



December 5, 2007  
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(**Editor's Note:** The full online version of *Supergram* is available at <http://www.fcps.edu/mediapub/publicat/sgm.htm>.)

## **Leadership Conference to Be Held August 6, Schedule Changed to Half Day**

The 2008 Leadership Conference will be held **Wednesday, August 6**, from 8 a.m. to noon at Hayfield Secondary School. Please hold this date on your calendar. Additional information will follow as plans are developed.

## ***Supergram* Schedule Change for January 2008**

The first issue of 2008 will be posted on **January 9**, with articles due no later than January 2. The following issue will be posted on January 23, with articles due no later than January 16. The regular schedule will resume on February 6.

## **Communications Corner: Acronyms and Abbreviations Resource Guide**

If you are not sure what the educational acronyms EIP, IEP, or PIE stand for, you are not alone. For help, check out the resource guide found on FCPSnet that has explanations of acronyms and abbreviations commonly used by the division. Get details at <http://fcpsnet.fcps.edu/is/rg/acronyms/acronyms.htm#anchor-a>.

## **Books 24x7 Featured Title: *The Seven Minute Difference: Small Steps to Big Changes***

Filled with concrete examples, anecdotes, and sage advice, this humorous book spurs people to unlock their purpose, knowledge, and passion and, as a result, transform their lives at work and at home. Get details at <http://www.fcps.edu/MTS/TrainingServices/elearn/>.

## **FCPS by the Numbers**

**3:** Number of FCPS high schools ranked in the top 100 nationally by *U.S. News and World Report*. TJHSST - #1; Langley - #37; and Oakton - #88. Madison, Robinson, Marshall, and Stuart were also honored by the magazine. View the press release at <http://www.fcps.edu/suptapps/newsreleases/newsrelease.cfm?newsid=748>.

## Important Notice for *Supergram* Article Submissions

Article submissions for *Supergram* should be sent to Andy Grunig at [andy.grunig@fcps.edu](mailto:andy.grunig@fcps.edu). **The next issue will be posted on December 19. Articles for that issue are due no later than Wednesday, December 12.** If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, Grunig can be reached at 571-423-1212. **Please Note:** The *Job Opportunities* publication and web pages are provided by the Department of Human Resources.

## Quote to Note

"The most important trip you take in life is meeting people half way."

Henry Boyle

## About Our People

- **Mary Ellen McCormick**, entrepreneurship teacher at Marshall Academy, is one of 11 educators nationwide selected to receive a \$3,000 grant from the Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education. McCormick is the only Virginia educator to be selected for the competitive grant. The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education is a national association of 100 member organizations that advocate entrepreneurship education as a lifelong learning process and provide programs for youth and adults.

## Fall 2007 Outstanding Performance Award Winners

- **Michelle Andrews**, database engineer I/II, Office of Enterprise Information Services.
- **Camille Bartus**, wellness program specialist, Office of Benefit Services.
- **Philip Boatwright**, warehouse worker-driver I/II/III, Office of Procurement Services.
- **Kristi Brown**, administrative assistant I, Office of Transportation Services.
- **Timothy Brown**, functional applications specialist II, Office of Monitoring, Technology, and Administrative Services.
- **You Chen**, food services worker I/II, South County.
- **Robert Costello, Jr.**, functional applications specialist II, Office of Instructional Technology Integration.

- **Judith DeCarme**, software engineer, Office of Monitoring, Technology, and Administrative Services.
- **Eileen Delaney**, educational specialist, ESOL, Office of Elementary School Curriculum and Instruction.
- **George Eley**, technology support specialist, Office of Information Technology Support Services.
- **Shirley Foulks**, building supervisor I, Franklin Sherman.
- **Karen Freck**, educational specialist, IEP, Office of Special Education Programs and Services.
- **Amy Granahan**, coordinator II, marketing, Office of Career and Technical Education.
- **Greer Holdaway**, financial analyst I, Office of Administrative Services.
- **Kurt Kohls**, school-based technology specialist, Chesterbrook.
- **Kristin Kornher**, functional applications specialist I, Office of Monitoring, Technology, and Administrative Services.
- **Richard Leonard**, warehouse worker-driver I/II/III, Office of Procurement Services.
- **Aubrey McNiff**, bus driver I/II, Office of Transportation Services.
- **Ronald Messick**, technology support specialist, Office of Information Technology Support Services.
- **Kamel Mikhail**, computer systems programmer I, Office of Information Technology Operations.
- **Margo Pareja**, manager, ESOL, Office of ESOL Services.
- **Kristine Parker**, instructional assistant, Providence.
- **Lisa Ray**, retirement assistant I/II/III, Educational Employees' Supplementary Retirement System of Fairfax County.
- **Patricia Rembold**, financial analyst II, Office of Administrative Services.
- **David Rider**, functional applications specialist II, Office of Administrative Services.
- **Kathy Roland**, administrative assistant III, Office of Technology Planning and Assessment.

- **Dawn Schaefer**, educational specialist, individualized education program, Office of Special Education Programs and Services.
- **Scott Simmons**, professional learning and training specialist, Office of Professional Learning and Training.
- **Cindy Smith**, senior buyer, Office of Administrative Services.
- **Carlos Solares**, technology support specialist, Office of Information Technology Support Services.
- **Virginia Sparger**, administrative assistant I, Office of Special Education Programs and Services.
- **Wenyan Tang**, functional applications specialist II, Office of Procurement Services.
- **Mark Timian**, web development specialist, Office of Procurement Services.
- **Tanya Villareal**, technology support specialist, Office of Information Technology Support Services.
- **Keith Walker**, software developer I/II, Office of Enterprise Information Services.
- **David Watson**, computer systems programmer I, Office of Information Technology Support Services.
- **Sandra Weller**, transportation instructor, Office of Transportation Services.
- **Lucy Wenberg**, transportation attendant, Office of Transportation Services.
- **Laura Willey**, technology support specialist, Office of Information Technology Support Services.
- **Hui Yang**, food services worker I/II, South County.

## **How Do I Get Mentioned in About Our People?**

Submit your good news for **About Our People** to *Supergram* editor Andy Grunig at [andy.grunig@fcps.edu](mailto:andy.grunig@fcps.edu). We want to hear from you!

**Editor's Note:** Send your electronic photo along with your good news.

# Benefits

## HR Wellness Launches New Employee Resource Web Site

HR Wellness, in the Office of Benefits, is pleased to announce its newly launched web site. The site, which can be found at <http://www.fcps.edu/DHR/employees/benefits/wellness/index.htm>, is designed as a resource and information tool as part of the FCPS wellness initiative to promote healthful lifestyles for FCPS employees. It offers evidence-based, medically founded information from reliable sources such as the Mayo Clinic, the American Heart Association, the Centers for Disease Control, and others on topics including nutrition, fitness, health risks, and pregnancy.

Each month, a Wellness Spotlight feature will give tips on disease prevention, healthful recipes, and assorted health promotion articles. This month's Wellness Spotlight features articles on breast cancer, periodontal disease, sports injuries, and a good night's sleep. A comprehensive prenatal web site section contains information about maintaining a healthful pregnancy from prepregnancy planning to postpartum.

Some additional information that can be found on the site includes:

- how to find out if your physician has been involved in any malpractice claims.
- how to check if someone is having a stroke by using the acronym FAST.
- how you can set up an indoor walking trail at your school or site.

As the wellness web site continues to evolve, more information will be added along with interactive tools to support FCPS employees in developing their personal wellness goals. If you have any questions or comments, contact [HRWellness@fcps.edu](mailto:HRWellness@fcps.edu).

## Send Your Fitness Pictures

HR Wellness would like to include a picture gallery on the wellness web site so that health promotion activities happening at FCPS sites can be showcased. So if your site offers a fitness challenge, walking program, or other health promotion activity for FCPS employees, e-mail a picture and a short write up about it to [HRWellness@fcps.edu](mailto:HRWellness@fcps.edu).

## Did You Know?

### School Employees' Benefits Advisory Council Special Election Update

Congratulations to the following US-19-and-below staff members who were unopposed and are the new representatives on the School Employees' Benefits Advisory Council (SEBAC):

- **Pearl Dixon**, building supervisor, Oakton High School.
- **Amanda Morrow**, administrative assistant, Dunn Loring Center.
- **Clarence Tweedy**, bus driver, Lorton Center.

An election for one representative and an alternate for the teacher-scale job group will be held electronically **December 10 and 11** via e-mail for active teacher-scale employees. There were no nominating petitions for the instructional assistant job group.

Questions about the election process may be directed to the Office of Employee Performance and Development at 571-423-3252.

## **Outstanding Performance Award Nominations Due February 1**

The Outstanding Performance Award (OPA) Committee will meet on February 28, 2008. All unified-scale (except school-based administrators) employees and instructional assistants are eligible for nomination. An OPA recipient may receive a maximum payment of \$1,000 net after taxes.

All nominations should be sent to T. G. Bowen, director, Office of Salary Services, Gatehouse Administration Center I, suite 2400, and must be submitted by **February 1**, 2008. In addition to the original OPA nomination, 15 copies should be submitted for distribution to committee members. Additional information pertaining to the OPA can be found in the current version of Regulation 4670.

## **VPN Available for All FCPS Employees**

FCPS uses a Virtual Private Network (VPN) to allow its employees to access school system computer network resources when they are not at an FCPS site. Every FCPS employee has permission to use VPN, but a small piece of software is needed. The VPN software can be downloaded from the VPN Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) web site on FCPSnet (<http://fcpsnet.fcps.edu/it/CPS/itcsc/itservice/itcsc/vpnfaq.htm>). This software is not available for download from home, so if you plan to connect back to an FCPS resource when you are not at an FCPS site, please be sure to download, install, and test the software before leaving your site.

If you would like more information on VPN and the regulations that govern its use, see the FCPS Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) Regulation 6410, the Data Security Regulation 6220, the Data Security Policy 6220, and the Remote Access Technical Bulletin 631.

The IT Service Desk can be reached at 703-503-1600 or [ITServiceDesk@fcps.edu](mailto:ITServiceDesk@fcps.edu) for questions or further information. Please note that the IT Service Desk only supports computer equipment that is supplied by FCPS.

## Register Now for Winter-Spring ACE Classes

Registration for winter and spring 2008 (January-April) classes offered by the Office of Adult and Community Education (ACE) is now under way. Course offerings can be viewed at [www.fcps.edu/aceclasses](http://www.fcps.edu/aceclasses), and most, but not all, classes can be registered for online. The course catalog, *ACE Classes*, is in the mail to residents and will also be available at Fairfax County public libraries and ACE registration centers.

## Online Registration Begins January 2 for Spring Academy Courses; Catalogs Available December 17

Online registration for spring 2008 Academy courses will be available beginning at **4 p.m. on January 2, 2008**. All employees must register for courses through MyPLT.

Follow these steps to use MyPLT for the first time:

- Go to <http://www.fcps.edu/plt/MyPLT/index.html>.
- Click on the LOGIN button.
- Type your FCPS domain name in the username field.
- Type the same domain name in the password field.
- Click on the LOGIN button.

You will be prompted to type a new password with a maximum length of 8 characters.

The FCPS Spring Academy, ACCESS, and Leadership Academy Seminars catalogs will be available online at <http://www.fcps.edu/plt/catalogs.htm> **starting on December 17**.

If you have problems with your user name or password, contact the IT Service Desk at 703-503-1600 or [ITServiceDesk@fcps.edu](mailto:ITServiceDesk@fcps.edu).

## Opportunities for Educators

### Critical Fields Identified for 2008-09

The critical teaching fields for the 2008-09 school year are:

- 8th Grade Physical Science.
- Chemistry.
- Physics.

- Reading Specialist.
- Mathematics.
- Speech and Language.
- Occupational Therapy.
- Physical Therapy.
- Industrial Technology (Technology Education).
- Special Education (Learning Disability, Autism, Mental Retardation, Emotional Disability, Early Childhood Special Education).

Undergraduate courses begun during the year in which a field was identified as critical will be honored for additional salary credit during subsequent years. These courses must be taken after the conferral of a bachelor's degree. Credit for the courses will be given when the critical endorsement field is added to the Virginia license. Teachers should contact the licensure office with questions.

Additional information can be found in Regulation 4621.4.

## **UVA Special Education-Learning Disabilities Endorsement Program Planned, Information Meetings Set for December 17 and January 8**

FCPS is planning a special education, learning disabilities (LD), K-12 endorsement program that will begin in spring 2008 in collaboration with the University of Virginia. The program is designed for professionally licensed general education classroom teachers K-12 who would like to pursue an endorsement in LD to add to a current professional teaching license and work toward a master's degree in special education. Selection criteria include two years of full-time teaching experience with at least one year of full-time contracted experience in FCPS and possession of a five-year renewable license. Participants will pay tuition and textbook costs.

Representatives from the Department of Professional Learning and Training, the Department of Special Services, and the University of Virginia will provide information about the program, application and selection process, and coursework and practicum requirements at a meeting on **Monday, December 17, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.** at Gatehouse Administration Center I in room 3050/3051. An additional meeting will be held at Gatehouse Administration Center I on **Tuesday, January 8, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.** in conference room 4050/4051.

For more information or to register for one of the information meetings, contact Nicki Conners by sending an e-mail to [Nicole.Conners@fcps.edu](mailto:Nicole.Conners@fcps.edu).

## **FCPS Opens New Student Registration Center in Reston**

FCPS has opened a new Student Registration office in the Lake Anne area of Reston. The new office is located at 11484 Washington Plaza West, suite 310. The phone number is 703-668-0690. A map for the site can be found at <http://www.fcps.edu/maps/lakeannereg.html>. The Reston office replaces the Herndon Student Registration office, which closed on Wednesday, November 28.

## **Educational Leadership Program Planned, Information Meeting to Be Held **Today****

FCPS is offering an Educational Leadership program beginning in August 2008 in collaboration with the University of Virginia. The program is for employees who want to obtain the administrative endorsement necessary for consideration for school-based administrative positions of assistant principal, principal, and student activities director. Enrollment will be limited to 30 people. Selection criteria include three years of teaching experience with at least one year in FCPS and outstanding teaching and leadership ability.

Participants will pay tuition and book costs. Representatives from the Department of Professional Learning and Training and the University of Virginia will provide information about the program, application and selection process, coursework, and internship requirements at a meeting **today from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center in training room 1.**

To register for the information session, contact the Department of Professional Learning and Training by sending an e-mail to Rita Cloutier at [rita.cloutier@fcps.edu](mailto:rita.cloutier@fcps.edu). Include your name, work location, and telephone number in the e-mail.

## **George Mason University Special Education Leadership Graduate Certificate Cohort Planned, Information Meeting Set for December 6**

Fairfax County Public Schools, in collaboration with George Mason University's Special Education Outreach program, is planning to establish a graduate cohort in special education leadership that will begin in March 2008. This advanced studies graduate special education certificate program is designed for teachers and administrators who would like to expand their expertise and complete the required coursework for a graduate certificate in special education leadership.

The coursework may also be applied toward a master's degree in educational leadership or a Ph.D. in education. Participants pay for tuition and books. Representatives from the Department of Professional Learning and Training, the Department of Special Services, and George Mason University will provide information about the program, application, selection process, and requirements at a meeting on **December 6 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Gatehouse Administration Center I in room 4050-51.**

To register for this information meeting, contact the Department of Special Services by sending an e-mail to [Donna.Lentini@fcps.edu](mailto:Donna.Lentini@fcps.edu). Include your name, work location, and

telephone number in the e-mail. For further information, contact Donna Lentini at 571-423-4175.

## **TMPC and Education Library Announce Winter Vacation Schedule**

The holidays are rapidly approaching as is a change in operating hours at the Sprague Technology Center's Teaching Materials Preparation Center (TMPC) and Education Library. The TMPC and the Education Library **will close at noon on Friday, December 21 and will remain closed until Wednesday, January 2, 2008**. Both services will resume regular working hours beginning Wednesday, January 2.

Regular hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call the TMPC at 703-503-7430 or the Education Library at 703-503-7420 with any further questions.

## **People on the Move**

**Editor's Note:** Information for **People on the Move** is provided by the Department of Human Resources, Office of Employment Services.

### **Promotions**

- **Michelle Waller** from teacher at Gatehouse Administration Center I to educational specialist, pyramid resource, at Virginia Hills Center.
- **Jeff Yost** from assistant principal to principal at Woodson.
- **Dave Thomas** from associate principal to principal at Lake Braddock.
- **Bonzetta Hairston** from teacher to assistant principal at Mount Vernon Woods.
- **Letty Bobby** from kindergarten assistant to office assistant at Clearview.
- **Andrew Armfield** from custodian I at Marshall to custodian II at Stenwood.
- **Julio Avila** from custodian II to building supervisor I at Aldrin.
- **James Stickley** from technology support specialist to senior technology support specialist at Sprague Center.
- **Victoria Beruete** from office assistant at Twain to guidance assistant at Key.
- **Luanne Halbert** from office assistant at Robinson to finance technician I/II at South County.

- **Amanda Morrow** from administrative assistant I at Dunn Loring Center to administrative assistant III at Gatehouse Administration Center I.
- **Maria Hernandez** from custodian I to custodian II at Hayfield Secondary.
- **Tony Ingram** from custodian II to assistant building supervisor I at Hayfield Secondary.
- **Ebenezer Ababio** from custodian I to custodian II at Bryant.
- **Ralph Sears** from custodian II at Willow Springs to building supervisor I at Providence.

### Transfers

- **Patience Battisti** from educational interpreter I/II at Woodson to educational interpreter I/II at Frost.
- **Elizabeth Caligiuri** from special education teacher at Bush Hill to school-based technology specialist at Forestdale.
- **Comfort Boasiako** from public health attendant at Lorton Station to public health attendant at Newington Forest.
- **William Lawson** from security officer at Forte Center to safety and security assistant at Mount Vernon.
- **John Ale** from HVAC technician II at Edison Center to energy management technician II at Sideburn Center.

### New Hires and Appointments

- **Barbara Hunter** to assistant superintendent of communications and community outreach at Gatehouse Administration Center I.
- **Agustin Martinez** to principal at Herndon High.
- **Zahra Ali** to custodian I at Graham Road.
- **Terry Young** to custodian I at Marshall.
- **Koffi Kouame** to safety and security assistant at Herndon Middle.
- **James Smith** to information technology operations center supervisor at Wilton Woods Center.
- **Heidi Greene** to client service representative I/II/III at Gatehouse Administration Center I.
- **Amu Cuellar** to public health training assistant at Greenbriar East.

- **Owen Pearce** to custodian I at Mount Vernon.
- **Antonio Mastrostefano** to public health training assistant at Davis Center.
- **Dorothea Corbin** to office assistant at Edison.
- **Donna Kruse** to public health training assistant at North Springfield.
- **Nhu Phuong Tran** to public health training assistant at North Springfield.
- **Beatriz Arzola** to custodian I at Hayfield Secondary.
- **Melissa Dezeeuw** to physical therapy assistant I/II at Devonshire Center.
- **Lilliana Rivera** to custodian I at Chantilly.
- **Cynthia Bradley** to business operations assistant in payroll management at Gatehouse Administration Center I.
- **Carol Leventhal** to office assistant at Annandale.

## FCPS Remembers

### About FCPS Remembers

Information for FCPS Remembers is provided by the Educational Employees Retirement System of Fairfax County (ERFC) for its members and by the Department of Human Resources for members of the Fairfax County Employees Retirement System (FCERS).

In the event of the death of any active employee who is now contributing to the ERFC and/or the VRS retirement systems, or any retiree who retired from these systems, **notify the ERFC retirement office by calling 703-426-3900**. The retirement office will provide the names to *Supergram* with details of the deceased's employment with FCPS. In the event of the death of an active member or retiree of **FCERS, notify Benefit Processing at 571-423-3200**.

- **Dorothea Monk**, teacher at Annandale, who retired June 2, 1976, and who died November 5.
- **William Marcey**, teacher at Key, who retired March 1, 1991, and who died November 15.
- **Missouri Anderson**, teacher at Weyanoke, who retired July 1, 1985, and who died February 9.
- **Raymond Arthur**, attendance liaison at Area IV, who retired July 1, 1992, and who died August 19.

- **Charlotte Boronow**, teacher at Edison, who retired September 1, 1975, and who died August 14.
- **Anita Van Zetta-Cox**, instructional assistant at Sunrise Valley, who died November 1.
- **Emma Shifflett**, bus driver, who retired June 22, 1982, and who died November 17.
- **Debitu Dereje**, bus attendant, who died November 18.