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Email

Marshall County Schools is providing parents and community members with an additional avenue for correspondence. Email can now be accepted at marshallcountyschools@gmail.com

Board of Education policies may be viewed at <http://boe.mars.k12.wv.us/policies>. FY10 New and amended policies include:

- 5.4 Progress and Promotion
- 3.1.29 Retired Substitutes for Critical Need

Stimulus Benefits Schools



The ARRA Stimulus Package has been key to obtaining technology for the students of Marshall County. These dollars have been used to purchase the necessary components to transform 135 classrooms into Digital Learning Centers (DLCs). Each DLC consists of a teacher presentation computer, electronic whiteboard, digital projector, and document camera. These labs provide teachers the opportunity to integrate technology into their daily instruction. The number of DLC lab installations increased dramatically the past few years. In 2007-2008 25 labs were added, in 2008-2009, 69 labs were completed. For this current year, 160 labs will be added.

In addition to the labs, classroom amplification systems have been purchased and installed in many elementary classrooms. These systems enable all students in the classroom to hear the teacher speaking regardless of where the teacher is positioned within the room. Student Response Systems (clickers) have been purchased and will be distributed to the schools soon. The clickers allow for response system interactivity, customized presentations, formative assessments and online reporting in one solution.

The funding has also made it possible for every school to have access to ‘Discovery Education United Streaming’ this school year. ‘Reading Counts’ and ‘Type to Learn’ software was purchased for elementary students and the implementation of these programs is ongoing. Student access to computers will be improved through additional stationary computer labs and portable laptop labs. We are very fortunate to have this amount of technology directly in the hands of our teachers and students.

Distinguished School

Washington Lands Elementary has been named a West Virginia 2009 Title I Distinguished School by the West Virginia Department of Education. The honor is bestowed on Title I schools that meet or exceed adequate yearly progress in reading/language arts and mathematics for three or more consecutive years. WLES is the only Marshall County Title I school, and one of only seventy schools throughout the state, to receive the award in 2009.



Raise the Bar

Marshall County Schools is pleased to recognize the **Karl and Mildred Niekamp Charitable Foundation** for their support of music education in our schools.

This foundation, through its generous support, enriched the music education program in our schools. The foundation made a meaningful difference in the educational opportunities for both our children and faculty. We deeply appreciate their support throughout our **Raise the Bar** project.



Bullying Prevention and Intervention is a priority in Marshall County Schools. It is our responsibility to provide a safe environment in which our students can learn without fear of intimidation, threat, abuse, or injury.

What is Bullying? Bullying is aggressive behavior that is intentional and that involves an imbalance of power and strength. Often, bullying is repeated over time. It can take many forms, such as hitting or punching, teasing or name-calling, intimidation through gestures, social exclusion, and sending insulting messages or pictures by mobile phone or using the Internet.

How Common Is Bullying? Bullying is more common than many adults realize. Most studies show that between 15-25% of American students are bullied with some frequency.

How can we help?

- *Learn as much as we can about bullying among children and youth and best practices for addressing bullying. Numerous resources are available. One of the best is Stop Bullying Now (www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov) which has a wealth of information for adults and for students including tip sheets, games, webisodes, and links to other resources.
- *Make sure that students understand that we take bullying very seriously and that bullying is not allowed in our classrooms or at our schools.
- *Integrate bullying prevention themes across the curriculum.
- *Closely supervise students and be watchful of signs of bullying. Remember that students often are reluctant to report bullying to adults and some bullying can be very subtle and hard to detect.
- *Take immediate action if you observe or suspect bullying. Follow school and county policy and procedures.
- *Provide support and assistance to the bullied student after the fact.
- *Remember that actions often speak louder than words. Be sure that we do not inadvertently model bullying behavior ourselves.

Marshall County has ZERO tolerance for BULLYING. Every adult in the school must be involved to **STOP BULLYING NOW!**

Outstanding Service



Ms. Patty Morris was named the Leo Club Advisor Outstanding Service Award winner. Lions Clubs International President, Eberhard Wirfs, presented the award in recognition of outstanding service in guiding and developing the LEO Club. One of her club's most recent projects was Haiti Relief. In a little over a week the LEOs collected \$170. The Lions Clubs International was pleased to accept their donation for Haiti Relief.

Welding Technology Receives Grant

Last school year, John Marshall High School's Welding Technology Instructor, Jim Hudson, applied for a modernization grant through the WVDE's, Career Technical Education Department. The grant requested funding to purchase a Computer Numerical Control (CNC), Plasma Arc cutting table. Jim received the good news in August that the request had been approved for the entire amount, submitted. Since receiving the grant, the CNC table has been purchased and installed and is now a "work in progress".

The plasma cutting table operates through commands sent from the computer. The operating software is loaded on the computer, which allows the students to make all adjustments to the table through the keypad and mouse. The software package includes clipart, fonts and Computer Aided Design software (CAD), for project development. This state of the art technology is just one example of how 21st Century learning is being practiced in Marshall County Schools CTE classes today.



Promoting Healthy Living

The Marshall County Schools Wellness Policy addresses nutrition education, physical education, nutrition guidelines and other activities that promote wellness. To view this policy, visit http://boe.mars.k12.wv.us/policy/Index_files/Page6384.htm In addition to the county policy, all schools are required to have a local wellness committee that assists schools in creating an environment that promotes healthy living. If you would like to become a member of the wellness committee, please see your school principal.

Star Fruit Anyone?



Napa Cabbage, Star Fruit, Mango's and Cucumber Pickles are just a few of the fresh fruits and vegetables that students and staff at Cameron, Central, and Center McMechen have been snacking on throughout the day. Thanks to a grant through the United States Department of Agriculture, students receive a weekly nutritious snack. This program has introduced a variety of produce to children who may otherwise not have had the opportunity to enjoy these wonderful treats. In addition to eating the fruits and vegetables the students receive a nutritional lesson on the produce.

820,000

Marshall County Schools participates in the National School lunch program. The West Virginia Board of Education has implemented one of the most progressive school nutrition policies in the nation. Our meals are based on healthy food components and include offering fresh fruits and vegetables, lean meats, and whole grains. Our lunches meet 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Allowances for key nutrients. Our meals limit fats, trans fats sodium, and sugary foods and beverages. The milk that is served during breakfast and lunch contains 1% or less butterfat. The Marshall County Child Nutrition Program serves approximately 3700 lunches a day and 1400 breakfasts! That's 820,000 meals a school year!

JM Softball Ready for Night



Lights that one time provided illumination for the Union High School football field will once again be enabled for good use. Marshall County Schools has contracted a drilling service so that concrete supports can be poured for the addition of the stadium lights to the John Marshall High School softball field. As soon as the concrete cures, the installation will begin, and school officials are hoping this can take place prior to the opening of softball season. These lights are a much needed and welcome addition as they will open many opportunities that are not currently available. The lights will allow for evening games to be scheduled, as well as

facilitate the rescheduling of make-up games. They also will provide the opportunity for John Marshall High School to host sectional and regional tournament games.



Revised Priorities

According to Personnel Director, Robyn Fitzsimmons, changes in state code revised the priorities when filling service personnel vacancies. The changes are as follows:

1. Regular personnel holding a title in the classification
2. Personnel whose employment has been RIF – discontinued who have held the title in the classification
3. Regular personnel who do not hold the title in the classification
4. Personnel whose employment has been RIF – discontinued who have not a title in the classification
5. Substitutes who hold a title in the classification
6. Substitutes who do not hold a title in the classification
7. New service personnel



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Peace Poster

Congratulations to Morgan McCool, an 8th grade student at Sherrard Middle School for winning the local, regional and state Lion's Club Peace Poster competition. Morgan is currently in competition for the national award.

P-Card Program

Marshall County Schools has recently entered into an agreement with the WV State Auditor's Office to provide designated employees of Marshall County Schools with P-Cards. The VISA P-Card is a credit card with a cash-back feature. So for every purchase made with these cards, the County will receive at least 1% cash back.

Each P-Card has Marshall County Board of Education, user's name, the County's tax ID number, and "Official Use Only" embossed on it. The P-Card is to be used for official business only. The P-Card provides a convenient method for making purchases and paying bills. Each employee will be held accountable for reconciliation of their purchases. The individuals using the card will be required to maintain documentation for all purchases and submit this information to the county office in a timely manner.

Marshall County Schools implemented this program in March on a small scale with only a few cards being issued. As the policies and procedures for this program have been finalized, more cards will be issued.