

# the link

Reaching New Heights Together!

## 2017-2018 School Operating Budget

Work has begun on the development of the 2017-2018 school operating budget. To help our students continue reaching new heights, Caroline County Public Schools will be soliciting stakeholder comments to assist with establishing the Division's fiscal priorities for our schools. School employees, parents, students, community partners, and the citizens of Caroline County are encouraged to provide input as the school division establishes budget recommendations and objectives for the upcoming school year.

The 2017-2018 School Operating Budget Calendar can be located at <http://finance.blogs.ccps.us/budget/>. Please note, there are two dates set aside specifically to enable members of the public to come share your views. Those dates are as follows:

- Th., Nov. 17, 2016 - Public Budget Forum (6:30 pm, LCES Multi-Purpose Rm.)
- Th., Dec. 8, 2016 - Public Budget Forum (6:30 pm, CMS Auditorium)
- Mon., Jan. 23, 2017 - Public Hearing On Budget (6:00 pm, CMS Auditorium)

Please join us at one or both of the Public Budget Forums. We look forward to receiving your input on the 17-18 School Operating Budget.



### What is American Education Week?

American Education Week, November 14-18, 2016, presents all Americans with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. 2016's theme, "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility."

### VSBA Video Contest... CHS Honorable Mention



## Capital Improvement Plan Highlights (Proposed)

A CIP committee comprised of school and county employees as well as a number of committed community members has been working diligently for several months to construct a comprehensive plan for identified capital improvement projects to be accomplished during the 2017-2018 school year.

Among the proposed projects are the following:

- Paint classrooms and hallways at Caroline Middle;
- Install "School Zone" signs and the related control systems at Madison Elementary School;
- Continue with the long-term bus replacement plan;
- Continue to upgrade and modernize our classroom and staff technology; and
- Replace aging lawnmower and a service van for the Maintenance Department.

We are working hard on maintaining CCPS facilities, enhancing safety and efficiency, and keeping up with the rapidly changing world of technology!

## STAFF APPOINTMENTS

### Licensed Personnel

**Elizabeth Turley, ESL Teacher**

### Support Personnel

**Shontell Smithers Johnson, Substitute Custodian, Maintenance**

**Samantha Decatur, Bus Driver**

**Erick Childs, Pupil Transportation Specialist II**

**Russell Carter, Bus Driver for Special Events**

**Jerry Covington, Bus Driver**

**Kelly Saunders, Instructional Assistant, BGE**

**Tracey Watring, Food Service Substitute**



### **ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY**

Congratulations to our 1st quarter *Above and Beyond the Call of Duty* (ABCD) award recipients. We are excited to partner with Grand Canyon University to celebrate your dedication and contributions to the CCPS!

#### **Joyce Childs - Custodian**

Ms. Childs oversees custodians, checks all schools, delivers supplies, and helps each school as needed. She covers if a substitute is not able to be identified, stays late, and works over to make sure each school is clean. If Joyce sees something that needs to be done, she makes sure it is done. For example, the other day our Maintenance Supervisor was out for an emergency. It happened to be a School Board Meeting night and there was a tremendous amount of work to be done with few hands to complete the tasks. Joyce readily stepped up and asked, "What can I do to help?" She is one that is always behind the scenes helping where ever she can to support the success of the CCPS team. Her hard work is appreciated!

#### **Robin Didlake - CHS Teacher**

Seeing a need to improve staff morale, Mrs. Didlake created the Cavalier Cup for all staff at CHS – teachers, custodians, office and support staff, and even outside individuals such as day service providers. The Cavalier Cup utilizes heterogeneous groupings of staff members, allowing people from all departments to socialize and build collegiality. In addition, each team is given a task to complete every other month, including providing breakfast on a Friday morning, providing snacks at a faculty meeting, issuing monthly birthday treats, and offering a team-building social event after school; also, all teams participated in the Olympic Challenge during teacher work week (a scavenger hunt last year), which was followed by a staff picnic. A further benefit of this event is it integrates local businesses which builds connections with our community. Furthermore, team members earn points for attending school community events, participating in health/fitness challenges, and engaging in other activities. At the end of the year, the team that receives the most points wins the Cavalier Cup, a much smaller version of the Stanley Cup that the team captain holds through the next school year. Overall, the creative and time-intensive initiative has improved morale and collegiality by providing fun activities, friendly competition and opportunities to build new relationships within the school. Mrs. Didlake developed the Cavalier Cup, and she enthusiastically organizes the many elements that allow the Cavalier Cup to be successful.

#### **Bryan Farmer - CHS IT**

Mr. Farmer has helped the athletics program at CHS in several ways despite not having a child involved in sports at the high school. He has sold apparel at football games, helped in concessions, and cut grass around the football stadium after school. Currently Athletic Boosters is looking to make improvements to the concession stand, and Bryan has contacted local contractors about the work. Bryan has volunteered his time for all of these items and has gone Above and Beyond!

Next School  
Board Meeting

**DEC. 12**

5:30 p.m.

## Upcoming Dates & Reminders

Nov. 16– Interims

Nov. 23-25- Thanksgiving Break

Dec. 21 – Early Dismissal/Teacher

Workday

Dec. 21 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period

Dec. 22-Jan. 2 – Winter Break

Jan. 3 – Teacher Workday

Jan. 4 – School Reopens

## November Board Action Items

- Approval of Contract Award to Electronic Systems and Request to Board of Supervisors for
- Appropriation of E-Rate Funds
- Approval of FY 2018 CIP Budget
- Payments related to MES/CHS Constructions Projects
- Approval of Revised School Board Policy JGD/JGE
- Approval of Appropriation of Health Care Escrow Reimbursement
- Approval of the 2017-2018 Budget Calendar