Horace Martin, Night Quality Manager for Area 3, and Jill Steelman, Executive Administrative Secretary, were selected to participate in the 2018-2019 Leadership Development Institute. This nine month program, sponsored by AACPS and the 21st Century Education Foundation, provides an in-depth exploration of leadership through partnerships between the school system and the business, government, and community sectors. In October, Understanding AACPS Administration and Decision Making, LDI participants heard from Alex Szachnowicz, COO of AACPS and Jerry Walker, District 7 Council Member.

The Maintenance Department once again showed everyone, including Riva Road, who knows how to feed the hungry. Congratulations to the Maintenance team, and special thanks to Ernie Prince and Crystal Webb for their work to make this collection drive a success.

Our Logistics team, Mike Rogall, Steve Kooser, Mac Shifflett, Joe Parkent, Jay McLanigan, and Daniel Daw, showing their Unity Day spirit.

Tim Taylor, site superintendent at Edgewater ES gets into the spirit!
Jason Anderson, Principal Riviera Beach ES: “Although there have been many helping out, folks like Mark Snyder and Diane Hall are working hard to keep our little building running and making sure our students have a safe learning environment. They have not only been receptive but more importantly, responsive. It’s a tough job keeping up with aging facilities but we are making it work with dedicated folks in our Operations and Maintenance Departments.”

Valerie Wesner, Coordinator of Science: “Thank you very much to you and your team for stepping forward last spring to address the issue of science safety equipment. I know that it called for a tremendous amount of work to be done in a very compact amount of time. We in the science office, along with science teachers in our schools, are very grateful for all your support. The speed and efficiency with which you and your staff installed the equipment enabled us to start schools with almost all our safety equipment fully installed. We greatly appreciate your patience as we learned on the job what is really entailed in a countywide installation of equipment. We now all have a much better idea of the process and an even greater appreciation for the hard work your staff has done on behalf of our students and teachers. With thanks for all you and your marvelous staff have done.”

BoE President Julie Hummer acknowledged the great work by our Energy Conservation Office and the savings brought to the system.

Selecia Hardy, Principal Mills-Parole ES: “Thank you for assigning Mr. Mouzon to Mills-Parole. His commitment to maintaining a safe and clean building is displayed consistently. He performs his job at the highest level with a great attitude. He is respectful, pays close attention to detail and goes over and beyond the call of duty. It is because of his leadership that I am certain we will readily open our doors to almost 700 students in the next few weeks.”

Kudos to Mike Rogall and Daniel Daw. They went the extra mile to assist the folks at Transportation, who only had a push mower to do their lawn maintenance. Mike and Daniel took an old riding mower that had been replaced by a school and transformed it with some TLC and elbow grease. Transportation now has a much more efficient mower than they had been using.

Behind the Scenes: HVAC
A shout-out to our HVAC Team, especially Wayne Swanke and Ronald Spriggs for being featured in the latest AACPS Behind the Scenes video. Watch it here: http://aaccpschools.org/development/2018/10/29/

Metamorphosis at Facilities
Facilities hosted some Monarch butterfly activity this summer. Milkweed in the front garden, supplied by Arlington Echo, provided food and safety for several caterpillars which turned to chrysalis which turned to butterflies right before our eyes.

An injured bird was rescued at Severna Park MS by Steve Fagan.
Understanding the Stress/Health Connection

Stress exists in your mind—but it’s also evident in your stomach, heart, muscles and even your toes. In fact, stress may affect every cell in your body. During stressful times, your body produces various chemicals, including cortisol, an immune-suppressing hormone. The more cortisol produced, the weaker your immune cells become and the more susceptible you are to illness.

Common Reactions to Stress:
- Migraine headaches
- Sleep disorders
- Fatigue
- Irritability
- Depression, worry and anxiety
- Chest pain

By gaining a better understanding of the stress/disease connection, you can reduce your stress and improve your health and well-being.

MAINTENANCE TOOLBOX TALKS
November: Eye Protection
December: Hand Protection
January: Head Protection
February: Noise

General Safety Tips

⇒ Obey safety signs, stickers, and tags.
⇒ Adopt a proper stance when lifting; put the strain on your legs, not your back (crouch at your feet, keep your back straight, and don’t bend at the waist.)
⇒ Always read labels and instructions alerting you to potential dangers and hazards.
⇒ Never remove or tamper with safety devices.
⇒ Ensure a clear and easy route to emergency exits and equipment.

Ergonomic Tips

⇒ Talking on the phone with the phone receiver jammed between the neck and ear is really bad practice. You know that’s true, so don’t do it!
⇒ You can rest your eyes periodically for several seconds by looking at objects at a distance to give your eyes a break.
⇒ Your feet should not be dangling when you are seated. If your feet don’t comfortably reach the floor or there is pressure on the backs of your legs, use a footrest or lower the keyboard and chair.

Facilities is pleased to announce promotions and new additions to our staff. Please extend a warm congratulations to these individuals.

Lisa Pitt, Senior Specialist Maintenance Planning
River Embody, General Maintenance Mechanic
Robert Barton, Plumber III
Mark Clemens, General Maintenance Mechanic
Chase Henningsen, Plumber II
Jacob McKinley, Lead Groundsperson
Jackie Aquino, Operations Area Manager

We wish everyone a successful future with Anne Arundel County Public Schools!

January is National Glaucoma Awareness Month. When was the last time you had your vision checked?