or the High School Assessment (HSA), and for improving the performance of special populations of students for two years. Only schools that made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for 2007-08 were eligible for the award. School recognition, a feature of the federal No Child Left Behind program, helps states recognize the achievement of schools, as well as their students and teachers. Click here to view the entire press release including all 24 schools. **NEW!**
- The March inductee into the Harford County Public School Educator Hall of Fame will be S. Yvonne Blevins, a 31-year educator and administrator for the school system (March 23rd, 6:30 p.m., A.A. Roberty Building). Mrs. Blevins came to Harford County after her husband was stationed in Edgewood with the army and started as a social studies and English teacher at Aberdeen Junior High School. At the time, Aberdeen Junior High School encompassed seventh and eighth graders and operated in a core program, involving a quasi-block schedule. Mrs. Blevins taught eighth grade at the school for several years, before shifting to the new Aberdeen Middle School in 1972. In 1977, Yvonne was promoted to assistant principal at Havre de Grace Middle School where she served for about six years before moving to the same position at Havre de Grace High School for two years. She earned her Master's degree in School Management and Supervision from Loyola College in. From there, Mrs. Blevins became assistant principal at Fallston High School and later moved to the Central Office in 1989 where she served as supervisor of personnel in Human Resources for nearly nine years until her retirement in 1998. Upon her retirement, Yvonne immediately moved back to Arkansas where her husband had been for three years coaching at the University of Arkansas. Currently, she is teaching 11th grade advanced placement history at Pine Bluff High School, where she has continued reaching out to students since 2000. **NEW!**
- The Harford Branch of the American Association of University Women will host the 23rd Annual Judith Resnik Educational Foundation Awards Luncheon honoring outstanding Harford County eleventh grade female mathematics-science scholars on Saturday, April 25th at 11:45 a.m. at Harford Community College's Chesapeake Center. The guest speaker for the event will be Becky Halstead, executive director for leader development at the Praevus Group and retired general, U.S. Army. One eleventh grade female excelling in mathematics or science will be honored from each Harford County high school. The cost of the luncheon is \$16.50 and registration is due by April 16th. For more information, contact Shirley Moore at 410-838-8179.
- The Harford County Public Schools Title I Annual Parent Conference will take place on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 from 8:30 a.m.

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– 2:30 p.m. The event will feature guest speaker Mrs. Allyn A. Watson, Supervisor of Compensatory Education, as well as performances by the Hall's Cross Roads Elementary Chorus and the Edgewood Elementary Chorus. Additionally, State Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Grasmick is scheduled to present at the conference. There will also be a sharing of Title I quilts and a unity poem presentation. For more information, contact the Office of Compensatory Education at 410-588-5278.

• North Harford Middle School annually hosts a talent show in conjunction with the Maryland School Assessments (MSA) in March. This year, the school is holding the "NHMS Who's Got Talent?" featuring local 'celebrity' judges. Last year, the school coordinated the "MSA Idol" where all three assistant principals acted as the three American Idol judges, Simon, Paula and Randy. The show will take place on Friday, March 20th at 12:15 p.m. For more information, contact Angie Jones at 410-638-3658.

• The Office of School Counseling for Harford County Public Schools in partnership with the Office of Advising, Career and Transfer Services at Harford Community College, will host the Tenth Annual Career Opportunity and Information Fair on Tuesday, March 31st from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the Student Center at HCC. This career awareness program for high school and community college students and parents will have the opportunity to speak with representatives from local educational, business and military communities. For more information, call 410-588-5245.

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