

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Construction Update	2
SEMS	2
Retiring Personnel	2
Focus on Safety	3
Teacher of the Year	3
Counselor of the Year	3
Student Scholar	4
Music Teacher of Year	4
Young Writer	4
Odyssey of the Mind	4
Autism	4
Positive Behavior	4

### Marshall County Welcomes New Administration

Robyn Fitzsimmons was named the new Administrative Assistant/Personnel Director in Marshall County Schools replacing David Gill who retires on June 30. Currently she is the Assistant Superintendent in Wetzel County Schools where her responsibilities include personnel, staff development, OEPA verification, and various other duties. Prior to becoming Assistant Superintendent in 2002, she was the Director of Adolescent Education. Her professional experiences include Principal, Assistant Principal, and Special Education Teacher. "I look forward to the opportunity to serve the staff and students of Marshall County Schools. I believe Marshall County is moving into an exciting period with the changes that will be taking place because of the citizen approved bond. Although change can create questions and concerns, I think the futuristic focus by the Board and Administrative Staff will lead to greater educational opportunities for the students of Marshall County Schools"



#### MCS Policies

Board of Education policies may be viewed at <http://boe.mars.k12.wv.us/policies>. FY07 New and amended policies include:

- 3.37 Department Head
- 3.1.26 Safety
- 5.4 Progress and Promotion
- 3.38 School Technology Facilitator
- 3.1.10 Performance Evaluations
- 1.5 Operation and Procedures
- 5.20 Communicable Disease
- 3.1.2.8 Substitute Employee Assignment Procedure
- 3.1.4 Transfer of Personnel
- 3.1.2.6 Employment of Retired Substitutes
- 4.36 Aide/LPN
- 3.1.9 Leaves of Absence



Corey Murphy was named as the new assistant principal at John Marshall High School. He is currently employed at Wheeling Central Catholic High School where he serves as the Dean of Students, Athletic Director, and teacher of history. Corey also has background in coaching and music, having graduated with a bachelor and master of arts degree from West Virginia University. "I feel that it is the main goal of educators to guide, mold, and teach young men and woman to become fine young adults. We must instill or reinforce values and goals into each individual student so they can become mature, successful, and respected adults who play a positive role in their communities. If we can achieve this, I feel that our goal as educators will be achieved and our communities will be in good hands."

Jack Cain was named as Cameron High School principal beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. Mr. Cain previously was a teacher at Downingtown Industrial and Agricultural School, Pocahontas High School and Tyler Consolidated High School before returning to his hometown of Cameron High School where he has been a teacher for the past eleven years. He has a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Agricultural Education from West Virginia University. Mr. Cain serves as an instructor for the Master Gardener Organizations as well as a judge for various regional and state agricultural events. He currently serves on numerous committees to aid in enhancing student awareness of Agricultural studies. "I am looking forward to working with the students and staff at CHS. CHS has great community and parent support and has a bright future with all of the new improvements that will be taking place as a result of the bond passage. I am excited about all of the new changes and I will be stressing the importance of community involvement, community awareness, student achievement, and improving the curriculum to keep up with the ever changing requirements for student development. "



## Construction Update

Many have asked about the building being constructed above the old pool house located behind the football field. This will primarily be used as a storage building for sports equipment. During the last flood, there was much damage and loss, especially in track equipment. This building will allow for safe storage of this property. Future plans for this building include revamping the downstairs pool house dressing rooms to provide new dressing rooms for John Marshall and Moundsville Jr. High athletic programs.

- The improvements to the John Marshall band and soccer storage facility are moving forward. Restrooms and a concession stand are planned to be ready for use by August.
- The John Marshall High School baseball field press box is progressing. Upon completion, this will be a two story facility with restrooms, concession stand, and upgraded electrical service.
- The Cameron High School athletic field was a major project that began last summer. Still on the list of improvements to finish are walkways, stone walls, ticket booth, and handicapped area.
- The maintenance building currently located at John Marshall High School will be converted into an Agricultural Education classroom. The current Agricultural Education area will be converted into an Industrial Maintenance classroom. Upon completion of the bond projects, county maintenance will create shops such as plumbing, electric, and carpentry, using some of the old classrooms at Park View Elementary. With the renovation of the Moundsville field house, a new building for maintenance will also be constructed at the Park View location. Children will still be able to play on the section of the city playground to the east of the school.

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## Substitute Employee Management System

A computerized Substitute Employee Management System (SEMS), maintained by RESA-6 will be utilized in Marshall County beginning next school year. The system has been used by Ohio and Wetzel Counties since the fall of 1997. SEMS enables the management of employee absences and substitute placement through a computerized calling system. Multiple telephone lines are used to report absences and call substitutes. Access to the program is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The system is able to assign the most appropriate substitute for each employee. Service personnel are called in seniority order. Employees may enter absences 90 days in advance of the start date of an absence and substitutes are called 30 days before a job if the job is posted that early. Employees also have the ability to leave a sixty second 'special instruction' message. Other features of the SEMS program include an interface that enables school and county administrative review from WVEIS, through direct phone contact into the computer or through the help-desk. Trainings will be conducted by RESA-6 in the near future for all Marshall County personnel to introduce the procedures to access the SEMS system.

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## 1147 Years of Experience

It is with best wishes that Marshall County Schools bids adieu to our retirees.

Larry Dalesio, Cameron Elementary principal  
Beatrice Campbell, Moundsville Jr. High School teacher  
Gary Snodgrass, John Marshall High School counselor  
David Gill, Marshall County Schools Personnel Director  
Adrian Younger, John Marshall High School teacher  
Maureen McNeil, Center McMechen Elementary teacher  
Carol Evans, Marshall County Schools bus operator  
Becky McGuire, John Marshall High School teacher  
Linda Simmons, Marshall County Schools secretary  
Vickie Kamlowsky, John Marshall High School teacher  
Danny Prado, John Marshall High School athletic director  
Toni Eaton, John Marshall High School teacher  
Cassie Sherman, Center McMechen teacher  
Sue Ellen Marling, Cameron Elementary teacher  
Barbara Pettit, Washington Lands teacher  
Martha Zatezalo, Center McMechen teacher  
Rebecca Trembush, Moundsville Jr. High School teacher  
Sandra James, Glen Dale Elementary School custodian

Daniel Pascoli, John Marshall High School teacher  
Mark Hinerman, John Marshall High School teacher  
David Takach, John Marshall High School principal  
Linda Ruble, Sanford Elementary School teacher  
Donna Geho, Marshall County Schools bus operator  
Linda Brinkman, John Marshall High School teacher  
Mickey Massey, Glen Dale Elementary School teacher  
Margy Seachrist, Sherrard Jr. High School teacher  
Michelle Beatty, John Marshall High School teacher  
Christine McDonald, Washington Lands teacher  
Goldie Fogle, Marshall County Schools bus operator  
Mark Fitzsimmons, John Marshall High School teacher  
Colleen Mowder, Glen Dale Elementary School cook  
Larry Rine, Sand Hill Elementary School principal  
Barbara Yost, Center McMechen Elementary aide  
Joyce Brak, Sherrard Elementary School aide  
Lydia Riggs, Cameron High School cook

*Thank you for your dedication and service for the children of Marshall County Schools*

## Focus on Safety

During the 2007 Legislative Session, Governor Manchin proposed that \$10 million dollars be earmarked for school safety. The Legislature approved the proposal and placed the money in the budget of the School Building Authority. The SBA developed a plan for the acquisition of the safety dollars through a grant proposal process. Marshall County Board of Education is eligible for approximately \$182,500 with a local match of approximately \$27,300 for a grand total of \$209,800. Providing a safe school environment is of paramount importance for Marshall County Schools. A Safety Advisory Committee has been established to make recommendations regarding policy, procedure and to provide the safest school environment possible. The Safety Advisory Committee is in the process of writing and submitting the grant proposal to the School Building Authority.

The Committee met on May 9, 2007. Members of the Safety Advisory Committee are:

- Scott Varner – Vocational Director/Committee Chairman
- Tom Wood, WV State Police
- Kevin Cecil, Marshall County Chief Deputy
- Ross Lockhart, Marshall County Deputy Sheriff
- Tom Hart, Marshall County Office of Emergency Management
- Mike Muckeek, Marshall County Office of Emergency Management
- Steve Morrison, National Corrections & Law Enforcement Technology & Training Center
- Wayne Simms, Assistant Superintendent
- Bill Burrall, Technology Coordinator
- Ron Pettit, Maintenance Supervisor
- Tom Wood, Marilyn McWhorter, and Rita DeMundo, Principals

The Committee reviewed the Access Control Audit information regarding each school. Recommendations were made regarding the necessity of staff identification cards, limited/controlled access to buildings and the need to plan and practice lockdown procedures as well as other items. Plans are being made for the Advisory Committee to make site visits to gather further information to assist Mr. Varner with the grant writing process. It is the intention of the Safety Advisory Committee to submit the grant application to the School Building Authority by mid-June.

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## Teacher of the Year



A mathematics teacher at Sherrard Jr. High is the 2008 Marshall County Schools Teacher of the Year. Cynthia Burke, a National Board Certified Teacher with 31 years of teaching experience, was selected Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Burke serves on many state, regional and local professional committees and is a frequent presenter, facilitator, and trainer at workshops and conferences. As a National Board Certified Teacher, she supports others striving to fulfill the rigorous requirements to become certified by serving as a mentor and reader. Mrs. Burke will represent Marshall County Schools as our nominee for the state teacher of the year.

The nominees for Marshall County Schools 2008 Teacher of the year include:

Judy Lyons, Cameron Elementary; Chad Clutter, Cameron High School; Kathy Vani, Center McMechen Elementary; Janet Sparks, Central Elementary; Kersten Marquart, Glen Dale Elementary; Brenda Schaffer, John Marshall High School; Bob Ripley, John Marshall High School; Sally Gaughenbaugh, John Marshall High School; Mary Louise Wharry, McNinch Elementary; Christine Goodwin, Moundsville Junior High School; Mary Ann Korsnick, Moundsville Junior High School; Glenna Isner, Park View Elementary; Margaret Blake, Sand Hill Elementary; Mary Rose Robbins, Sanford Elementary; Sue Pettit, Washington Lands Elementary

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## Counselor of the Year

Marilyn Wehrheim, counselor at John Marshall High School, has been named West Virginia High School Counselor of the Year by the Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admissions Counseling (PCACAC). PCACAC annually honors one professional on both the high school and college side of the college counseling process in each of the association's four states (West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia) and the District of Columbia. The award is intended to acknowledge colleagues who perform outstanding service on behalf of students in the college admissions process. Criteria for selection are professional leadership, honesty, sensitivity, patience, thoroughness, and sense of humor. We congratulate Marilyn for this prestigious recognition.





## Cameron HS Senior Captures Awards



Sean Eagan, a Cameron High School senior, has been recognized as a National Merit Scholar. National Merit is an academic competition emphasizing high achievement in mathematics, critical reading, and writing skills. Sean has also been named as a Presidential Scholar semi-finalist. The United States Presidential Scholars Program was established to recognize and honor some of our Nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Each year, up to 141 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the Nation's highest honors for high school students. Sean also was named an AP Rising Scholar with honors for earning passing scores on 4 or more AP exams.

Congratulations to Sean for his academic accomplishments.

## Teacher Receives National Board Certification



Judy Lyons, Cameron Elementary Gifted Teacher, has achieved National Board Certification. She is the second teacher in Marshall county to reach this goal. National Board Certification is the highest symbol of professional teaching excellence. The process is long and arduous consisting of several phases such as portfolio work, video-taping, and assessments. This is quite an honor and an outstanding achievement.

## Promising Young Writer



Samantha Simmons, a Cameron High School sophomore has captured second place honors at the state level of the Young Writers' competition. Samantha was honored at an April tea at the county office along with her fellow county winners, and later attended a ceremony at the West Virginia Department of Education in recognition of her achievement.

## Music Teacher of the Year

Kathy Fox, music teacher at Glen Dale and Center McMechen Elementary schools, has been named the West Virginia Society for General Music Teacher of the Year. The award was based on several criteria, including video tapes of instruction, lesson plans, references, and response to essay questions. The award was announced at the All-State Children's Chorus Concert in Huntington. Pictured with Kathy from left to right are students Beth Wolfe, Hadly Clutter, Emily Fox, and Elizabeth Keim.



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## Odyssey of the Mind

Eight teams from Marshall County Schools competed in the State competition of Odyssey of the Mind. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Five of the teams that qualified to advance to the World Finals will be taking their problem-solving skills to Michigan at the end of May. Those students advancing to World Finals are two teams from McNinch Elementary School, two teams from Moundsville Junior High School, and one team from Washington Lands Elementary School. Congratulations to these teams.

## Autism

Two courses in autism will be offered during the Marshall County Special Needs summer program, June 25—July 20. Teachers holding multi-categorical and BD certifications are encouraged to enroll. Completion of the two courses and the field placement will allow an additional endorsement of autism. Classes will run from 8:30-3:30 Monday through Friday. Direct instruction from Keely Camden of Bethany College and Kaybeth Calabria of Franciscan University at Steubenville will run from 8:30-12:00. Afternoons will be spent working one-on-one with autistic students on specialized programs.

## Positive Behavior Support

Eight Marshall County Schools will be participating in the state-wide initiative of developing a school-wide Positive Behavior Support Program in conjunction with Dr. Eric Landers of WVU for the 2007-2008 term. PBS is a proactive process for addressing behavioral challenges by utilizing data-driven decision making and proactive strategies. Training is scheduled for May and August.