

BULLDOG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 9

April/May 2009

Eddie D. Scott, Principal

Otis Lee, Assistant Principal (Team 7A & 8th Grade)
Natasha White, Assistant Principal (Team 7B & 6th Grade)

Margaret Haacke, Counselor – 6th Grade
Kari Hively, Counselor – 8th Grade
Catherine Lee, Counselor - 7th Grade

A Caring Learning Community

Mission Statement

At Meade Middle School, we:

- ⇒ Develop lifelong learners
- ⇒ Provide both a rigorous and a relevant curriculum
- ⇒ Are committed to excellence



Vision Statement

Meade Middle School's Quest is to:

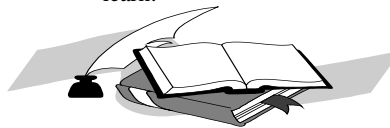
- ⇒ Provide an environment where learning and behavior lead to student success.
- ⇒ Equip students with twenty-first century learning competencies in order to be well rounded and competitive in a global society.
- ⇒ Foster a culture of meaningful adult and student relationships which leads to students feeling safe and supported.
- ⇒ Engage parents, businesses and the global community in building student success.



Value Statements

At Meade Middle we believe in:

- ⇒ The dignity of every human being;
- ⇒ Advocating for all of our students;
- ⇒ Affirming all cultures;
- ⇒ The power of high expectations for ourselves and our students;
- ⇒ The capacity of all students to learn.



MESSAGE FROM MR. SCOTT

Dear Parents,

On April 1, I wrote to you to make you aware of my appointment as principal of Annapolis Middle School for the 2009-2010 school year as part of the school's restructuring process. At that time, I shared with you that once the incoming principal of Meade Middle School for 2009-2010

school year had been appointed I would convey this information to you.

To this regard, I am writing to let you know that Anne Arundel County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell has appointed Bill Goodman to become principal of Meade Middle School for the upcoming school year. Mr. Goodman is currently the principal at Old Mill Middle School South, a position he has held for the last four years.

There is no question in my mind that Mr. Goodman will be a terrific principal for this school community. As my colleague, I've witnessed firsthand Mr. Goodman's exceptional leadership abilities, which include sincere and firm efforts in building relationships with teachers, students and parents. He truly has the skills and the wherewithal to continue to move Meade Middle School from good to great.

I know that you will give Mr. Goodman as much support as you have given me during my tenure

here. As I said before, while our paths will separate after this year, I want you to know that a piece of my heart will forever belong to Meade Middle School. This is truly a special place.

As we move through the fourth marking period towards the close of this school year, I ask for your continual spirit of teamwork on behalf of our students. I am confident great things are on the horizon and equally confident you will find a great teammate to accomplish those things in Mr. Goodman. ----Eddie Scott

Farewell to Ms. Talley, FLS Teacher

I would like to acknowledge Mrs. Barbara Talley and formally thank her for her two years of service to the Meade Middle School family. Mrs. Talley, Functional Life Skills teacher, is a military spouse. The past two school years her family has been stationed at Fort G. Meade.

However, her husband will be stationed in Texas. We are going to sincerely miss Mrs. Talley. Mrs. Talley's last day at Meade Middle School will be May 8. Ms. Cherie Bristow will serve as long-term substitute in Mrs. Talley's stead beginning, May 26 until the end of the school year.

ATTENTION PARENTS: SCHOOL SYSTEM OFFICES SHIFTING TO FOUR-DAY WORK WEEK FOR FIVE WEEKS THIS SUMMER

Schools Superintendent Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell announced on March 24 that county schools and school system offices will operate on a four-day work week for five weeks this summer, saving

approximately \$154,000 in operating and transportation costs without any decrease in productivity.

Employees will work extended days from Monday through Thursday, and all AACPS schools and offices except the Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center will be closed on Fridays during the modified schedule period, which runs from Wednesday, July 8, 2009, through Tuesday, August 11, 2009. Employees will continue to be responsible for working the mandatory number of weekly hours as stipulated by their job group and/or negotiated agreement.

Unless rare exceptions are granted, school buildings and central offices will be closed on the following Fridays: July 10, 17, 24, and 31, and August 7. This means that during these weeks, programs that use schools such as summer school and Department of Recreation and Parks programs, will operate on four-day schedules. If your child is enrolled in a program that is scheduled to use our school during this period, please check with the sponsoring agency to make sure you know the correct schedule.

Meade Middle School will continue to operate on a normal schedule throughout the summer so that it can host the Italian Leonardo Project and the Gifted and Talented Summer Center for Global Languages.

During this five-week period, our school's office hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. During the other weeks of the summer, our school's office hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

If you have any questions about hours of operation, please call the school office.

Multicultural Night

Our annual Multicultural Night will be held on Wednesday, May 6th from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The students and staff members have created a combination of events and activities for children that shape respectful attitudes toward cultural differences. The evening will be comprised of student displays, individual as well as group performances, and various interactive stations. This year's theme is "Crossing Cultures". Please come out and join us at this worthwhile event.

*If anyone would like to volunteer to assist with Multicultural Night please contact Mrs. K. Boyce by phone at 410-674-2355 or by email at kdboyce@aacps.org. Thanking you in advance for all of your assistance.

A MESSAGE TO MS. QUINN'S 7B FAMILY

Dear Students, Parents and Guardians:

The school year is rapidly progressing as we are already finding ourselves in the fourth marking period. As the school year approaches to an end, there will be a change in the language arts classroom. Some of you may already be aware; I am expecting the birth of my first child in mid May. I anticipate teaching until approximately May 5, 2009 before taking maternity leave. A qualified guest teacher will be resuming instruction upon my absence. Please rest assured students will continue to receive quality instruction following the Anne Arundel County Public Schools 7th Grade Language Arts Pacing

Guide. Regular classroom policies and procedures will continue, in addition to the weekly language arts homework. Please feel free to contact me with questions regarding this matter. It has been a pleasure working with everyone this school year, and I look forward to the last several weeks we will have learning and working together.

Regards,

Mrs. Quinn
7th Grade Language Arts
Meade Middle School
410-674-2355
mnquinn@aacps.org

Eighth Grade News

8th Grade Promotion Ceremony

The 8th Grade will be having its Farewell and Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, June 9, 2009 in Meade High School's auditorium beginning promptly at 1:15 p.m. With the exception of handicapped parking, please plan to park at Meade Middle and walk over to the high school. Guests will not be able to enter the high school until 1:00 p.m. The students should report to Meade Middle School by 8:00 a.m. as usual to check in and prepare for the ceremony. There will not be bus transportation provided after the ceremony. Students must ride home with a designated adult from their emergency notification card. Students are reminded to wear their Sunday best for the occasion, which means **no** denim, T-shirts, sneakers, or Timberlands.

In order to accommodate seating for all of our students' guests, each student being promoted will receive **2 tickets** on June 8th to

invite his or her guests, (exception, siblings will receive 2 tickets per family).

- Parents please do not plan to arrive at the school before 12:55 for the ceremony as both schools will need to accommodate the bus departures for the early dismissal day.
- Parents, please remind your children to prepare for their final exams from June 1st – June 4th. Foreign language exams begin at least the week before.

Reminder to all 8th grade students and parents: Any student failing **two (2)** or more classes for the year, or has failed the same subject in 6th or 7th grade will not be invited to attend the Farewell and Awards Ceremony. Also, all library books must be returned and financial obligations taken care of by May 29th and textbooks must be returned or paid for by June 4th in order to attend the ceremony and Eighth Grade Farewell dance.

- The Eighth Grade Farewell Dance will be held at Meade Middle School on June 10th from 7:00 – 10:00 pm. More information will be sent at a later date concerning the dance.

Academic Excellence

Congratulations to the following students for achieving academic excellence and making the honor roll for the third marking period.

Principal's Honor Roll

6th Grade: Janel A., Siya B., Emily B., Ashley C., Haylee E., Matthew G., Carlos H., Haley P., Aberah Q., Michelle R., Scout S.,

and Victoria S.

7th Grade: Frank B., Trishna C., Amanda C., Nicole D., Sarah H., Abigail L., Trevor M., and Brittany N.

8th Grade: Marisa B., Phylesia F., Mary G., M. H., Binh N., Karan P., Stephen R., Chanel V., Jennifer W., Sarah W., and Yiqi Y.

Honor Roll

6th Grade: Baaba A., Adeniyi A., Assad A., Mirtha A., Yusef A., Leilani A., Kevin A., Alexis B., Alesha B., Casey B., Lucy B., Tayvon B., Jordan B., Jovon B., Joseph B., Tiffany B., Jasmine B., China C., Roggie C., Kiera C., Brianna C., Gracie D., Diamond D., Alicia D., Cameron D., Alassane D., Dallas D., Nicholas D., Peter D., Andrew E., Samantha F., Richard F., Casey G., Osamuyimen G., Megan G., Valentina G., Devin H., Jacob H., An H., Brian H., Kristine H., Kenneth H., Dominique J., Zachary J., Jullien J., Duong L., Briana M., Elizabeth M., Breanna M., Micah M., Melvin M., Kayla M., Robert M., Alexis M., Sarah M., Sidney M., Nathaniel M., Erica M., Jaclyn M., Angela N., Michael N., Patrick N., Aliceia P., Tyler R., Jordan R., Migdalia R., DominiQue S., Oluwabukanla S., Sumbul S., Brandon S., Austin S., Sarah T., James T., Kyler T., Nhu T., Brianna W., and Madelyn W.

7th Grade: Emily A., Ariel A., Avery B., Ayanna B., Michael B., Zachary B., Logan B., Derrick B., Samantha C., Langston C., Devin D., India E., Akintomiwa F., Yamile G., Ariel G., Selena H., Myesha H., Samantha

H., Alicia H., Austen H., Stacey H., Duwa-E-Zhera J., Samuel J., Alexis J., Lakeesha K., Nicole K., Jenyffer L., Ryan L., Johanna L., Diana L., Franklin M., Aaron M., Ashley M., Justin M., Yoann M., Crystal P., Rebecca P., Anthony P., Emmanuel P., Megan R., Rachel R., Paulo R., Taylor S., David S., Eric S., Jonathan S., Meaghan S., Daniel S., James T., Elizabeth T., Ngoc Chau T., Valencia T., Kellianne V., Tanairi V., Kevin V., Kiyera W., A' Miya W., and Justin W., and Katisha Y.

8th Grade: Adnan A., Gabrielle A., Jamie A., Mekah B., Jessica B., Jasmine B., Leah B., Julie B., Elyse B., Zsanae' B., Bethany B., Aaron B., Georgia B., Phillip B., Christopher C., Justin C., Khalani C., Erik C., Shemaiah C., Summer C., James-Warren C., Hunter C., Addison C., Kayla C., Brittany C., Justin D., David D., Leah D., Mark D., Abigail F., Darius F., Sarah F., Sarah F., Deysha H., Kadeem H., Marielle J., Cameron K., Jenny K., Mimi K., Ashley L., Alvaro M., Shaleah M., Tyreka M., Fabrice N., Ingrid N., Oluwafemi O., Mihir P., Travis P., Pricilla P., Melyssa Quan, Guillermo R., Luis S., Molly S., Patrick S., Shimara S., Kendra S., Edgardo V., Danielle V., Jessica W., Erica W., Gregory W., Selina W.

PTSA NEWS

The Meade Middle School PTSA would like to thank RLO Contractors, Inc. for the generous donation of hardwood mulch. This donation was used to beautify the school entrance planting areas with fresh mulch and summer annuals. Their generous

donation became part of a PTSA event which involved Mrs. McCallister's science classes, building maintenance personnel, and PTSA members which all participated in this school beautification effort. The PTSA would like to recognize all who participated in this effort which truly represented the mission of the PTSA with grateful thanks to all. RLO Contractors, Inc. is a local commercial and residential contractor located in Elkridge, MD. Please see their website for services provided at www.rlocontractors.com."

HOW TO TALK TO CHILDREN DURING HARD ECONOMIC TIMES

Most parents and families have been impacted by the recession in some way or know someone who has. We wanted to provide some practical ideas about how parents might talk to their children about finances when money is tight or when jobs have been lost.

Be honest. Children can sense when their parents are stressed or unhappy. It is better to explain to them why we are acting the way we are so that they do not "think the worst" or think it is their fault. Use language they understand. If they are young: the most important thing they want to know from you is that you will take care of them. They want reassurance. You can explain to them that countries go through ups and downs and that right now our country has less money than it has had in the past; and that soon things will be better. Older children

need reassurance too but you can explain a budget to them and show them how you are making choices about what the family spends money on depending on your families' values. Let older children know too that the economy will turn around and that times will be better in the future.

Be reassuring. Let your children know that you have a plan for different things that might happen and that they will be taken care of. Make plans for different scenarios. Research what resources are available to you to: keep your home or apartment, find a new job, get financial help, ask family members for help. Remember that this is a difficult time and that if you have to depend on others for a period, so do many others. Events have taken place that are beyond your control. If you need to cry sometimes or feel angry or impatient, take a "time out" and go to another room or take a walk. Involve your children. View this time as a "teaching moment." Children are good problem solvers and can learn to be better ones. Have family meetings or family discussions to tell your children that money is less available right now, that you need to redo the family budget and ask for their input. Children have been suggesting to their parents that they: be more aware of the power they use and turn off all of the electronics/ lights when not in use, put the things they want

on a list and save up for them, eat out less, give up some expensive snacks, find free or inexpensive activities to do together, check out clothes and toys at second-hand stores, donate things they no longer use for yard sales. Older children can baby sit, do yard work, apply for scholarships or find a part time job outside of the home to pay for some of the things they want, save up for college or a car. You can ask family members to help pay for after school activities, classes or team participation as birthday or holiday presents instead of another type of gift. When children contribute they feel empowered, less anxious and more in control. They want to help.

Set limits you are comfortable with. It is okay to say "no". It is okay to say "no" after you said "yes" because something you promised does not fit into your budget. Explain that to be a financially responsible family; everyone has to go without something for a while. Be a good role model and show your children that you are budgeting, planning ahead, making good decisions and taking care of them.

Manage stress – yours and your families'. Adopt a "can do attitude". Let them know that together you will survive these economic challenges. Know that you are an effective parent. Our children have grown up in a commercial world where they think the road

to happiness is traveled by buying things. They will learn that this is not true. We can say "no" to them and still be very effective parents by teaching them to budget, contribute and save.

Find support for yourself. Talk to friends or family. See if there is support in your community at a hospital, school, religious center, or library. Seek counseling if you really feel very overwhelmed. Use or learn relaxation techniques, exercise or practice yoga. If you show your children you can cope they will learn that they can cope also.

This information has been compiled from a variety of sources including:

Michigan Public Radio,
Kidshealth.org,
life.familyeducation.com,
news.prnewswire.com,
chicagoparent.com,
www.parentcentral.ca,
www.boston.com,
abcnews.go.com.

Ivy Sheffler-Oidick, 3/16/09



*Mark your calendar for Friday,
June 5, for the End of the Year
PTSA Skate Night*

Campbell Labels/Box Tops for Education

We are collecting Campbell Labels and General Mills "Box Tops for Education" coupons. With your help the school can purchase educational equipment and/or items for the children. Please have your child drop off the labels and coupons in the Campbell Soup box located in the Volunteer Coordinator's office. Mr. Bob loves to give out bulldog bucks to students for the labels and coupons.

Calendar of Events

May 4-8 - Buy-One-Get-One Free Book Fair, Media Center
Wednesday, May 6 – Multicultural Fair/BOGO Book Fair, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Friday, May 8 – Interims sent home

Monday, May 25 – Memorial Day; School Closed

Thursday, May 28 – Last day for activity buses

Friday, June 5, PTSA End of the Year Skate Night

June 5, 8, 9, 10 – Two-hour early dismissal

Tuesday, June 9 – 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony, Meade High School, 1:15 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 10 – Students last day
8th Grade Farewell Dance,
7:00 – 10:00 p.m.**