



Maiden Voyage

Maiden Choice School Newsletter
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Aug./Sept.
2009



September

September 7-	Labor Day-Schools and offices closed
September 8-	Board of Education Mtg. ESS Bldg. Greenwood 7:00 p.m.
September 15-	Back to School Day 10:00-2:00
September 22-	Board of Education Mtg. ESS Bldg. Greenwood 6:30
September 28-	Yom Kippur-Schools and offices closed

Upcoming Events

October 7- Lifetouch Picture Day

Welcome Back



MAIDEN CHOICE SCHOOL
"Navigating Together from Success to
Success"



Principal's Message

Welcome back to another exciting year at Maiden Choice School. I hope everyone had a chance to "recharge" during the summer break. We have many new faces at Maiden Choice. Ms. Erica Mersinger worked as a substitute last year, and with Dr. Mary Pannella's retirement, we were able to hire her as a part of our teaching staff. Ms. Mersinger teaches in our elementary grades; Mr. Putschat has moved up to work with our oldest students. We have several new personal assistants assisting in classes: Destinee Canterbury, Gwendolyn Grant, Christine Mehl, Mary Wiley, and Brittany Lloyd, also, Gloria Adams has joined our staff to assist in the cafeteria with feeding.

We continue to make many improvements in the programs offered to our students to ensure the delivery of high quality instruction. This year we are focusing on the school-wide implementation of the TEACCH program. TEACCH has 20 years of research supporting its use with students with significant disabilities. We have made significant changes to the physical layout of classrooms, as well as introducing work systems to students. Be sure to ask your child's teacher about these changes during our Back-to-School Open House.

We are energized and focused on uncovering each student's potential. We strive to make every activity of every day a focused learning experience. We are committed to serving our students and families. Working together we can achieve great things!

Dr. Nancy Briganti, Principal

Back to School Day

Please plan to attend!
Come and see our school,
meet the staff members who
will be working with your child,
and have lunch with us!

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 10:00—2:00

Volunteer orientation at 11:30

Parent's Booster Club meeting at 1:00 in library

Please plan to stay for this important meeting

Booster Club Dues \$6.00

Please return to the school office by Friday, September 11th.

I (we) will be attending the back to school day picnic with my child

_____.

Parent Signature

Number of guests: _____



Please Help Out!

Life: *Style* by Market Day
Fundraiser

Look for packets to come home with your child
Orders are due by Sept. 28th

Fundraisers are run by our school to help with the cost of Community Based Instruction Trips, our swimming and bowling program, school wide assemblies, instructional supplies and materials for our teachers.

**ALL FUNDS RAISED WITH THIS
FUNDRAISER WILL GO FOR THE
DIRECT BENEFIT OF PROGRAMS,
SUPPLIES AND TEACHING MATE-
RIALS FOR THE STUDENTS!**

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Joe A. Hairston Superintendent 6901 Charles Street Towson, MD 21204

TO: Parents, Teachers, and Employees of the Baltimore County Public Schools

FROM: Robert Merrey, Supervisor

Department of Physical Facilities
Environmental Services

DATE: June 26, 2009

RE: Notification of Availability of Asbestos Management Plans

On October 22, 1986, the United States Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations require schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop an asbestos management plan that addresses asbestos hazards in school buildings, and implement response actions in a timely manner.

Baltimore County Public Schools' program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in our Asbestos Management Plan. This plan contains information on our inspection, re-inspection, response actions, and post-response action activities, including periodic re-inspections and surveillance activities that are planned or are in progress.

You may review this plan at the Department of Physical Facilities, 9610 Pulaski Park Drive, Suite 204, Baltimore, Maryland 21220, or at the school or office with which you or your children may be associated.

If you have any questions regarding Baltimore County Public Schools' Asbestos Management Program, please contact me at 410-887-6310.

Student Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

For the safety and security of our students and staff, we continue to ask all parents to follow our arrival and dismissal procedures. In the mornings, parents may drop off students at the bus dock doors when buses are being unloaded. Staff members will escort the student to his/her class. If the bus dock doors are closed, parents are to bring students to the front office, where the student will be signed in. A staff member will again escort the student to his/her class. In the afternoon, during dismissal, parents have the option of meeting students either at the bus dock or at the front office. Students being met at the bus dock will wait in their bus rooms for their parents to arrive. Students being met at the office will wait in the lobby for their parents. Students will be supervised by staff members at all times for their safety.

Bad Checks

Issuers of dishonored checks presented to Baltimore County Public Schools will be given 10 days to submit full payment of the amount of the check plus actual bank charges incurred by BCPS by means of a money order, cashier's check, or cash. If this payment is not received by the end of 10 days, the issuer will need to submit full payment of the amount of the check plus \$35.00. If payment is not received at the end of the 20-day period, BCPS will turn over the dishonored check, and all other available information related to this check, to the State's Attorney for collection, schools will not accept restitution from the check issuer. The funds will be remitted to the school by the State's Attorney's Office.



Maryland State Department Guidelines for Attendance

The Maryland State Department of Education has issued guidelines for marking students absent for a half day. The new guidelines are an effort by the MSDE to have uniform reporting of absences. The new state rule is: "A student is counted present for a full day if a student is absent no more than one hour of the school day. A student is counted absent for a full day if the student is present for one hour or less of the school day. A student may be credited with half-day attendance if the student is present more than one hour of the school day and is absent more than one hour of the school day."

It is extremely important that students attend school regularly so they gain the maximum benefit from their educational programs. Maiden Choice School will be recognizing students monthly who meet the State's attendance goals.

If it is necessary for your child to be absent from school because of illness, doctor's appointments, etc, a note of explanation is required upon returning.

Southwest Advisory Council Meeting Dates for 2009-2010

<u>Date:</u>	<u>School:</u>
September 16, 2009	Hillcrest Elementary
October 21, 2009	Woodlawn High (operating and FY 2012 capital pre-budget hearing)
November 18, 2009	Winfield Elementary
December 16, 2009	Lansdowne High
February 17, 2010	Arbutus Middle
April 14, 2010	Johnnycake Elementary
May 19, 2010	Lansdowne Middle

Hello from the Maiden Choice Miracles!

Salutations Maiden Choice School Parents & Staff,

It's a brand new school year and the Maiden Choice Miracles, Maiden Choice School's Booster Club, has begun its annual membership drive. If you have not done so, we would like to start by personally inviting you to join the Maiden Choice Miracles. We value the services that the Booster Club provides and encourage each and every one of you to be motivated to join! We are continuing to offer dues membership at a mere \$6.00 for the entire school year. On "Back to School Day" & "American Education Week" a table is set up in the lobby and Parents and Staff are directly encouraged to join.

Please send in your \$6.00, cash or check made out to "Maiden Choice Booster Club"

We are attempting to increase Parent & Staff membership across the board. We are shooting for 90%-100% participation. At only \$6.00 it's a real deal!!!

The Maiden Choice Booster Club is active in recognizing, promoting, and rewarding student & staff achievement. The Booster Club benefits the school by providing purchases for special supplies, student agenda notebooks, \$500.00 towards school wide assemblies, graduation pins, student recognition items on play day, a fabulous Staff Appreciation Luncheon, and various needed contributions.

Please be aware that we will be encouraging & motivating parents & staff to join, via school announcements, mailings, and other venues throughout the school year.

Please send in your \$6.00, cash or check made out to "Maiden Choice Booster Club"

PLEASE JOIN !

A+ Bonus Bucks

A simple way to give.

It's once again time to log on to www.giantfood.com/aplus, and re-designate Maiden Choice School. You will be earning much needed money for our school every time you shop at Giant Food with your Bonus card. You may also stop in and pick up a form at your local Giant Food to re-designate our school for this year. Our school **ID # is 01576**

Please also continue to collect **Box Tops for Education** labels that are found on many food products including General Mills Cereals, selected Pillsbury products, Yoplait yogurt, Betty Crocker products, Pop Secret microwave popcorn, Old El Paso products, Ziploc, Saran Wrap, and Hefty Trash Bags. Go to Boxtops4education.com for a complete list and information on this program.

Other ways to help our school financially include sending in **Labels from Campbell Soup** cans, any old unused **cell phones**, and also **empty toner cartridges** from your home printers.

Funds from these programs are used to help purchase computer equipment and printer supplies and repairs for our school.

