



Children First!

News & Information from Metro Nashville Public Schools

June 20, 2008

In this edition: *Parent University Survey*
 Club Music City Miracle Student Art Exhibition
 Cane Ridge High Dedication
 Bus Monitors Needed
 Save the Date! Hands on Nashville Schools
 Mayor's First Day Festival
 AVID a Big Success at MNPS

Parent University Survey

In the June issue of Report Home, a survey was included for parents to address Parent University. We have received numerous surveys back from parents. We still want to hear from more of you. If you have not done so, please take five minutes, fill out the survey and mail it to:

MNPS Central Office
attn: Parent University
2601 Bransford Ave.,
Nashville, TN 37204

The survey will be used to determine what types of information MNPS parents most need and how they would like to receive it.

Parent University is a new district communication tool that will utilize various communication channels to help educate and inform MNPS parents. Topics of instruction will vary and may include health-related information, post-secondary opportunities or details on behavioral development. For more information about Parent University, visit www.mnps.org.

Club Music City Miracle Student Art Exhibition

Now through June 27, the Tennessee Art League is hosting an exhibition of artwork, created by students of Bass Middle, Wright Middle and Ewing Park Middle who are involved in Club Music City Miracle (Club MCM) After-School Art Clubs. The clubs are taught by professional artist-teachers from the Tennessee Art League and are funded by a special grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission.

The exhibit is free and open to the public. It can be viewed in the Poston3 Gallery at the Tennessee Art League, 808 Broadway, in downtown Nashville.

Club MCM is an after school program designed to address life-skill needs for at-risk students in grades 3-8. The main goal is to increase students' abilities to meet or exceed state and local academic standards and gain needed skills for entering into post-secondary education and the career world as responsible and productive citizens. Evening activities are provided. For more information about Club MCM, visit <http://www.mnps.org/Page2116.aspx>.

Cane Ridge High Dedication

MNPS will hold a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Cane Ridge High School Wednesday, July 30, at 10:30 a.m. More information on the ceremony will be provided at a later date.

Bus Monitors Needed

MNPS is currently taking applications for school bus monitors for special education buses. All applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, a stable employment history, a clear fingerprint background check and DCS background check and a pre-employment drug screening.

Typical hours are a split shift; roughly 6 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. and 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. The exact schedule depends on the assigned bus route. Bus monitors will be responsible for assisting the driver with pre-trip and post-trip bus inspections, including checking for students remaining on board; monitoring student behavior and conduct; assisting the driver with student load management; maintenance of accurate and up-to-date records and route descriptions; monitoring children's behavior and disciplines according to district rules and guidelines; meetings with principals, parents and children to resolve behavior problems; assisting driver with student disciplinary forms; and any other duties assigned.

The district offer excellent benefits and regular pay increases. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please apply online at www.mnps.org.

Save the Date! Hands on Nashville Day

Mark your calendars; Saturday, September 27, will be a day of volunteering as more than 1,000 people work in 50+ Metro Nashville Public Schools during Hands On Nashville Day. Individuals and groups are encouraged to participate in the city's community-transforming event and largest day of community service.

Hands on Nashville is currently looking for Team Leaders to form teams of their friends, family, coworkers, civic groups or alumni groups. The organization also needs Project Coordinators to lead projects at the participating schools. Training will be provided.

If you are interested in participating or would like more information, contact Amy Maloney at amy@hon.org or (615) 298-1108 ext. 110.

Mayor's First Day Festival

Mayor Karl Dean will help kick off the school year with the annual Mayor's First Day Festival, Sunday, August 3, from 2 – 5 p.m. This year's kickoff festival will be held at the Sommet Center (formerly the Nashville Arena), at 501 Broadway in downtown Nashville. For more information about this year's event, visit <http://www.nashville.gov/mocy/firstday/2008/index.htm>.

AVID a Big Success at MNPS

The AVID program (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is making waves in MNPS. The program is currently in all 11 comprehensive high schools in the district, with Cane Ridge coming on board this fall. During the 2008-2009 school year, the program will also be offered at seven middle schools (Bailey, Bass, Baxter, Gra-Mar, Martha Vaught, McKissack and Neely's Bend).

The number of students participating in the program almost doubles each year as students see the success of their predecessors. AVID students are taught study skills, note taking, test taking skills, "success in life" skills and are held accountable for their learning. Students are also prepared for college life -- both in the classroom and out. They have to take rigorous classes (honors, AP, or IB), and the AVID program provides tutors to help them.

AVID has been a part of Metro for six years, but the program that has been around for 30 years nation wide. For more information about the AVID program, visit www.avidonline.org.