

A Look at Marshall County

October 2009

Volume 7, Issue 1

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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

MCS Policies

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

Cameron Middle-High School Breaks Ground



It was a day to be remembered as Governor Joe Manchin arrived on a sunshine filled afternoon to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Cameron Middle-High School. The band played, the choir sang, and the hills rang with the voices of all those gathered who have worked to see this day come to fruition.



Also attending the ceremony were staff, students and parents from Cameron Jr.-Sr. High School and Cameron Elementary School, community members, architects, engineers, Dr. Mark Manchin Director of the School Building Authority, school administration and past principals of Cameron Jr.-Sr. High School. This much anticipated school is scheduled for completion in 2011.

The Ribbon is Cut for Hilltop Elementary

The ribbon cutting ceremony for Hilltop Elementary was held on October 8th. In attendance were Dr. Mark Manchin, Director of the school building authority, representatives from McKinley and Associates, Beyond Marketing. Board of Education members,



school administration, community members, and Hilltop Elementary principal, staff and students. Dr. Manchin congratulated Marshall County for building the first school in West Virginia that qualified for Leid Certification as an environmentally friendly building. He praised the citizens of Marshall County for their investments in education.

Central Elementary Staff Sports New Look



Central Elementary staff have started the new school year with a new look. The school colors of blue and silver have been incorporated into everyday apparel. Blue blouses, shirts and sweaters were purchased and the staff agreed on black pants or skirts to compliment. A Central Elementary Knight badge with a magnetized back is placed on the top of choice to complete the look.

The uniform introduces an additional level of safety into the school, as uniform wearing adults are easily identifiable. Heather Stillion, a teacher at the school, agreed that wearing uniforms helps students and parents identify school staff quickly, which is beneficial in case of an emergency.

Secretary Mindy Thomas commented on the overwhelming positive response to the uniform she receives in the front office from parents and visitors to the school. Karen Klamut, principal at Central Elementary stated “We have seen such a positive response from parents, visitors, law enforcement, and community members. Having encountered much change last year, this has helped to unite our school community at Central Elementary.”

H1N1 (Swine Flu)

Marshall County School administration has been meeting with officials from the Marshall County Health Department to develop a plan for the inoculation of students and eligible staff for the H1N1 virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined specific populations which are at higher risk of medical complications associated with infection of this type of influenza. Individuals meeting these criteria have been given priority status in order to be vaccinated against the virus as soon as the vaccine is made available .

The priority groups identified are as follows:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers of children under six months of age
- Healthcare workers, including emergency medical service personnel
- Individuals 6 months to 24 years of age
- Individuals between the ages of 25 and 64 years of age who have one or more health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza. Chronic pulmonary disease, including asthma; cardiovascular (excluding high blood pressure); kidney disease; liver disease; neurologic/neuromuscular disease; blood disease; metabolic disease (including diabetes) and immune-suppression (including those caused by medications or by HIV).



First shipments of the vaccine will begin in mid-October, but shipments will be small. Future shipments will be ongoing and will increase in quantity as CDC releases manufacturers' vaccine lots for distribution. It is expected that vaccine will be made available to the general population once the targeted groups have been immunized.

A letter containing vaccine information is planned for mailing sometime during the month of October. Once details of the school vaccination campaign are finalized, parents and staff will be notified of the locations and times where clinics will be held via ParentLink and school notifications.

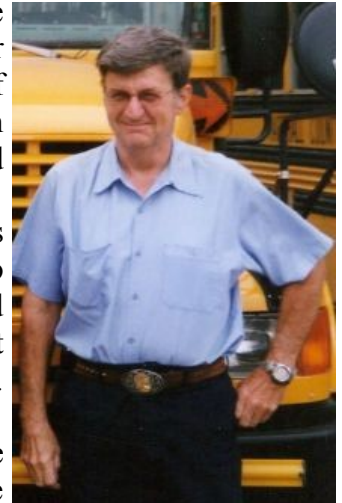
Walter Ritchea Recognized

Marshall County Schools bus driver Walter Ritchea has earned honorable mention in the 4th annual Thomas Built Buses Children's Choice School Bus Driver of the Year Contest. Ritchea, who has 25 years of safe driving experience on some of the toughest terrain in the state, was chosen for the honor based on nearly two dozen 90-word essays submitted by the students at Sand Hill Elementary that described what makes their driver so special.

“Walter has always been so much more than just a bus driver for this community,” said Sand Hill Principal Cindy McCutcheon. “He is a trusted friend to the staff and these kids who look up to him for his willingness to go above and beyond to make their trip to and from school safe and enjoyable. He is kind, patient and has a wonderful sense of humor that the staff and students appreciate so much. He may not have won the grand prize, but he’s won our hearts, for sure.”

Thomas Built Buses created the "Children's Choice School Bus Driver of the Year" as part of its 90th anniversary celebration in 2006. Now in its fourth year, the essay contest has become a new Thomas Built tradition. Students in kindergarten through sixth grade, in the U.S. and Canada, are eligible to enter the contest, which recognizes drivers who make a difference in the lives of children. Essays were judged on content, originality and driver qualifications.

When Walter was asked what was his favorite thing about being a school bus driver, Walter responded “the interaction with all of my kids.” Congratulations to Walter on a recognition well-deserved.



Webinar Features JMHS Broadcasting

NewTek, based out of San Antonio, Texas, chose Mr. Tony Wood, his students and the Broadcasting Technology classes as a feature for their world-wide webinar which took place on September 30th. Mr. Wood was a guest via Skype to explain what he does in and out of the classroom to get his students experience.

According to Mr. Wood, productions are entirely student-driven. “We are fully staffed by students, with 12 seniors and 12 juniors. Their enthusiasm has now spilled into community coverage as well, with production of the county Christmas parade. They script, direct and run three cameras. We even have students helping with cue cards for the talent.” Football, Basketball, and Volleyball games as well as band concerts have been recorded and aired on television or recorded to DVD.

NewTek chose the WJMH Media has the most comprehensive program of all schools surveyed. John Marshall was in competition with larger schools in New York, California, Georgia and Texas. WJMH is considered a "model" for what other high schools can do with the TriCaster for in and out of school events.

Marshall County Hosts OEPA Workshop



Dr. Donna Davis and Mr. Allen Brock, members of the executive staff from the office of Education and Performance Audits (OEPA), met with county and school administration on September 24th to share information concerning OEPA expectations during an on-site visit. The purpose of the OEPA is to assist the West Virginia Board of Education, the Legislature, the Governor, and the Process for Improving

Education Council in establishing and maintaining a system of education performance audits which measures the quality of education and the preparation of students based on standards and measures of student, school, and school system performance. Individual schools or county school systems may receive visits from the OEPA to determine if the school is maintaining a level of standard that qualifies the school for accreditation. Mr. Brock and Dr. Davis were very helpful in providing information to administration concerning the documentation and records that should be on file if selected for an on-site visit.

New Employees

Marshall County Schools would like to welcome our new employees for the 2009-2010 school year.



Alan Beyser
Transportation



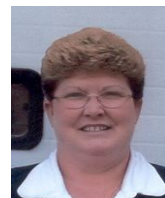
Brad Howard
Transportation



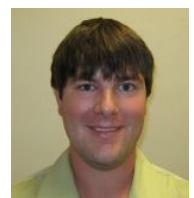
George Davis
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Judy Korn
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Julie Hawkins
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Andrew Gaudino
John Marshall



Erica Brettschneider
John Marshall



Kimberly Masters
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Mandi Stewart
Cameron El



Melody Burke
Hilltop



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Cameron HS



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John Marshall



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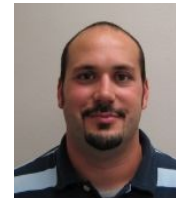
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John Marshall



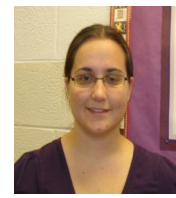
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John Marshall



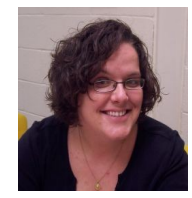
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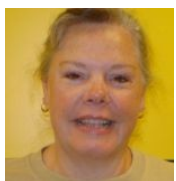
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