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**MCS Policies**

Marshall County School Board of Education policies may be viewed at <http://boe.mars.k12.wv.us/policies>.

FY06 New/ and amended policies include:

- 3.1.25 National Board Certification
- 6.10 Work Based Experience
- 5.18 Veteran's Honors Funeral Assistant Community Program
- 6.11 Protection of Pupil Rights
- 5.10 Health Regulations, Procedures, Personnel
- 5.3 Discipline/Safe Schools
- 3.1.2.6 Employment of Retired Substitute Teachers in Areas of Critical Need and Shortage
- 3.1.12.13 Tuition Reimbursement

**SBA Awards Marshall County Schools**

On December 12, 2005 the School Building Authority approved a Needs Grant for Marshall County Schools in the amount of \$8,000,000.00 for the addition and/or renovations at Central Elementary School, McNinch Elementary School, Moundsville Junior High School, Sherrard Junior High School and Cameron High School. Grant funds will be provided using a three year multi-funding cycle scenario and will be contingent upon passage of a bond in November, 2006. The Marshall County Board of Education is in the process of planning the bond call, which will detail all plans for constructions and renovations of Marshall County Schools.

**Student Art Featured**

Aubrey Lemasters, an 8th grade student at Moundsville Jr. High School, Okey Hayes, a John Marshall High School senior, and Ayla Netts, a John Marshall High School graduate were honored by having their art work selected to be used in the 2006 Character Counts calendar. The West Virginia State Department of Education developed a variety of character themes from which students could choose to demonstrate their creativity via art. Congratulations to these talented artists.



Aubrey Lemasters  
"You Count"  
February



Okey Hayes  
"Take Care of Your Environment"  
April



Ayla Netts  
"Jump Out of a Rut"  
June

**AEDs Donated**

Marshall County Schools recently became the recipient of two donated automated external defibrillators. The Washington Lands fire department donated an AED to Washington Lands Elementary School. The school plans to place the AED near the media center, which is considered a central hub of the school. School nurse, Diana Baker, will be responsible for the training of staff and any other interested individual. John Marshall High School received an AED from Mary Velez who heads the Matt Velez Save a Life Campaign. The AED which will be registered with the state of WV and 911, will be located in the JMHS Fieldhouse and be available for each athletic event at the facility. The JMHS athletic staff will be trained in the use of the AED by school nurse Cathy Wysocki who encourages others to sign up for training. Cathy Wysocki can be reached at John Marshall High School at 843-4444.

## Exemplary Schools Recognized

Three Marshall County elementary schools, Glen Dale, Park View, and Sherrard, have been named as West Virginia Department of Education Exemplary Schools. To receive this recognition, schools must meet a set of rigorous academic and attendance standards. At least 80% of the school's students must score at or above mastery in the All Students subgroup in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies on the Westest, which is the WV state test of student achievement. The school must also achieve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in each subgroup. Additionally, at least 30 % of all students must score at the above mastery or distinguished levels in reading/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The final determining factor at the elementary level is the school attendance rate must also be at or above 94%. Congratulations to the students, staff, and parents of our exemplary schools.

### Congratulations To our Grant Winners

PERC  
Sharon Andrews  
\$1,000.00

WV Commission for  
National and Community  
Service

Washington Lands  
Wildcat News Program  
Christie Robison  
\$500.00  
WVFIE

Transitional School  
Nancy Borsuk  
\$300.00  
WVFIE

Cameron Elementary  
Cameron High School  
Center McMechen Elementary  
Central Elementary  
Glen Dale Elementary  
Limestone Elementary  
McNinch Elementary  
Moundsville Jr. High School  
Park View Elementary  
Sand Hill Elementary  
Sanford Elementary  
Sherrard Jr. High School  
Washington Lands Elementary  
\$500.00  
Walmart

John Marshall High School  
\$1,500.00  
Walmart

### Teacher Obtains National Board Certification



**Cindy Burke**, a teacher of mathematics at Sherrard Jr. High, has successfully completed all the requirements and has received National Board Certification. The process required to become a National Board Certified Teacher is extensive and extremely comprehensive. It demands intensive self-reflection and analysis of one's own teaching practices measured against high and rigorous standards. Additionally, the professional must validate a high degree of content knowledge through testing at an assessment center and through performance based assessments. The candidate must also demonstrate instructional competence through videotaping of actual classroom lessons. An extensive portfolio of work and reflections finalizes the requirements. Congratulations Mrs. Burke!

### Digital Learning Labs

Schools in Marshall County are leading the state in the installation and implementation of a prototype Digital Learning Center that was developed right here in Marshall County. A DLC consists of a fixed mount data projection system, a wall mounted Numonics Interactive Whiteboard, a Document Camera, and a Surround Sound System with VCR, DVD and Live TV input all linked to a teacher presentation computer. From this multimedia center, teachers can control all equipment to deliver high quality curriculum content to students. Also available within the DLC environment is Video Streaming in which teachers can deliver over 40,000 content rich videos that meet West Virginia Content Standards requirements. In addition to the central office lab, DLCs are currently available at: John Marshall High School, Cameron High School, Moundsville Junior High (1), Central Elementary, McNinch Elementary, Sand Hill Elementary, Sanford Elementary, and Washington Lands Elementary. The following schools will each be receiving a DLC this year: Cameron Elementary, Center McMechen Elementary, Glen Dale Elementary, Limestone Elementary, Park View Elementary, Sanford Elementary, Sherrard Elementary, and Sherrard Junior High School.

### ROBERTS TRUST FUND ALLOCATIONS

EVAN G. ROBERTS  
SPORTS COMPLEX  
\$15,114  
TRACK RESURFACING

## Phonemic Awareness Intervention

Four schools in Marshall County (Center McMechen, Central, McNinch, and Park View) are involved in a state program called "Phonemic Awareness Intervention." These four schools sent a team of four teachers to Charleston in August 2005. The teams were made up of a kindergarten teacher, a first grade teacher, a speech therapist, and a Title I teacher. The kindergarten and first grade teachers present a twenty minute a day activity to develop Phonemic Awareness in the classroom. The support members of the team use DIBELS (a tool for early identification of children with potential problems) to assess the kindergarten and first grade students three times a year. The Title I teacher then works with groups of five or six identified students everyday for twenty minutes for thirty-six lessons. The research says that phonemic awareness can be developed through instruction and that doing so significantly accelerates children's subsequent reading and writing achievement.

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## Technology Opportunity Center at Moundsville Jr. High



Moundsville Junior High School has been selected in the newest wave of Technology Opportunity Centers in the state this year. MJHS will join Grant, Hancock, Ohio, Mineral, Kanawha and Upshur counties to provide technology resources to schools and communities, offer free community technology training and career assistance to student and adult learners, and enhance educational opportunities in rural communities. The labs are used by teachers and students during the day and provide free training to members of the community during the evening. The instruction will focus on a wide range of activities such as: using the Internet, Word Processing, Excel Spreadsheets and PowerPoint. The announcement will be coming soon in local newspapers, so don't miss your chance to sign up. The courses will be free to the public on a first come basis.

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## WV Pre-K

Marshall County Schools will be adding three sites to the Pre-Kindergarten Program for the 2006-07 school year. The new classrooms will be located at the WVU Extension Office Center, at Cameron Elementary School, and at Washington Lands Elementary School. Pre-K classrooms currently in operation are located at Park View Elementary School, Central Elementary School, the Glen Dale Child Development Center, and the Hunnypot Child Development Center in McMechen. All of the current sites are filled to capacity.

By the year 2012, it will be mandatory for every county school system in West Virginia to have a sufficient number of Pre-K classrooms to accommodate all children in the designated age range. Marshall County Schools is on track to meet this mandate, with new programs being added each year.

The Pre-Kindergarten program is designed for children who are four years old prior to September 1 of that school year. The program is in session four to five hours per day. Instructional emphasis is placed on the development of readiness skills and on providing the building blocks for literacy. The Pre-K program is a collaborative effort between the county school system and community partners including Head Start, other public providers, and licensed private child care centers. Participation in the Pre-K Program is voluntary. Parents may decide whether or not their children will attend the program.

Marshall County Schools is now enrolling students for the Pre-K Program for the 2006-07 school year. Any parent wishing to enroll a child should contact any of the sites listed above.



## Beginning Teacher Program

The Beginning Teachers Program in Marshall County Schools targets the needs of teachers new to our school system and the profession of teaching. Teachers attend regular sessions that address their needs as new professionals,



provide an opportunity to network with other new teachers, and provide support for professional growth. This year there are 26 new teachers participating in the after school sessions. The topics for these teachers are classroom management and organization, technology integration, personnel issues, co-teaching, special education, curriculum and instruction issues, standards based instruction, reading and writing across the curriculum, strategies for enhanced student achievement, and effective conferencing.

## Cameron High School Video System

A new video camera system recently became operational at Cameron High School. Thirty-five color cameras were strategically placed throughout the interior and exterior of the school. Round the clock surveillance with video archiving now takes place. Pan, tilt, and zoom capabilities are present on an exterior camera which can also be placed in patrol mode to automatically scan areas when no personnel are on site. Cameron High Principal Marilyn McWhorter says “In addition to providing safety and security for students and staff, the cameras have already assisted school personnel by decreasing discipline and vandalism issues. We as a staff are grateful to have this technology in place to assist us in managing a large facility and campus”. The cameras were purchased through WV budget digest funds and add to the safety and security of all students and staff at Cameron High School.



Marshall County  
Schools

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Moundsville, WV  
26041  
Phone: 304-843-4400

### Board of Education

Melanie Hummel,  
President  
Mary Ellen Komorowski  
Roger Lewicki  
Lori Kestner  
David Hall

### Superintendent

Alfred N. Renzella

We're on the Web!  
<http://boe.mars.k12.wv.us/>  
newsletter

Joan Y. Palmer, Editor

## Coaching Your Students to Success

Coaching Your Students to Success was the theme of a transition meeting held at Moundsville Junior High School in February for parents of eighth grade students. The purpose of the meeting was to help parents understand, and be part of, the planning for their children's high school plan and beyond. Larry Freeland, Career Counselor at John Marshall High School, discussed Career Clusters and Majors, the 5 Year Plan, and various forms of testing administered to students throughout their school careers. Research shows that the #1 predictor of success after high school is career maturity and career direction. In order to aid students, West Virginia schools have organized their curriculum around clusters, majors and pathways. **Clusters** are large groupings of careers that are related and **Majors** are large groups of jobs within the Cluster that have a common core knowledge area. For example, the Health Cluster relates to any career that is in the health field, such as doctors, nurses, medical secretaries, x-ray technicians, etc. Majors within the health cluster pertain to a group of careers that are closely related, such as, medical secretaries, transcriptionists and medical coders. **Pathways** are chosen based on what a student intends to do after high school. There are three pathways. Entry pathway is for students whose goal is to enter the workplace directly after high school. Skilled pathway is for students whose goal is to continue to a community or technical college, a postsecondary certificate, or an apprenticeship. Professional pathway is for students whose goal is to attend a 4-year college or university. At the end of the eighth grade parents and school advisors help students select a career cluster and pathway. This decision can be changed if the parent and student decide on a different direction while in high school. Gary Snodgrass, ninth grade counselor at John Marshall High School discussed graduation requirements. The minimum number of credits a student must earn to graduate is 25. Mr. Snodgrass explained these credits and discussed elective courses available to freshman. He encouraged parents to keep track of the courses their children take in high school. In order for students to lay a strong foundation for plans after high school graduation, it is important to take the right courses at the right time. Linda Berlin discussed opportunities for students to earn college credit and other credentials while still in high school. She informed parents that many of the Career and Technical Education classes taught in high school allow students to earn free college credits. The EDGE (Earn a Degree-Graduate Early) allows students to earn free community and technical college credit and get a jump start on an associate degree. Because there is no cost for these courses, students could save up to \$3000 in college tuition and have the opportunity to earn up to 28 hours of college credit. Mrs. Berlin also discussed the US Workforce Job Demand Profile, from the US Department of Labor, and the benefits of 2-year associate degrees, certifications and apprenticeships.

This is the first of three transition meetings that are to take place in Marshall County. Two more will be presented during the month of March for Sherrard Junior High and Cameron High School. Moundsville Jr. High parents who missed the first program are encouraged to attend one of these meetings. Parents who attend are given the Parent's Handbook-Coaching Your Student to Success booklet that contains valuable information and resources to help parents focus on goals with their children. Information will be sent home with students when the next meetings are scheduled. We hope to see you there!