

Salaries #1 in Budget Survey

83% of the 1,215 callers who participated in the January phone-in questionnaire on our FY '03 operating budget said that — among the additional requirements under consideration — improved salaries are important or extremely important.

Residents with children in FCPS accounted for 47% of survey participants. 37% phoned in as employees, 14% were non-parent residents and 2% were students.

The 9 budget categories on the survey ranked as follows, based on the number of callers who chose either 5 or 6 (on a 1-6 scale with 6 indicating “extremely important”) for each:

1	Competitive Salaries	83%
2	Address Staffing Deficits	79%
3	Teacher Recruitment and Retention	63%
4	Technology Improvements and Support	61%
5	Textbook Replacement and Library Materials	56%
6	Resources for Students Who Need Extra Help	53%
7	Additional Time & Training for Staff	51%
8	Student/Family Support and Outreach	31%
9	Charter Schools Startup	14%

Board members will consider these results along with other public feedback in developing the budget request they submit to the County. ★

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

BOE Public Forum on the 2002-03 Operating Budget

Wednesday, February 20 at 7 p.m.
 115 E. Church St., Frederick
 Or e-mail any of the BOE members

County Commissioners' Public Hearing on the FCPS 2002-03 Operating Budget

Tuesday, May 7 at 7 p.m.
 Frederick High Auditorium
 Or contact the commissioners via
 Mail: 12 E. Church Street,
 Frederick, MD 21701

Fax: 301-694-1849

Or e-mail any of the 5 commissioners:
 FirstInitialLastname@fredco-md.net

Giving the Best to Education

A 1976 graduate of Frederick High, **Aaron Duckett** began work as an FCPS counselor in 1994, first at Linganore, where he also coached baseball, and now at his alma mater. Before joining the FHS staff, Aaron was employed at the sheriff's office and detention center. He moonlights as a drummer in the jazz band *Sensible Shoes*.

Aaron is shown at right with students from Frederick High and West Frederick Middle.

Guidance Counselors at Work...

February 4-8 is National School Counseling Week. Please take time to appreciate the counselors who have made your days easier this year.



Counselor Laura Jones works with her peer mediation group at Carroll Manor Elementary.



Laura Rudy reviews the Course Offering Guide with a student at Gov. Thomas Johnson Middle.

BOARD BRIEFS

■ **FY '03 Operating Budget** At our regular monthly meetings with the Board of County Commissioners during the past few months, the BOE has had the opportunity to discuss preliminary operating budget issues. The targets established by the Commissioners for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2002 do not allow sufficient funding for any new programs and services, and show a deficit even for base budget funding.

The BOE is committed to asking for the funds the system needs. We are working on paring down the request list to absolute necessities, and will prioritize those necessities in the coming weeks. As in past years, decisions will be driven by the vision and goals for the system established by the BOE. Public feedback on the budget will also be considered. We will submit our budget request to the Commissioners by March 1.

■ **Committee Assignments** To help deal with the increasing number of issues facing public education in our community, the BOE relies on a committee structure. The committee assignments are determined each December. Current assignments are as follows:

Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Anne Hooper (Chair), Deborah Aughenbaugh and Steve Crawford

Facilities and Finance Committee: Jean Smith (Chair), Daryl Boffman and Linda Naylor.

In addition to these committees, the BOE appoints several citizen advisory committees and participates with other interagency committees.

To make sure the BOE is aware of all committee proceedings, BOE members serve as liaisons to the following committees and report back to the full BOE.

Technology Advisory Committee: Steve Crawford; Family Life Advisory Committee: Anne Hooper; Interagency Internal Audit Authority: Linda Naylor; Career and Technology Advisory Committee: Ron Peppe; Gifts to Education Committee: Daryl Boffman; Minority Affairs Advisory Committee: Daryl Boffman; PTA Council of Frederick County: Jean Smith; Legislative Liaison: Deborah Aughenbaugh. In addition, BOE members also serve on committees for the Maryland Association of Boards of Education. The BOE is working on a handbook to explain the committee and liaison structure.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ronald W. Peppe II, President
Daryl A. Boffman, Vice President
Deborah A. Aughenbaugh
Stephen Crawford
Anne B. Hooper
Linda S. Naylor
Jean A. Smith
Ryan C. Tuck, *Student Representative*

The Board holds public meetings twice monthly. They are televised on Cable Channel 18.

For meeting or other information, call 301/696-6850.

Or e-mail judith.ricketts@fcps.org.

Spaceship Earth: Launching a Dream

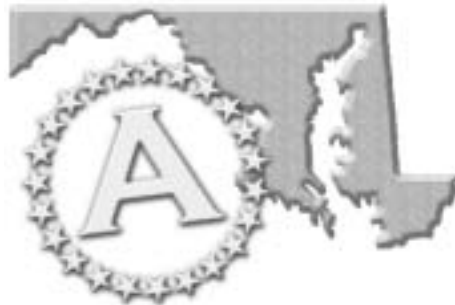
Join the mission to improve the FCPS Earth & Space Science Lab. State and county funding will include basic expansion of the lab, along with the remodeling at South Frederick Elementary. But your tax-deductible donation can help build on the basics by adding cutting-edge equipment and innovative design features to facilitate teaching.

You may give a commemorative gift in any amount to honor a family member or friend who loves to study the stars or ocean, a teacher or youth leader who instills respect for nature, or a colleague whose dedication to science has earned your deep respect. Reaching for the stars, the lab's vision includes seasonal suns for the planetarium, all-sky projectors and a star ball elevator, a geology walkway and archways, a rooftop star observatory, solar power, an "aqua wall" of aquariums, a horseshoe crab raceway and a welcome garden.

Donations payable to the Community Foundation of Frederick County may be sent via inter-office courier to **David Miller** at Church Street. For details about giving, call Mr. Miller, 301-696-6903, or ESSL co-directors **Mark Bowman** and **Jeff Grills**, 240-236-2694. ★



Maryland Ranked Best in Nation



Education Week's "Quality Counts 2002" report rated Maryland's program of educational standards and accountability goals and assessments the nation's best, with a numerical grade of 98 and a letter grade of A. Only two other systems received "A" grades: New York (97) and Kentucky (94). The grades were based on subjects tested, clarity of standards, the number of grade levels tested, the variety of tests administered and the types of accountability programs each state established to measure performance.

Having one of the longest-running reform efforts in the nation, Maryland launched a statewide system of assessments more than 10 years ago and is often cited as a national model for systematic public school improvement. The Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP), a centerpiece of the assessment package, tests the ability of students to apply knowledge, to communicate answers in writing, graphing and interpreting data, and synthesizing information.

"Maryland is embarking on its second decade of education reform, and we are making further improvements to our standards and accountability system. It is gratifying that a respected, independent source confirms that our system is on the right track, because our children will continue to benefit," says State Superintendent Dr. Nancy Grasmick. ★

Key Appointments

Please welcome former Career & Technology Center Assistant Principal **Gregory Solberg** as our new supervisor of career and technology education. Greg, who worked with his predecessor **Bill Miller** over many years, will continue this important work for FCPS students.

We also welcome **Michael Winaker** to the Technology Services Division as supervisor for technology support services. ★

★ ★ ★ ACCOLADES ★ ★ ★

BEST PRACTICES — In a recent Maryland State Department of Education publication on service learning, 3 of 14 featured projects were FCPS programs: **Waverley Elementary's** "grand-friends" connections at Daybreak Adult Daycare Center, **Windsor Knolls Middle's** voter research project and the **FCPS Service Learning Advisory Board's** after-school tutoring. Particular commendations go to **Barbara Nash** and **Melicent Malchenson** at Waverley, **Kris Pence** at Windsor Knolls, and SLAB advisors **Brenda Davis** and **Max White**.

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HIGHER ED — For outstanding contributions to teacher education, Mount Saint Mary's College selected **Kathleen Hartsock**, principal at **West Frederick Middle**, for its 2001 "Friend of Education" award. Ms. Hartsock has served as assistant principal at Monocacy and New Market middle schools, and has taught 6th grade and special education at West Frederick and Green Valley.

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2,134 — That's how many holiday thank you cards FCPS students sent to Frederick County soldiers trained at Fort Lee, and that's a lot of glitter and glue! Cards went out from **Flexible Evening High, Gov. TJ Middle, Green Valley, Heather Ridge, Lewistown, Middletown High, New Market Middle, Oakdale Elementary, Thurmont Elementary, Twin Ridge, Waverley** and **West Frederick Middle**.

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SHARED EXPERTISE — Facilities Services Senior Project Manager **Mark Herr** presented *Blueprint Reading 101 for the Purchasing Professional* at the fall Association of School Business Officials conference. Assistant Purchasing Officer **Kim Miskell** served as one of the conference's section directors.

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TECH SHARE — FCPS staff were among 8 districts statewide that presented innovative practices in instruction at this year's Maryland Technology Showcase. Accolades go to **Career & Technology Center** teachers **Michael Concepcion, Jim Dorsch, Robb Jones** and **Clyde LaBrush**, and to **José Rosapepe**, who assisted with display photos.

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EXCELLENT — The American Council of International Education recognized **Donna Clabaugh** of **Walkersville High** with a teaching excellence award. Given to outstanding American Studies teachers, the award enabled Ms. Clabaugh to visit winning teachers and schools in Armenia.

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ACHIEVEMENT — 37 FCPS speech language pathologists have gone beyond state certification requirements to earn the American Speech-Language Hearing Association's national certificate for clinical competence. Like our teachers who have earned national certification, these staff members receive a \$1,000 stipend. They are **Kathryn Allen, Mary Ann Blankinship, Amy Borchers, Carol Breeze, Patricia Christensen, Marsha** and **Micki Cohen, Patricia Conner, Susan Devlin, Kim Doetzer, Cathie Duncan, Jennifer Dye, Trina Firey, Alice Ford, Diane Freed, Naomi Glaser, Lori Goehrig, Marsha Grosinger, Kathryn Groth, Cathie Hamilton, Heather Hinerman, Mary Mason, Marla McDonnell, Mary Ann Moses, Celia O'Fallon, Arlene Okawa, Ann Palmer, Helen Percy, Eileen Reisinger, Karen Rushing, Sharyn Sadownik, Anastasia Slovikosky, Heather Spisso, Sharon Streett, Genecile Weston, Shelly Wilhide** and **Leo Woolsey**.

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ED \$\$\$ — Washington Post Educational Foundation grants went to **Brunswick Elementary's** "Pre-K Schoolyard Habitat" and **Middletown Elementary's** "Agriculture—Our Future" projects. Kudos to **Kelly Canfield, Gale Grams, Vickie Marsh, Shirley Nyswaner, Debbie Rohr, William Severance, Allison Smith** and **Libby Stauffer**.

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KINDNESS — Because so many at FCPS care, our donations to this year's Combined Charities campaign exceeded the \$70,000 goal and surpassed last year's donations by more than \$15,000. Thanks to **Dr. John George** for coordinating the campaign and to every person who gave so generously.



MSPAP Scores in Top Third

Frederick County MSPAP scores place us 7th of 24 school districts in Maryland, up from 9th last year. As one of only 4 districts in the state to show improvement, our composite index rose from 51.0 to 51.9.

“Congratulations to all staff for exceptionally hard and very successful work. The changes we have implemented over the past two years are the right changes. I applaud the dedication of every employee in the system,” said Superintendent **Dr. Jack Dale**.

Who’s Who In Negotiations

The negotiating team for FCTA includes teachers **Bret Bedall**, **Carol Daiger**, **Jerry Donald** and **Jon Evans**; FCTA president **Nancy Dietz**; and UniServ director **Steve Lenzo**, chief negotiator. The BOE team is led by executive director of legal services **Jamie Cannon**, and includes executive director of human resources **Paula Lawton**, director of high schools **Dr. Hank Bohlander**, executive director of fiscal services **Hal Keller**, associate superintendent/elementary **Dr. Michele Krantz** and elementary director **Steve Martin**.

FASSE’s team is led by MSTA Uniserv director **John Gates**, joined by MSTA representative **Dan Gottheimer**, user support specialist **Cheryl Grese**, secretaries **Karen Blackwood** and **Cindy Maria**, maintenance electrician **Steve Brako** and FASSE president **Barbara Thompson**. Representing the Board of Education in the FASSE negotiations are **Jamie Cannon** as chief negotiator, food services officer **Cheri Dattoli**, facilities manager **Joe Dattoli**, human resources officer **Robert Hagans**, **Hal Keller**, transportation manager **Dick Wandres** and principal **Gerald DeGrange**.

NEWS TO USE

Teach Us If you have professional experience that can benefit other FCPS staff, please apply to share what you know in an August 13-15 Summer Institute session. Before the March 15 deadline, you may print the “Summer Institute Proposal Form” from the www.fcps.org Employee Connection page. Send your completed form to **Ann Hummer** in **Media Services**.

To recommend a presenter or topic of interest to you, call or email **Elaine Klein**, 301-696-6930. Do it soon, as plans are well underway for the 2002 Institute.

New Numbers Now in effect at **Ballenger Creek ES**: 240-236-2500 (phone); 240-236-2501 (fax); **Green Valley ES**: 240-236-3400 (phone); 240-236-3401 (fax); **Kemptown ES**: 240-236-3500 (phone); 240-236-3501 (fax) and **Whittier ES**: 240-236-3100 (phone); 240-236-3101 (fax).

Shadowy Date As some readers pointed out, even though Job Shadow Day was Friday, February 1, Groundhog Day was Saturday, February 2. If you hosted a student in a job shadowing experience you’d like to share, please contact **Dian Nelson**, 301-696-6911, or via e-mail.

School Report We mailed our 2001 annual report to every Frederick County household and sent copies via inter-office courier to the work locations of FCPS employees who commute to Frederick County. For an additional copy, call 301-696-6900 or e-mail **Ann Eyler** in Communications.

Have a Heart Schools across Maryland are collecting school supplies and toiletry items for homeless children and others in need. Collection dates are February 4-28. For more info, please call **Dave Kennedy**, 301-644-5231.

- MARCH 2: Youth Art Show opens at the Delaplaine Center**
- MARCH 14-15: Parent-Teacher Conferences**
- MARCH 19: Retirement Planning Fair**
- MARCH 23: Frederick County Science & Engineering Fair**



FCPS FACTOID

Can you name Frederick County’s national and state-level blue ribbon schools?

A: We are proud to claim 7 national winners (Frederick Gov. Thomas Johnson, Linganore and Middletown high schools; Middletown Middle; Middletown and Yellow Springs elementary), 5 state-level winners (Catoctin and Walkersville high schools; Middletown and Windsor Knolls middle; Green Valley Elementary) and 1 honorable mention (Brunswick High).

AN EMPLOYEE EXCLUSIVE!



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Inside FCPS is produced by the FCPS Communications, Graphic Arts and Printing departments.

Your news, ideas and suggestions are welcome. Please fax 301/696-6958. Call 301/696-6900. E-mail dian_nelson@co.frederick.md.us. Or courier to the Communications Office, 115 E. Church Street.



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Working Together to Educate Each Child and Promote Success

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