Talbot County Public Schools

Spotlight

Staff Newsletter

AUGUST 2014 PREMIER ISSUE

Welcome Back!!!

It is so exciting to be starting the year off with a new communication tool for TCPS staff. This E- newsletter, "TCPS SPOTLIGHT", has been designed to keep everyone informed and to recognize our accomplishments throughout the county. We will also be partnering with local businesses to offer discounts to TCPS employees (p. 3) and providing a way for staff to recognize colleagues as "TCPS Terrific" employees throughout the school year (p.4). I encourage everyone to get involved by submitting articles and items to our monthly staff newsletter.

Now is the time to choose our attitudes, focus on the now, and be the one to make a difference for all of those around us. Thank you for all you do for the children of Talbot County!

Kelly

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Congratulations to Ms. Bridget Whited, Talbot County Public Schools 2014-15 Teacher of the Year!

Art educator, Bridget Whited has been teaching at St. Michaels High School for the past six years. She serves as a sponsor for the National Art Honor Society, teaches AP Studio Art, is a member of the CARE and SIT teams and facilitates equity PD in her building. Bridget graduated

from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a BS degree in Interior Design and a minor in Art History. She is currently pursuing a Master in Education Administrations and Leadership at the University of Mass. Bridget has been recognized for her commitment and inclusion of teaching Art to students with disabilities and for facilitating Trans-disciplinary learning at her school.

Spotlight Story

Ashley Eason Boot Camp

MSDE sponsored it's continuing annual summer Boot Camp training sessions throughout the state of Maryland for school food service professionals. The Boot Camp is a week long, rigorous series of trainings - including knife handling techniques, cutting procedures with various kitchen knives, recipe development, and new food production methods; all aimed towards increasing the overall nutritional quality of school meals prepared for students.

On Wednesday, July 9th, 2014, SMC cafeteria assistant manager Ashley Eason was selected to work with Chef Mark, of Worcester Technology School, preparing humus from garbanzo beans. Ashley benefited so much from last year's Boot Camp that she was allowed to attend this summer's training sessions to further advance her skills. As a result of her successful trainings, she was asked to serve as a Second Chef during next year's Boot Camp, actually helping other attendees with the trainings.

This year's Boot Camp was held at Kent Island High School. St Michaels Campus cafeteria manager, Susan Clark, also attended the training.

Staff Awards 2013-14

On April 22, 2014 Mrs. Linda Brown recieved from MSDE the CTE Secondary distinguished Service Award of Excellence.

On Saturday, May 10th, 2014, Sandi Butler, Charlene DeShields and Pam Clay were honored at the 2nd Annual NcouragED Educator Recognition brunch.

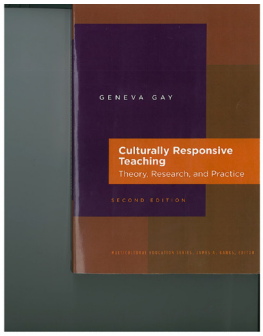
On Thursday, March 13th, 2014 Dr. Marcia Sprankle, principal of White Marsh Elementary School Talbot County nominee at the 2014 Alvin and Louise Myersburg Arts Leadership Recognition Awards. She recieved a certificate of Acknowledgement for establishing arts-rich environments in her school.

Vickie Wilson, School Counselor at Easton High School, was appointed as a Guidance and Admission Assembly delegate to the College Board. The Guidance and Admission Assembly considers how to provide educational opportunities for all students at crucial transition points in their lives. This assembly addresses issues and actions related to professional ethics and educational standards,
and provides advice on college planning, assessment, admission and retention.

On April 23, 2014, Jonathan Crist was unanimously elected to serve on the board of directors of the Talbot County Arts Council.

Staff Pick...

Book Review by Dr. Pamela Heaston



Culturally Responsive Teaching by Geneva Gay

"You can't teach what and who you don't know." The first sentence of the first chapter sums up what the entire book is about. I have found this book to be full of thought provoking ideas and useful strategies for reaching and teaching students whose culture is different from my own. This is a book I return to often.

Do you want to share a great educational resource please send in your submissions for the next staff newsletter by September 15th.

TCPS Employee Discounts

Jason's Computer Service
9231 Centreville Rd., Easton, MD 21601
• 410-924-7987
20% off any repair – in SHOP only
$25 off Virus/Spyware Removal – IN SHOP ONLY
$50 off "New" Computer Sale
$100 off Data Recovery – IN SHOP ONLY Expires 12-31-15

Captain's Ketch Seafood, Inc.
316 Glebe Rd., Easton, MD 21601
• 410-820-7177
10% off all purchases.
Expires 12/31/14

Bayside Driving School
8673 Commerce Dr. Ste #11, Easton, MD 21601
• 410-822-4411
$20.00 off of Drivers Education class for immediate family member of TCPS employee.

Coffee for a Cause
204 N. Washington St., Easton, MD 21601
• 410-310-7500
First cup of coffee free (honor system) all other cups of coffee are 50% off. Expires Jul 31, 2015

Aqua Pool & Spas
8801 Mistletoe Dr., Easton, MD 21601
• 410-822-7000
15% off all Pool and Spa Chemicals

Serino Orthodontics
538 Cynwood Dr., Ste 1, Easton, MD 21601 • 410-822-9411
$200 discount for staff or dependents toward orthodontic treatment. Discount is excluded with use of any discounted insurance plans. Expires June 30, 2015

Joes Bagel Café
101 Marlboro Ave., Easton, MD 21601
• 410-763-7410
15% off discount

Higginbottom Orthodontics
556-A Cynwood Dr., Easton, MD 21601
• (410) 822-3626
An Employee of TCPS or their child may receive a $300 discount on comprehensive orthodontic treatment (using braces or Invisalign) during the 2014/2015 school year. * New patients only, and treatment must be started during the 2014/2015 school year.
Expires June 15, 2015

Subway Rt 50
8448 Ocean Gtwy., Easton, MD 21601 • (410) 820-5707
$1 off footlong meal - .50¢ off 6 inch meal. Expires June 15, 2015

Bartlett Design Studio
29 S. Harrison St., Easton, MD 21601 • (410) 822-2664
20% off in stock and in store merchandise.
Expires June 15, 2015

Talbot Humane
Rt. 50, Easton, MD • (410) 822-0107
10% off adoptions, collars, leashes, and training aids

Earth Origins
108 Marlboro Ave, Ste 1, Easton, MD 21601
• (410) 822-4852
10% Discount.
Expires June 15, 2015

Guiffrida's Pizza
508 Idlewild Ave., Easton, MD 21601 • (410) 819-3296
20% off Everything.
Expires June 15, 2015

Giovanni's Italian Delight
• (410) 770-6993
10% off Everything, everyday.
Expires June 15, 2015

Soda Fountain at Hills
• (410) 822-9751
10% off. Expires June 15, 2015

Arbys
8359 Ocean Gtwy., Easton, MD
2731 Dorchester Sq., Cambridge, MD
10% off. Expires December 31, 2014

Easton Diner
• (410) 819-0535
10% discount Monday – Friday 3-9PM. Expires June 15, 2015

Washington Street Pub
• (410)-822-1112
20% discount – excludes already discounted items. Expires June 15, 2015

Chick-Fil-A
28632 Marlboro Ave., Easton, MD 21601
• (410) 310-6093
Free Hot Coffee every morning in August. Expires: August 31, 2014

Murdoch Gardens
9003 Chapel Rd., Easton, MD 21601
• (410) 822-2778
15% off any store purchase. Cash and carry, can use credit card. Does not apply to deliveries or call out orders. Expires: Dec 31, 2014

Academy Art Museum
106 South St. Easton, MD 21601
• (410) 822-2787
One-half price membership for TCPS employees. Please contact Constance Del Nero for details
Expires: August 31, 2015

Mike and Eric's Front Street Bar
200 South Talbot St., St. Michaels, MD
10% off bill - (alcohol excluded) for TCPS employee (not the whole bill).
Expires: June 30, 2015

In the news...

EHS school counselor, Vickie Wilson; Teacher, Ms. Maureen Gillespie; Assistant Principal, Kirk Howie and student, Ms. Jaylen Howie represented Easton High School by participating in a community outreach by setting up an information table at area locations such as the Neighborhood Service Center, ElDorado Restaurant, Lowes, Wal-Mart, Giant, and ACME. They provided information on student schedules, testing, student clubs/organizations and the school calendar.

Meet the author...

Published in *NAESP Principal magazine*

Indra Bullock, *Assistant Principal EMS* article titled *"Elementary Tactics to Ease Transition Stress"* in the Sept./Oct. 2013 issue.

Laura Griffith, *Principal CDES* article titled *"Support Eases Family-Work Challenges"* in the Sept./Oct. 2013 issue.

Lisa Kline, *Assistant Principal EES* article titled *"Purposeful Motivation"* in the Mar./Apr. 2014 issue.

Articles links:
http://www.naesp.org/principal-septemberoctober-2013-early-learning/principal-septemberoctober-2013-early-learning
https://www.naesp.org/principal-marchapril-2014-poverty/principal-marchapril-2014-poverty

Dates to remember

This is a list of upcoming staff events or reminder notices...

Biometric Screening, Tuesday, August 19th
8:00-12:00 or 1:00-3:00 Easton Elementary School-Moton Gym.

Biometric Screening, Wednesday, August 20th – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at EHS.

Tuesday, September 30th 2014 the deadline for mandatory online training. Go online to... http://talbot.md.safeschools.com/login

9/1/14 – Labor Day School Closed

9/19/14 – 1/2 Day for Students
AM School for Students PM In-service for Teachers

10/16/14 – 1/2 Day for Students
AM School for Students PM In-service for Teachers

10/17/14 – School Closed MSEA
1st Year Teachers In-service

Summers Off?

How often have school employees heard, "Oh you're so lucky, you have summers off?" That was definitely not true this summer!

- Summer School, the Judy Center and Camp Lazy Days provided 357 students with opportunities to learn, play and recover credit. Teachers, assistants, bus drivers, and food service workers staffed these opportunities, while principals and assistant principals provided administrative support.
- Two EHS teachers, Meagan Beaufait and Rachel Strang, were hired by MSDE as Master Teachers. They provided training to attendees at the College and Career Ready Conference(s) held around the state this summer.
- UNIFY is the name of the new assessment platform created by Performance Matters. This will facilitate the delivery of online assessments. More than two dozen teachers were trained to enter test questions and have been busy insuring that the school year will begin without a hitch.
- Jeremy Hillyard (EHS), Nicci Morrida (SMMHS), Renee Warfield (EHS) and Renee Haehnlen (EMS) attended MSDE's World Language Academy and discovered a few teaching ideas they plan to implement this fall.
- This year TCPS will be implementing a new teacher mentoring program and sixteen of our finest teachers were trained in how to mentor new teachers.
- All kindergarten teachers plus two Special Education teachers received training in the new state mandated Kindergarten Readiness Assessment.
- Curriculum and assessment writing has been a constant activity this summer as 151 teachers have taken time to improve our materials.
- Gateway to Technology courses offer our middle school students opportunities to engage in STEM curricula. TCPS is expanding these opportunities and teachers Matt McCowan (EMS), Jessica Santora (SMMHS) and Lauren Greer (SMMHS) attended 3 or 5 day trainings at UMBC to insure their readiness to teach these courses.
- Bethany Haas (EMS), Vanessa Sullivan (CDES), Makema Grimes (EES), Chad Sechrist (EMS), Matt McCowan (EMS) and Leslie Sorrell (EMS) attended various science academies this summer in order to enrich their science curricula.
- And just before school starts Ali Femi (EMS), John Strickland (EMS), CarolAnne Burkhardt (SMES), Dan Davis (WMES) and Eric Moseley (EHS/SMMHS) provided new teachers with training aimed at helping them get off to a good start.

Wellness Tip...

Shots for Adults

Many of us think that vaccines are just for children, but experts now recommend adult vaccinations. It is estimated that each year 50,000 adults die each from vaccine preventable disease such as influenza and shingles. As you grow older, you may also be at risk for other less serious diseases. Protect yourself, your family, your coworkers and your community.

Make sure you are up-to-date on the following vaccines:

- Flu shot every year
- Tdap vaccine (protects against tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis)
- Tdap booster every 10 years
- Shot to prevent shingles after age 60
- Shot to prevent pneumonia (also called PPSV) after age 65

Talbot County Public Schools | Building lives, creating futures

Do You Know a "TCPS Terrific" Employee?

Someone who goes beyond what is expected? Someone who has made a special effort on behalf of you, another employee or a child? Someone who has distinguished him/herself on the job? If so, please help Talbot County Public Schools acknowledge this person by nominating him/her for a TCPS-Terrific Employee Award.

The TCPS-Terrific Employee Award acknowledges TCPS employees for their dedication and service. TCPS will recognize each nominee in the employee staff newsletter. Each nominee will also receive a letter of commendation from the Superintendent of schools and a TCPS-Terrific lanyard and lapel pin. The employee's principal/supervisor will present the letter, lanyard and pin during a special occasion.

Students, Parents, Co-workers and administrators can submit nominations at any time; there are no deadlines. Please complete the form below and have the nominee's supervisor sign it. Send the completed form to Lynne Duncan, Director of Human Resorces and Student Services,TCPS board office, 12 Magnolia Street, Easton, MD 21625. Questions: email lduncan@tcps.k12.md.us or call 410- 822-0330

Thank you for recognizing an exceptional employee!

I am nominating a TCPS Terrific Employee! (Please Print)

Today's Date: _____

Name Nominee:_____
First Name Last Name

Position:_____Department/School:_____

Reason for nomination:

Nominee's Principal/Supervisor (print):_____
First Name Last Name

I agree with this nomination:_____
Principal/Supervisor's Signature

Nominator's Name:_____Phone:_____
Please check one - Student ❑ Parent ❑ Co-Worker ❑