



September 25, 2008

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 Amanda.Spencer@hcps.org.

Board Meetings

• **Monday, October 6th 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!**

- The Maryland Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MAHPERD) Honors & Awards Committee recently announced that Stacey Sewell, physical education teacher at Church Creek Elementary, has been selected as a 2008-2009 Simon McNeely recipient for outstanding teaching and service in dance, health and physical education. The committee will present Ms. Sewell the award on Friday, October 17th at 8:30 a.m. during the convention General Assembly at the Sheraton Hotel (Ballroom A) in Towson. For more information, contact Anna Spring at 410-313-7165. **NEW!**
- Harford County Executive David R. Craig, accompanied by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jacqueline C. Haas and members of the Board of Education, will recognize 'Farm to School Week' on Friday, September 26th at Ring Factory Elementary. The County Executive and Dr. Haas will join students for lunch, which includes locally grown apples. For more information contact, Robert B. Thomas, Jr., at 410-638-3258 or 443-617-1954. **NEW!**
- On Wednesday, October 1st at 1:00 p.m., Peter Wilder from the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) and guests will be coming to the Science and Math Academy at Aberdeen High School to present a check for charitable contributions resulting from the LPGA tournament play at Bulle Rock in Havre de Grace. For more information, contact Donna Clem at 410-273-5500. **NEW!**
- North Bend Elementary School will be dedicating its new Intermediate Playground on Tuesday, October 14th at 2:00 p.m. Harford County Executive David R. Craig will attend and participate in the ribbon cutting ceremony. For more information, contact Principal Steve Hardy at 410-692-7815. **NEW!**
- Intent to Name Schucks Road Elementary Announced - According to Board policy, the official announcement of the intent to name the elementary school that is being constructed off Schucks Road, near Churchville, was made at the Board meeting held Monday, September 22. The policy suggests that the name of a public school facility should "give proper recognition to the community which it serves," but also provides for a building/ground to be named for a person, living or dead, who has made "significant contributions to education in the Harford County Public Schools." The policy further requires the intent to name be widely publicized in the community, with an invitation for the public to submit names in writing or in person during Board meetings in the 60-day interim, between announcing the intent to name and action being taken. The Superintendent will provide the Board with a complete list of names suggested along with her recommendation at the Monday, November 24th Board meeting. Allowing for 60-days required prior to naming the building, the Board will take action at its December 8, 2008 business meeting (7:00 p.m., HCPS A.A. Roberty Building). To submit names for the school, click here. **NEW!**
- The Maryland State Department of Education recently announced that Harford County Public Schools will receive a \$17,000 grant to support the implementation of the HCPS Energy Management Plan via MSDE's "Program to Promote Energy Conservation and Efficiency In Maryland Schools". Director of Facilities Management Patti Jo Beard and Coordinator of Grants Mary Beth Stapleton worked to put the application together. For more information, contact Ms. Stapleton at 410-588-5263. **NEW!**

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:

September 25, 2008

- Nine-year-old Melissa Gallatin of Bel Air won the title of World Open Strutting Champion in the novice division at the 2008 USA Twirling Championships in July. Melissa, who is entering the fifth grade at Homestead-Wakefield Elementary, was among hundreds of twirlers competing at the National Baton Twirling Association/America's Youth on Parade championships, held at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, IN. For more information, call 410-937-2426. **NEW!**

- Board of Education Counsel Patrick P. Spicer is the featured author in the Summer/Fall 2008 edition of the 'Harford Historical Bulletin' with the second part of his work on the desegregation of Harford County Public Schools. The 'Decade of Delay' Part 2 is the follow-up to Mr. Spicer's 50-page account of the first decade of desegregation in the Harford County Public Schools, which was published in the Winter/Spring 2008 issue of the bulletin. The bulletin is published by the Harford County Historical Society. For more information, call Mr. Spicer at 410-638-4005.

- Uniform Forum Community Meetings scheduled - Don't miss out on an important opportunity to participate in conversations regarding the possibilities of implementing school uniforms in Harford County Public Schools (HCPS). The Committee on School Uniforms was convened after a request by the Board of Education of Harford County to assess public interest in the concept. The Committee is co-chaired by Mrs. Patricia Skebeck, executive director of elementary education, and Mr. David Volrath, executive director of secondary education, and includes representation by teachers, students, parents, community members, and the Board of Education.

In November 2007, the committee began their research with a survey that was distributed to all schools to be completed by parents and staff. In addition, numerous public comment forms have been submitted through the HCPS.org website. The next step in this research process is to take it out into the community for discussion with ten scheduled meetings to be held at each high school.

Uniform Forum Community Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, October 7 – Patterson Mill Middle/High School
Wednesday, October 8 – Harford Technical High School
Tuesday, October 14 – Bel Air High School
Wednesday, October 15 – C. Milton Wright High School
Tuesday, October 28, -- Havre de Grace High School

Wednesday, October 29 – Fallston High School
Thursday, October 30 – Edgewood High School
Wednesday, November 5 – Aberdeen High School
Tuesday, November 11 – North Harford High School
Wednesday, November 12 – Joppatowne High School

*All meetings are held in the cafeteria from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendees will have an opportunity to receive information regarding the process to date and to engage in discussions about thoughts and opinions concerning the benefits and limitations of school uniforms. The Board of Education of Harford County has made no decisions regarding school uniforms; they are looking to the community for feedback before they start the decision making process. For more information regarding the community meetings, contact the HCPS Communications Office at 410-588-5203.

- The school counselors of Harford County Public Schools in cooperation with the Harford Community College Admissions Office, will hold their Annual Education After High School program for students and their parents on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the campus of Harford Community College, Bel Air, Maryland in the Susquehanna Center. There will be over 100 representatives from four and two year colleges and universities, business, trade and technical schools, and the Armed Forces. For more information, contact Laura Wade at 410-588-5245.