



Children First!

News & Information from Metro Nashville Public Schools

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Director's Search Update

The Metropolitan Nashville Board of Education will continue its interview of the candidates for the director of schools positive next week. Dr. Santiago Wood interviewed this past Wednesday, Dec. 10, and Dr. Doris McEwen and Dr. Jesse Register will visit Dec. 17 and 18, respectively.

The second interview is an all-day experience that includes school visits, meetings with staff, community, business and government leaders, discussions with the Board and a public reception. Those who would like to meet the candidates may do so at the public receptions, to be held according to the following schedule:

- Doris McEwen - Dec. 17, 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Martin Professional Development Center, 2400 Fairfax Ave., Nashville, TN 37212
- Jesse Register - Dec. 18, 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. at Martin PDC

The Board has scheduled a special meeting Saturday, Dec. 20, to deliberate.

Hillsboro Burros win championship

The Hillsboro High School Burros defeated four time defending state champions, the Maryville Rebels, in the Blue Cross Bowl last Saturday, Dec. 6, at Middle State University. The Burros broke Maryville's 74 -consecutive game winning streak to win the title. Congratulations to Head Coach Scott Blade and the Burros!

Meigs Fifth Grade Centennial Exposition

The fifth grade students at Meigs Magnet School will travel back in time Dec. 18 to the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. The students will dress in period attire, create inventions of the

Industrial Revolution and re-create Ellis Island, complete with diseases, passports, citizenship tests, and long lines awaiting transport for re-settlement.

Meigs students will rotate throughout the day to other fifth grade classrooms, celebrating this remarkable journey of immigrants.

Hume-Fogg, MLK Magnet Schools Receive National Honor

Hume-Fogg and Martin Luther King Jr. Academic Magnet High Schools have received gold medal school recognition by US News and World Report in a 2008 ranking of U.S. high schools. Hume-Fogg was ranked 30th out of more than 21,000 schools and MLK was ranked 41st. Congratulations to the staff and students of these schools.

Maplewood High School auto students feed families for the holidays

Maplewood High School Automotive Technology Training Center students partnered with Cross Road Ministries over the Thanksgiving holiday and feed 20 families in the school and community. This community service was spearheaded by Maplewood principal Dr. Julie Williams.

Central Office enhances security

Visitors to the MNPS central office on Bransford Avenue will see enhanced security starting Monday, Dec. 15. The district is installing walk-through metal detectors at the public entrances in the front of the building near Human Resources and in the rear at the Customer Service Center. In addition to the walk-through metal detectors, the plan also calls for the use of hand-held wands and x-ray machines that will be installed in the coming weeks. The new equipment is part of the district's ongoing plan to ensure the safety of students and employees. While the majority of efforts and expenditures in recent years have gone to increasing security at schools, the district's Student Services Division, which oversees security, does not want to overlook the needs of the central office. According to Ralph Thompson, assistant superintendent for Student Services, the district would rather prevent an incident than respond to one that has occurred. Employee entrances will continue to function as usual, with electronic access to employees with valid MNPS identification badges. The equipment is being purchased with money from the Safe Schools Grant.

Cohn Adult High School students help 'Shoebboxes of Love'

The social studies students of Cohn Adult High School participated in the 'Shoebboxes of Love' campaign, sponsored by Samaritan's Purse, a global relief agency serving children in need in many countries. The Cohn Adult students donated, assembled, and wrapped care packages containing toiletries, school supplies, books, small toys, educational games, and other necessities for the campaign. According to teacher Kim Murdoch-Smith, this was the best response ever from the students.

Harpeth Valley teacher awarded the Sam's Club 'Teacher of the Year'

Mary Ann Fife, resource teacher at Harpeth Valley was presented with a \$100 gift card and other prizes for being selected 'Teacher of the Year' through Sam's Wholesale Club. The public relations department from Sam's came and took pictures of Mrs. Fife and principal, Peggy Brodien. The picture will be featured in a Sam's Wholesale magazine. The school also received \$1000 gift card due to Mrs. Fife being selected 'Teacher of the Year.'

Hattie Cotton thanks Dollar General

Principal Karen Hamilton recognized Pencil Partner Dollar General Corporation for its never ending



commitment to Hattie Cotton Elementary School at the Board of Education Meeting Tuesday, Dec. 9. Dr. Hamilton cited the volunteer hours, donation of equipment and supplies, and countless ways Dollar General has supported Hattie Cotton students and staff. Thank you, Dollar General for your continued support to Hattie Cotton.

Fifteen Park Avenue students shop with Tennessee Titan David Thornton

On Dec. 9, 15 students from Park Avenue Enhanced Option Elementary joined Tennessee Titans linebacker David Thornton and other Titans players for a shopping spree at Dick's Sporting Goods. The shopping opportunity came through the "DT's Shopping Spree," essay contest where students wrote on topics ranging from "I Have a Dream" to "My Role Model is..." to receive the opportunity to shop. The selected students spent a \$200 gift card and were treated to a pizza party.

The students are: Ruth Agyemang, Tishawn Bradford, Roniah Burkins, Serenity Collier, Renecia Estmond, Jordan Frierson, Meosha Hassell, David Jefferson, Aubre Randle-Johnson, DeAndra'Nee Johnson, Markeida Mason, Da'Vaun Miller, Larry Springer, Christopher Tolliver, and Stephania Torres. Congratulations students.

Maplewood High School's Club for Ladies Only helps the community

Maplewood High School's Club for Ladies Only participated in the 13th annual Kids Cafe Toy Drive and Holiday Parties, Thursday, Dec. 11, at the Renaissance Hotel. Club members stuffed gift bags with toys for 1,700 boys and girls ages 5-12. The club members also hosted a fundraiser for American Diabetes Association and sold more than 200 links of love.

In October, the ladies participated in the "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk" at LP Field.

MNPS students keep Nashville Beautiful

Three 3rd and 4th grade art students from Una, Hattie Cotton and Warner Elementary Schools have been named winners among the nearly 70 finalists in the "Put Waste in its Place: Keep Nashville Beautiful" art contest, sponsored by Metro Nashville Public Schools, Metro Public Works and Red River Service Corporation.

Karen Sosa of Una Elementary School was selected by a panel of Metro Council and Nashville Arts Coalition member as this year's Grand Prize Winner. She is the third student from Una to win the contest. Karen's art was featured in the Nashville Christmas Parade last Friday, Dec. 5. Also, Katilyn Cunningham of Hattie Cotton is the second place winner and Triston Kendell of Warner Elementary is the third place winner. In honor of the winning students' entries, their respective schools received \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500 in prize money from Red River Service Corporation.



The winners and finalists artwork will be displayed on household waste collection trucks for the next six months as part of a citywide campaign to promote recycling and city beautification. Congratulations Karen, Katilyn and Triston on a job well done!

Paragon Mills hosts SOS Super Saturday

More than hundred Paragon Mills students and parents, and a hundred Vanderbilt University volunteers participated in SOS Super Saturday held on Dec. 6. Vanderbilt students provided a



tutoring, dance/exercise station for the students and parents, brought baked sugar cookies to decorate, and provided an art station to make Christmas cards for patients at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

SOS Super Saturday is a program designed to provide free tutoring for Paragon Mills students in Pre-K-4th grade. Within a two hour time slot, students work on grade level skills that need reinforcing with student and teacher volunteers from Hillsboro, Glencliff, Hands on Nashville, Trevecca Nazarene University, and Montgomery Bell Academy.

Cane Ridge Spanish teacher receives scholarship to Spain

Cane Ridge High School Spanish teacher LaTricea Adams has been awarded a scholarship with the Embassy of Spain through SCOLT (Southern Conference on Language Learning) to study for three weeks in Spain. The scholarship will include registration, tuition, and room and board. Ms. Adams will travel to Atlanta, Ga. in March for an awards ceremony to accept her scholarship.

Ms. Adams is in her second year of teaching and is excited about bringing many things back to share with her students and peers. Congratulations to Ms. Adams.

Robert E. Lillard gets new PENCIL partner

Mt. Gilead Church has adopted Robert E. Lillard Elementary Design Center. An official partnership ceremony will be held Dec. 16, at 9 a.m. in the school cafeteria. General Sessions Court Judge Angelita Blackshear-Dalton will be present as well as Elder Roderick Glatt, pastor of Mt. Gilead Church. Mt. Gilead Church will be joining Kroger on Clarksville Highway and Cathedral of Praise as Robert Lillard's PENCIL partners

Other Upcoming Events

- Dec. 13 Hillsboro annual Scats-'N-Cider Choral, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 15 Meigs Magnet School 5th & 6th grade Bands Holiday Concerts, 6 p.m.
Oliver Middle Winter Dinner & Concert, 5:15 p.m.
McGavock High Christmas Dance Show, 6:30 p.m.
Goodlettsville Middle Holiday Band Concert, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 16 Gateway Elementary PTA Holiday Coffee, 9 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Marshall Middle Winter Concert, 6:30 p.m.
Mt. View Guitar class Christmas Concert, 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18 Buena Vista Holiday Memories program, 8:30 a.m.
Mt. View Holiday Tea and Program, 8:15 a.m.
Cameron Middle Band Concert, 9:45 a.m.



To request an accommodation, please contact your building principal or department head. (Interpreters for the deaf or hard of hearing must be requested forty-eight [48] hours prior to the event.) Questions or concerns may be referred to the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools Customer Service Center, 615/259-4636.

Si usted necesita información adicional o si usted tiene alguna pregunta, por favor llame o contacte al director de su escuela.

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