

May 2008

About Our Students

- A student at Cunningham Park Elementary, Augie Webster, is featured in the Council for Exceptional Children's *2009 Federal Outlook for Exceptional Children*. His achievement story exemplifies the positive impact of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in the lives of children with exceptional learning needs.

Especially for Parents

- The Chatterbox Fun Fair will be held this year at Kings Glen Elementary on Saturday, May 17 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. This free family event, sponsored by Assistive Technology Services (ATS) is specifically designed for children preschool through sixth grade who use picture boards or devices with sound output to communicate and learn in school and at home. A variety of games along with community resources and entertainment will be offered. Registration information was sent home with students in April.
- Career and Transition Services (CTS) has begun its annual survey of graduates. For over 20 years, CTS has been conducting this survey to analyze postsecondary outcomes for FCPS special education graduates. Data is collected in the areas of employment, education, independent living, and overall consumer satisfaction. Information from the survey is used to guide CTS service enhancement and development. Results are posted on the CTS website: <http://www.fcps.edu/ss/careertransition/index.htm>

Especially for Staff

- Staff in the Office of Special Education (OSE) participated in a year long study as learning teams on behavior, social skills, reading instruction, and math instruction. As a culminating activity, information from each learning team will be presented to the entire group on May 30 and plans for follow-up will be developed.
- The Assistive Technology Services Technology Outreach Program Support (TOPS) program identifies staff members throughout the county who are interested in learning more about assistive technology use for students in special education and in sharing that knowledge with their colleagues. This program currently has over 300 members who meet during the school year to focus on specific aspects of assistive technology. These staff members develop technology related activities that can be shared with colleagues. The TOPS group will hold their final meeting of the year on June 9 from noon-3:00 p.m. in the auditorium at the Fairfax County Government Center. During this meeting, members will highlight activities and accomplishments from the school year.

Other

- Michiyo Vangellow, Office of Special Education (OSE) curriculum resource teacher, was honored at the school board meeting on May 8th for achieving National Board Certification status.