

BULLDOG NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 4

November 2008

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

Happy Thanksgiving! Meade Middle School is delighted to have one of our teachers recognized as West County Middle School Educator of the year for the second year in row. Ms. Melissa Bradshaw, 8th Grade Language Arts Teacher and Department Chairperson, was one of four Anne Arundel County Public Schools educators to be honored by the West Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce. This

prestigious award was bestowed upon Ms. Bradshaw at a recent community awards dinner. As a school community we celebrate Ms. Bradshaw's accomplishment. Last school year, Ms. Jennifer Shellemann, 6th Grade Science teacher and Team Leader, won this very same notable recognition. Ms. Bradshaw and Ms. Shellemann's accomplishments are an indication of the quality of instruction our students receive on a daily basis.

Student report cards were distributed to students on Friday, November 21. As you review your child's report card you may elect to formulate questions about your child's performance that can be asked on your child during this month's Student Led Conferences. Student Led Conferences will be held Monday, November 24.

Many of you as parents have made sacrifices to transport your child to early morning instrumental rehearsals. We thank you for this!

To keep a focus on school safety and security our Crisis Intervention team has rehearsed several simulated emergency drills. The drills are consistent with Dr. Maxwell's, Superintendent of Schools, direction to schools to review possible emergency situations. Our goal is student and staff safety. Visitors to our building will continue to be granted access to our school through the installed camera and door bell system.

PDS

Meade Middle School appreciates its partnership with University of Maryland and Baltimore County. Together we are helping to prepare the next generation of teachers. As a result of our collaboration we continue to reap the benefits of improving the quality of student learning in each of our classrooms.

Meade Middle Welcomes the following teacher interns to our school:

Amber Baldwin - 8th grade, Social Studies
Raissa Howera - Art
Michael Lynch - 8th grade, Language Arts
Natalee Donoho - Spanish

“Hey – the PPW called me down today!”

What on Earth is a PPW?

Meade Middle School and the feeder schools for Meade Middle all have a new PPW this year. My name is Sue Myers. This is my first year as a PPW but my 21st year working in the Anne Arundel County Public Schools system. I actually attended public schools in Anne Arundel County myself. I am available as a resource to all of the school staff and families at your school. PPW stands for

Pupil Personnel Worker. We have been part of the Anne Arundel County Public Schools for years but this year there are more of us. We have three main jobs:

1. Working to improve attendance
2. Working on custody issues
3. Working on residency issues-including homelessness

I am here to help you and your children enjoy success! If you get a call, letter, e-mail or visit from me, please don't panic, I am here to work out any issues you are having and try to help you find solutions. In rare cases, we are forced to enforce the attendance laws in court.

We all want the same thing—what is best for your child. I will help you in every way possible with resources that will remove barriers to your child's success. The PPW, school psychologists, school social worker, school counselors, administrators and teachers all work together to help students become successful both in and out of school. The PPW is the home, school, community connection. I am looking forward to working with the Meade Middle School Community! Please feel free to call me at any time and I will return your call as soon as possible.

Suann T. Myers
Pupil Personnel Worker
Student Services Center
410-923-0834
410-271-1683 (cell)

PPW's Corner

“Big Deal...I'm a little late...so what”??

How often have we heard these words? This is my first year at

Meade Middle School so sometimes I try to walk around the building and just observe to learn more about the school and the community. At Meade Middle teachers are serious about helping all students become successful. Within one minute of the bell ringing at Meade Middle, students are taking their seats, preparing materials needed for class and focusing on their teachers. Within five minutes, the students are full engaged reviewing material and making life connections with new material that will be presented that class period. They have completed a warm-up drill. Within ten minutes, the class is well underway and new material is being introduced.

And here comes the student who is regularly late to school. No big deal, right?

Whether in the first minute or within five or ten minutes, this student has disrupted the focus of his or her classmates; the student arriving late now requires attention from the teacher. That means even the most veteran teachers have to stop teaching to focus on the late student. After another minute or two, he or she is able to refocus the class and resume the lesson...until the next late arrival.

The Anne Arundel County Public Schools system defines tardiness *as the student not being in the classroom when the class period starts*. The school system, including Meade Middle School, takes tardiness very seriously. A student's record shows no distinction between arriving one minute late, fifteen, or one hour. Late is late. And it is disruptive to your child as well as others.

Research indicates that students who continually arrive late to school:

- Miss part of the academics of their first class
- Require attention and take time that could be used otherwise
- Develop behavior patterns that are undesirable in school and later in work
- Maya receive social pressure by peers that can lower self-esteem

School: "Be There or Be Square"

Instrumental Music News from Ms. Dixon

Congratulations to two of our Meade Middle string orchestra musicians who auditioned for the All County Orchestra at Crofton Middle on Tuesday, October 28, 2008. Please join me in wishing them congratulations in being chosen to represent our school in the 2008 Anne Arundel County all County Orchestra. Our students are 8th grade violinists Phylesia F. and Lauren R.. They will perform a public concert held at Northeast High School on Saturday, December 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Go Meade Middle Musicians!

Winter Concert

It is that time of year again for the Meade Middle Winter Concert. The date of the concert is Tuesday, December 16, 2008, and it will begin at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be held in the Meade Middle cafetorium and you will hear performances by the string orchestra and the concert band.

All students performing in the concert must be in the instrumental music room at 6:30

p.m. in order to tune/warm-up prior to the start of the concert. Concert attire is required for all students performing. **Black "Dockers" – type pants, white long sleeved button down collared shirt and black closed-toed dress shoes or boots. (NO JEANS, NO SHORTS, NO SKIRTS, NO DRESSES or TENNIS SHOES).**

I want to thank you for supporting the instrumental music program and I am look forward to seeing everyone on December 16, 2008 at the concert!

From the Desk of the SGA President

Hello to all! I am Sarah W, the president of the Student Government Association (SGA) for the 2008-2009 school year. The SGA has been busy for the first couple of months of school. We went to the fall leadership conference at Camp Letts and attended the first general assembly at Old Mill High School.

Camp Letts was a big success! The fourteen members of the executive board attended. We got the opportunity to learn from workshops about public speaking and about encouraging and empowering students. We also met the executive board of the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC) and members of other SGAs.

Recently attended was the first general assembly at Old Mill High School. We brought ten members of the executive board. Of those that attended we had six voting delegates and four observers. At the assembly we voted on issues such as the new proposed middle school schedule, a scholarship benefit for the Student Member on the Board of Education (SMOB),

and incorporating Signature and Magnet programs at the high schools.

The new proposed middle school schedule

The board of education wants to change the middle school schedule to include six periods with two electives each day, giving students more opportunities to explore their interests.

The scholarship benefit

The current SMOB proposed a scholarship benefit for himself and future SMOBs. The members of the board of education earn \$6,000/year with the president earning \$8,000/year. The SMOB does the same work as the other members but gets no money. Also, while holding the position of SMOB they cannot work due to commitment. Therefore, the SMOB proposed that a \$6,000 scholarship for higher education be provided to SMOBs.

Signature and Magnet Programs

A Signature Program is unique for each school based on what the community wants. Only student that are districted for a high school can enroll in that high school's Signature Program. A Magnet Program is a special program that people in other districts can transfer to if that is what they desire.

Health Room News

Hand Hygiene

During the cold and flu season it is important to review proper hand washing. Hand washing is a simple habit—one that requires minimal training and so special equipment. Yet, it's one of the best ways to avoid getting sick. This simple habit requires only soap and warm water.

Proper hand washing with soap and water

Follow these instructions for washing with soap and water:

- Wet your hands with warm, running water and apply liquid or clean bar soap. Lather well.
- Rub your hands vigorously together for at least 15 seconds.
- Scrub all surfaces, including the backs of your hands, wrists, between your fingers and under your fingernails.
- Rinse well.
- Dry your hands with a clean or disposable towel.
- Use a towel to turn off the faucet.

Contact Information

Frequently there are changes in home, work, and cell phone numbers. Please don't forget to update the health room with current emergency phone numbers.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

Vision and Hearing Screening for all 8th graders and those students new to Anne Arundel County Public Schools will be held on December 8 and 9. Please ensure that all students in the above categories (8th and new to Anne Arundel County Public Schools) are prepared for screening by wearing their current glasses or contact lenses. If your child does not fit into one of the above categories, but you are interested in having him/her screened, please phone Shani

Ball, RN, School Health Nurse, at 410-674-1870.

Medications at School

Medications are only administered at school when absolutely necessary. Medications cannot be accepted or allowed to be self administered without the receipt of the appropriate medication form, "Parent Request to Administer Medications at School", which has been completed and signed by both the physician and the parent. This policy includes all prescription and over the counter non-prescription medications including cough drops and cold tablets. All medication must be presented in an unopened container and labeled with the child's name. If the child is to self-carry an inhaler, the medication form must still be completed and kept on file in the health room. These inhalers must also be labeled and in the box with the prescription label. For your convenience, a medication form is included in this newsletter.

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 barrel 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

Thursday, Dec. 4 – AVID/FYI Field Trip to Newseum

Friday, Dec. 5 – Picture Make-up Day

Dec. 8 & 9 – Vision & Hearing Screening

Dec. 12 – Interims sent home

Dec. 16 – Instrumental Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m., Cafetorium

Dec. 17 – Choral Winter Concert, 7:00 p.m., Cafetorium

Dec. 24-Jan. 2 – Winter Holiday; School Closed

Monday, Jan. 5 – School open for teachers and students

Jan. 12-15 – High School Assessment (HSA)

Monday, Jan. 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commemoration; School Closed

Jan. 21, 22, 23, & 26 – Two-hour early dismissal for students

Monday, Jan. 26. – End of 2nd marking period

Jan. 27 & 28 – Schools Closed for students

Jan. 29 - Beginning of 3rd marking period



PARENTS...

Please join us in creating a safe and welcoming learning environment in our school by participating in the
the
2008 School Year Bullying Survey.

November 17 – December 23

Find it at <http://survey.aacps.org> or on the Anne Arundel County Public Schools website at
<http://www.aacps.org>

Your insight and support will help our school identify areas of concern and address them. You are an important partner in this effort and we value your input.

As always, thanks for your support!

Your passcode is nxp928

Order your
2009
ALL COLOR

today!

The only way to guarantee that you will get a copy of the ALL COLOR yearbook is to order one by December 5, 2008. After this date, packages will not be available, the price of the book will increase, and all books will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.

PACKAGE OPTIONS (only available until December 5, 2008)

BULLDOG package



\$40

BLACK package



\$32

BLUE package



\$30

To pay by check or money order:

Return this order form with cash, check or money order for the amount shown below to Christy McCallister, Meade Middle School, 1103 26th st., Ft. Meade, MD 20755 by December 5, 2008. Please make your check payable to Meade Middle School, Please mail in your form, bring it to the front office or give it to Ms. McCallister.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ Home Phone #: _____

I want to order: (check one) PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

- Bulldog Package (\$40) (Best Value!) Black Package (\$32) Blue Package (\$30)

OR, if ordering items individually, check below:

- _____ yearbook (\$25) _____ name stamp (\$6) _____ 8-page color autograph supplement (\$5)
 _____ 16-page color world yearbook current events magazine (\$6) _____ Gel pen (\$1) _____ Picture This! photo on cover with two lines of name stamping (\$8)

Total amount enclosed: \$ _____

To pay by credit card:

Call 1.866.287.3096 or go to www.herffjones.com/theordercenter and use order number 4381. Only the packages above are available when ordering by credit card and there is a \$3.50 convenience fee added to your order. The package prices below include the \$3.50 convenience fee.

- Bulldog Package (\$43.50) (Best Value!) Black Package (\$35.50) Blue Package (\$33.50)

The yearbook is 100% self-sufficient and relies on book and Patrons to provide a product to the Meade Middle student body. Please consider becoming a yearbook patron in the 2009 yearbook.

YES, I am interested in becoming a yearbook patron. Enclosed is my tax deductible donation of _____ (at least \$25). Please send me a receipt.

Yearbooks not picked up during distribution will become the property of Meade Middle School on December 19, 2009. Students who have financial obligations, or have overdue library books will not be able to pick up their yearbooks until all obligations are satisfied.

**THE SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
SCHOOLS PRESENTS**

MONTHLY PARENT EDUCATION AND SUPPORT GROUP

ON

HELPING CHILDREN WITH GRIEF AND LOSS

We will discuss the definition of grief, how children grieve at different ages, and how we can help children through the grief process. You will have the opportunity to talk to other parents and to have your questions answered.

DATE: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2008

TIME: 6:30 – 8:00 PM

**PLACE: NORTH COUNTY LIBRARY
MEETING ROOM**

Call 410-363-2967 or 410-691-4344 x276 and ask for Mrs. Oidick for any inquiries
Child activity corner is available with your supervision.



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM

PARENT'S REQUEST TO ADMINISTER MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

FOR COMPLETION BY PARENT/GUARDIAN


Name of Student: _____ D.O.B: ____/____/____
(LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

Name of School: _____ Grade: _____ School Year: _____

In order for my child to receive medication in school, I agree to the following:

- X All prescription and non-prescription medication will have a physician's signed order **fully** completed for each school year.
 X The prescription medication will be in a container labeled by the pharmacist or physician with:
Name of child. Name of the medication. Dosage, route and time of administration.
Name of physician. Prescription date and expiration date. Conditions for proper storage.
 X The non-prescription medication will be in the original sealed container with the label intact. Student's name will be put on the container in a position that does not obscure the label.
 X The medication will be brought to school by an adult.
 X The physician will be called if a question arises about my child's medication.
 X The first dose of this medication (except for Epi-Pen) has been given without problems.

Having read the above conditions, I request Anne Arundel County School Health Services personnel administer the medication as prescribed by the physician below. I certify that I have legal authority to consent to medical treatment for the student named above, including the administration of medication at school.

 Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Relationship to student _____
 Phone Number: (H) _____ (W) _____ Other _____
 Address: _____

PHYSICIAN'S SIGNED ORDER FOR MEDICATION AT SCHOOL
ONE MEDICATION PER FORM

Diagnosis: _____
 Name of Medication: _____
 Dosage: _____ (mg, ml, ml/tsp, # of puffs)
 Route: _____ Time of Administration at School: _____ Lunchtime
 If PRN, for what symptoms? _____ How Often? _____

Please list any specific precautions personnel should be aware of or any unusual effects that might be observed.

Student has allergies to the following medications: _____

Services should begin (Date) _____ and terminate (Date) _____

FOR INHALER, EPI-PEN, AND INSULIN ONLY:

_____ It has been determined that this student is able to self-administer and carry inhalant medication or Epi-pen and has been trained in its use, including knowing when the medication is to be used.

_____ It has been determined that this student is able to self-administer insulin.

_____ This student should not self-administer inhalant medication, insulin, or Epi-pen.

 Physician's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Original signature/NO stamps

Physician's Name (Printed): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Order Reviewed _____ R.N. Date _____

