



Welcome to 09-10 Semester Two

Feb. 15, 2010

Dates of Importance for the Second Semester:

- Feb. 2—MP2 Report Cards Issued
- Feb. 15—Schools closed for Presidents' Day
- Feb. 18—7th Grade Honor Roll Breakfast, 8:15 am
- Feb. 19—8th Grade Honor Roll Breakfast, 8:15 am
- Feb. 24—6th Grade Honor Roll Breakfast, 8:15 am
- Feb. 22-26—Book Fair in Media Ctr
- Feb. 25—Parent Conference Night, 5-7 pm
- March 4—MP3 Interim Reports issued
- March 4—School Dance sponsored by Student Council, 2:45-4:45
- March 8-23—MSA Testing
- March 9 & 10—8th Grade Information Mtgs @ NE High School, 6:30 pm
- April 1—Professional Day, no school for students
- April 2-6—Schools closed for Spring Holiday
- April 13—last day of MP3
- April 16—Spring Portraits by Lifetouch
- April 21—MP3 report cards issued
- Apr 21-May 11—MSA Science testing
- April 23—Earth Day activities for 7th grade
- May 13—MP4 Interims issued
- May 13—Spring Band Concert, 7 pm
- May 19—Spring Chorus Concert, 7pm
- May 20—NJHS Induction Ceremony, 7 pm
- May 27—School Dance, 2:45-4:45
- May 31— School closed for Memorial Day
- June 16-18—Early Dismissal Days (middle schools dismiss at approx. 1:15)
- June 16—6th Grade Awards Ceremony, 8:15 am
- June 17—7th Grade Awards Ceremony, 8:15 am
- June 18—8th Grade Awards Ceremony, 8:15 am
- June 18—Last Day for Students*
- June 21—Last Day for Teachers*
- June 28—Final Report Cards mailed

*Subject to change due to number of inclement weather days



From the Principal:

It's hard to believe that the third marking period is here. I would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's fundraiser. We were able to purchase computer presenters with mounts so that every classroom will have one and were able to defray some of the cost of a new media center circulation desk. We were also able to purchase two exercise bicycles and a rowing machine for the fitness lab.

The second marking period has just ended and as we enter the second half of the year please continue to ask your child to see his/her homework, ask what they learned that day, and ask about the details of the book they are reading. Helping your child with homework or projects in middle school gets tougher as the concepts increase in detail. One website that may be of help is listed below. This website includes many links for each content area:

www.ccps.org/teachers/mbrogan/broganblog/MATN.html

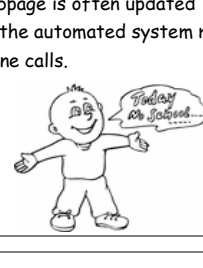
Yearbook Sales

Students can begin preordering yearbooks on Monday, March 1. The soft cover edition will be \$20 and hard covers will be \$25. Order forms will be coming home with students shortly and may be returned to homeroom teachers. Checks should be made payable to North East Middle School. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Bifferato, her email address is cbifferato@ccps.org



Inclement Weather Notification

Please be certain your home telephone number and work telephone number(s) are updated with the Guidance Office as needed. All students will receive a call at home when school is closed due to inclement weather. You may also tune to your local tv/radio station or check the Cecil County Public Schools website at: www.ccps.org. The webpage is often updated before the automated system makes the phone calls.



New Staff Members

The following teachers have joined our staff since the first semester newsletter was published:

- *Stefanie Collier—Gr. 7 Science*
- *Mark Johnson—Gr. 7 Math*
- *Emilie Bullins—Special Ed, Gr. 6/7/8*

We are happy to have you here at North East Middle School!



School Absences/Makeup Work:

Always remember to send in a note when your child returns to school after a day or more of absence. If he/she has seen a doctor be sure to send in the doctor's excuse slip. For family vacations, please send in a request to excuse the absence for those days at least one week prior to the start of the vacation. Vacation requests received AFTER the vacation has taken place will NOT be approved. Also please be aware that no more than 5 days per school year will be excused for family vacation.

You may request makeup work when a student is absent for three or more days (if a student is absent for less than three days he/she will get the missed work directly from teachers upon return). For absences of three days or more, call the Guidance Office to request makeup work. The work will be available for pickup after 3pm the following school day. Your request can be made as soon as you're aware that your child will be out for more than three days (you don't have to wait until the third day of absence to make the request).

NORTH EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL, HOME OF THE BULLDOGS, WHERE WE STRIVE TO HAVE BULLDOG PRIDE!

Use of Portable Electronic Devices by Students

The Board of Education of Cecil County believes the maintenance of a safe and orderly learning environment is a priority to ensure students' success. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges the enhancements technology brings to our lives, but also recognizes the impact, distraction, and disruption portable electronic devices may have on the instructional process.

A portable electronic device may include, but is not limited to, cell phones, pagers, digital cameras, CD/DVD players, MP3 players such as iPods, hand-held gaming devices, 2-way radios, any WiFi enabled device, or any device that disrupts the effective operation of the school. Student possession of portable electronic devices on school property and at school-sponsored events on and off campus is a privilege not a right. It is the intent of the Board to ensure possession of portable electronic devices does

not disrupt the learning environment, after-school activities, or school safety, including the safe transportation of students.

Except as provided by law and regulation, students may not use, display, or have activated portable electronic devices on school property, school buses, school-chartered vehicles, or at any school-sponsored activity before, during, or after the school day without the permission of the school principal or principal's designee.

CCPS will not be held responsible for loss, theft, damage, or destruction of any portable electronic devices.

The Superintendent of Schools shall establish regulations governing the use of portable electronic devices and the consequences for misuse thereof.

Visit us on the web:

<http://www.ccps.org/nems/>

Many of our teachers have their own web pages!

You will also find:
Learning Links
PTSO Information
Digital Databases
Atomic Learning
ClipArt
Events Calendar
E-mail address for staff
...and more!

PTSO meetings are held at NEMS on the first Wednesday of every month, 6-7 pm. All interested parents are invited to attend!

Grades to Go is a mechanism for parents to access their child's grades online throughout the year. If you registered previously you are automatically renewed for this year with the same ID and password. If you lose your password: Go to the Grades to Go website, type in your student's ID (it is the Student Number as shown on interims and report cards with two zeros in front of it). Then click [Forgot Your Password?](#) The password will be e-mailed to you. **We cannot give IDs and passwords over the phone!** If you need to register for Grades to Go you must do that in person at the school. You will need to present photo ID.

Changes to the School Calendar:

Due to the EIGHT snow days we have already had, the following changes have been made to the school calendar:

- **Friday, May 28—School will now be IN SESSION**
- **Friday, June 18 is now the last day of school for students**

Please be aware that there may be more adjustments to the calendar IF we have more snow days!



Telephones and Messages

The telephones located in the Main Office are intended to receive incoming calls, for use by faculty and staff, and for **emergency** calls by students. The office staff will relay family-related **emergency** messages from a parent/guardian to their son/daughter only. No messages will be taken for students from anyone other than a parent/guardian. Please make every effort to discuss your student's plan for the day BEFORE he/she comes to school. Classes are interrupted and valuable instruction time is lost when they are called out to receive messages.

Building Information & Staff

Kathy Olson, Lead Secretary

Luanne Palmer, Main Office Secretary

Candy Miller, Office Assistant

Cheryl Slonecker, Guidance Secretary

Karen Hazell, Guidance General Assistant

Nedra Handy, Counselor (Grade 7, Grade 8 students w/last names A-K)

Sharon Brockell, Counselor (Grade 6, Grade 8 students w/last names L-Z)

Patty Warner, Special Education Building Coordinator

Elinor Harris, Special Ed General Assistant

Rebecca DeVore, School Nurse

Hope Stammler, Media Specialist

Patsy Clements, Challenge Resource Teacher

Suzi Sembert, Cafeteria Manager

School Hours:

Main Office: 7:15 am to 4:00 pm

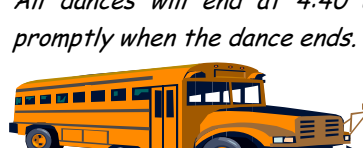
Guidance Office: 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Building opens to students: 7:35 am; students must be in homeroom by 7:55 am; Dismissal: 2:38 on Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri; approx. 2:48 on Weds.

Bus Notes: In accordance with the Department of Transportation policy, students ARE NOT permitted to ride any bus other than the bus they are normally assigned to. Many transportation issues arise from students riding home with friends rather than on his/her normally assigned bus. This does not apply to regularly assigned transportation to or from daycare—that is still acceptable. Also, if an emergency arises you will still be able to call the office and make provisions for a particular day.

School Dances: The following rules apply to ALL school dances for the year:

- 1) Students who owe book fines, lunch money, or have any other debts to the school may NOT attend until debts are cleared.
- 2) Students who receive office or bus referrals may NOT attend.
- 3) Students cannot use the phone on dance days to ask for dance money—all arrangements should be made before they come to school that day.
- 4) All dances will end at 4:40 and students must be picked up promptly when the dance ends.





HEALTH NEWS
FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE,
Rebecca A. DeVore, R.N.



Dear Parents, Staff, and Students:

February is Dental Health Month!

- ◆ It is recommended that young adults maintain a diet rich in fruits and veggies and low in sweetened fruits and drinks.
- ◆ Drink plenty of water (Six 8-oz. glasses a day)
- ◆ Limit between-meal snacks, especially those high in sugar.
- ◆ Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste that has the American Dental Association's Seal of Approval
- ◆ Floss at least once a day
- ◆ Get regular dental checkups and cleanings every six months.

I wanted to share with you some GREAT information. For those of you who are not aware of this service, Perryville has a dental clinic run by the University of Maryland. The clinic hours are 9am to Noon and 1pm to 4pm. The phone number is 410 706-4900. They will work with clients who have insurance and those who DO NOT. They also have a Sealant Saturday coming up in April. For those who are interested, please call or go online at: www.dental.umaryland.edu/perryville

Next, I have seen a few students with head lice recently. I wanted to remind parents to encourage students not to share hats, hair accessories, and hair brushes and combs with friends. It would be advantageous also for parents to check student's heads at home once a month.

Finally, the Center for Disease Control is predicting that another wave of flu will hit sometime in February. Please safeguard your student by ensuring they get plenty of rest (at least ten hours a night), eat healthy foods, wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer frequently (and always after coughing or sneezing).

Spring is on its way—hope you all have a very safe and healthy end of the school year!

Rebecca DeVore, R.N.

