A Letter from PTSA President Ellen Sands

We had an enjoyable and insightful visit from Mr. Fernandez for the October meeting, our first of the year. He updated us on the status of the art rooms, our SAT and ACT participation, and answered a range of questions from parents. The upshot was we are off to a good start this year and we look forward to working together on various issues for the school, students and staff to keep the momentum going.

Mr. Carson Henry, from the YMCA after-school program, also told us about the program he runs here at Einstein and what he hopes to accomplish for our kids during the coming year. His budget has been cut quite a bit and the rumor is that if the ambulance fee was turned down, cuts would be made to the program in order to make up the budget deficit. We will have to see if that pans out, and if it does, what we can do to help keep the program running.

During the November 16 meeting, our agenda included a presentation from the counseling department updating parents on advising efforts for students at every grade level. Ms. Waller from the Counseling Department walked us through the very cool Naviance program. Students are able to set up a profile, take an "interests survey" to help direct their career and education direction, and manage their college applications through keeping track of classes and test scores. All of this is available online, accessible 24-7 from home or school. Ask your student to help you check it out!

In other news, the directory should be available by the middle of the month; look for a copy and please patronize our advertisers. Mention you saw their ads, please!

There will be no December PTSA meeting, as it would fall so close to the holidays. Why not pay a visit to the Gift Wrap booth? Put yourself in the giving spirit AND help raise money for the After Prom. Contact Martha Kaiser—I’m sure she'll be plugging it elsewhere in the newsletter, but the truth is Martha works incredibly hard to pull off this endeavor. Support her and the entire school with a contribution of your time and energy! You'll have a chance to meet new parents and hear goings on from the school. Think of it as an off-site PTSA meeting!

Finally, the projected topic for the January PTSA meeting is “Cyberbullying: What goes down and how to help your child on the Internet.” That will be Tuesday evening, January 18. Start the new year off with a resolution to become involved with the Einstein PTSA!

Ellen Sands
PTSA President
Wrap It Up: Support Einstein's After Prom!

Every holiday season from Thanksgiving through Christmas they can be found at Wheaton's Westfield Shopping Mall: parents and students, neighbors and alumni, donned in burgundy aprons with tape and scissors in hand. They're wrapping gifts for a cause, to support Einstein's annual After Prom.

After Prom is just what it sounds like, but much more. It's the party after the official prom and all seniors are invited to attend, free of charge. Whether or not they donned formal wear hours earlier, they may come with a guest to celebrate into the wee hours of the morning with casino and carnival games, entertainment and fabulous food. The goal is to give them a safe last hurrah before graduation.

How can you help? Come join the wrappers at Wheaton Mall. Sign up on line (see the following instructions) or call Martha Kaiser at kaiserfamily@starpower.net for help. Students are also welcome to help out and earn student service learning hours.

And of course, we're happy to take the holiday wrapping chore off your hands. See you at the mall!

Online Gift Wrap Signup

It's that time again -- the calendar is online for signing up for shifts at Westfield Shoppington to wrap gifts for the fundraiser that supports the After Prom.

We ask that you give your time to raise money for a safe and fun alternative for our kids after they enjoy themselves at Prom. Your commitment is not great -- minimally we ask for ONE HOUR of your time.

PLEASE GO ONLINE NOW AND SIGN UP FOR YOUR SHIFTS. If you have any questions, please contact Martha Kaiser at kaiserfamily@starpower.net

ONLINE CALENDAR SIGNUP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go to www.yahoogroups.com
2. Click on 'sign in'
3. User ID: aehsgiftwrap, Password: presents
4. Under "My Groups" click on "AEHSGiftwrapping"
5. Click on "calendar" (in column on left).
6. Use the calendar on the right to go to the day you want to volunteer.
7. To add yourself to the calendar click on the time when you want to begin working (or click the "Add Event" link).
8. Fill out the "form" by adding your name and phone numbers (home and cell) to the Title box and the NUMBER OF HOURS you will be working, NOT the time you finish working. Put an N next to your name if you are a new wrapper or would like to be paired with someone who knows the ropes.
9. Click "save" at the top or bottom of the screen.

Students:

Brush up on your wrapping skills—you can earn needed SSL hours by helping out in the Gift Wrap Booth, while ensuring the continuation of the After Prom tradition.

Go to the Online Calendar and sign up to help out!!

Sunday Scholars Program

The community-run Sunday Scholars program is starting its fifth year. The program helps students in grades 3-6 to prepare for the Maryland State Assessment (MSA) tests in March. The program runs for five Sundays starting on Sun., Feb. 6, 2011 from 2:15-4:30 p.m. at the Ross Boddy Community Center in the Olney/Sandy Spring area. The cost is $45 per student.

Classes are small and fill up fast. While students are studying, parents may participate in Parent Talks, where experts present information on topics related to student achievement, parenting, and more. To register, contact Jackie Bromfield at jackiebromfield@yahoo.com.

The Sunday Scholars Group

Jackie Bromfield, NAACP Parents’ Council representative at Farquhar MS
Deanna Kuhney, Parent at Blake HS
Kimberly Macedo, Parent at Farquhar MS
Sharon Mosley-Ramsey, NAACP Parents’ Council representative at Blake HS

Virgie R. Barnes, Chair
AEHS
Nikonay@msn.com
Information for Seniors

By this time you should have completed the "LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL" forms and met with your counselor to discuss your post-secondary plans. If you have not already done so, please make an appointment with your counselor immediately.

On-the-Spot Admissions Events: Morgan State University at Walter Johnson HS, Dec. 2; Univ. of Maryland, Eastern Shore at Springbrook HS, Dec. 8; Coppin State University at Rockville HS, Feb. 10, 2011; UNCF/NAACP/MCPS HBCU College Fair at Blake HS, Feb. 16, 2011 (for grades 9 – 12); Bowie State University at Kennedy HS, March 17, 2011.

Students interested in on-the-spot admissions events need to see Ms. Lanning in the College/Career Center to get information.

Colleges to which students apply ask to be notified of any schedule changes, such as dropping a second semester course. These schedule changes may affect a student’s college admission, as may changes in grades or GPA. Please refer to the letter sent home in September with all graduation requirements, if you have questions about what classes are needed for graduation.

Information on scholarships is sent to parents and students via Naviance/Family Connections (sent to listed email) and the PTSA list serve. If you need help registering on Naviance, see your child’s counselor. For registering on the PTSA list serve, see the PTSA website, http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/einsteinhs/parents/.

As seniors receive notice of college acceptance, they should be reporting all acceptances (whether they will be attending that college or not) to Ms. Perez in the Counseling Services Office. We also need information on where students were not accepted so that Einstein can track which schools are most receptive to our students. As you receive scholarships, please give that information to Ms. Perez (the name and amount of the scholarship).

FAFSA – A Necessary Step When Applying for any Type of College Financial Aid

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the most important document to financial aid for college. Everyone seeking financial aid or scholarships of any kind must complete the FAFSA.
- Complete the on-line FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov (preferred method) OR submit a paper FAFSA to the processing center.
- You cannot submit the FAFSA form before Jan. 1st but if you plan to use the on-line FAFSA, request a pin number (parent and student) NOW at www.pin.ed.gov. Without a pin number, you will have to download and return the signature page by mail.
- It can take three to four weeks for processing the FAFSA, so complete the process as close to Jan. 1 as possible, or you may miss your college deadlines for receipt of the information.
- List up to six institutions that you want to receive information.

If you don’t apply, you will not be considered for financial aid. Sometimes people think they can apply for financial aid to see how much they will get before applying to college. It does not work that way. If you are on the hunt for financial aid, you must apply to college first.

Information For Juniors

The Maryland Distinguished Scholarship Program awards $3,000 per year (renewable each year of college) to finalists who attend college in Maryland. Maryland high school juniors with a grade point average of 3.7 or higher in academic courses and an appropriate score on the PSAT, SAT or ACT are eligible to be nominated by their schools in February. Students who feel they may be eligible and have not taken any of these tests should register to take the Jan. 22, 2011, SAT immediately. Students interested should see Mrs. Lanning in the College and Career Center.

Information For Freshmen

All freshmen have created a Naviance/Family Connections account. We would appreciate parents logging on and adding your email address. We
use Naviance for many different things, one being able to communicate with students and parents. The web address is https://connection.naviance.com/fc/signin.php?hsid=einstein. Students use their email address as their log in and school id as their password. If you need help logging on, please see your child’s counselor.

Remember grades count. Now is the time to be earning good grades. Colleges look at all four years of high school; make this year a good one!

Information for Freshmen, Sophomores & Juniors

Registration for the 2011 – 2012 school year will begin in January. If you have questions about course selections, please see your current teachers. If you have questions about graduation requirements, see your counselor. Counselors will meet with every student to review the registration card and check graduation requirements. The registration card requires signatures from the academy head and parent; we will not accept any cards that do not have both signatures. Counselors will also be giving each student a Four-Year Plan form to complete during registration.

Information For All Students

Tutoring: If you need help in a class, first see your teacher. If you need more help go to Each One Teach One. Wednesdays during lunch in room 248; students in different honor societies tutor students. The George B. Thomas Saturday School meets at Einstein Oct. 2 through May 7 from 8:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. There is a $50 registration fee for the year. If you need more information or an application, please see Ms. Perez in the Counseling Office. You can also find information about the Saturday School on the MCPS website.

Edline: Use Edline to check grades, get work, see the class syllabus, and email a teacher. If you need edline account information, please see your counselor. Parents and students can have Edline accounts.

New Promotion Policy: MCPS adopted a new promotion policy this year, students must pass certain classes in order to move to the next grade level. See the chart on page 6 for more information.

Alumni Day

The Annual Einstein Alumni Day will be held Dec. 22.

Einstein graduates from the classes of 2009 and 2010 meet with Einstein students to share their college experiences. We hope to have 40 students from a variety of different colleges speak briefly, in an informal setting, and answer questions about the various aspects of college life. Mrs. Melissa Keller is organizing this event for the Counseling Department. If you know of any graduates from 2009 or 2010 who may want to volunteer, please have them call the Counseling Department at (301) 929-2220 or email melissa_s_keller@mcpsmd.org.

Did You Know…?

Mr. Monte is past president of the National Association of College Admissions Counseling and Chair, Regional Council for the College Board for Eastern United States and Chair, ACT Regional Counsel. He is a wealth of knowledge! Mr. Monte graduated from St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, with a degree in Latin and Greek and his master’s in counseling is from George Washington University. He is one of the founders of the Athletic Hall of Fame here at Einstein; they have raised over $20,000 for scholarships and improvements for athletics. Did you know he has been at Einstein since it opened on Sept. 7, 1962?

Ms. Waller is our Resource Counselor. She started at Einstein working in the math department. She is working on her doctorate in educational leadership and policy studies from the University of Maryland. Her undergraduate degree is in mathematics education, from Talladega College in Alabama. Her master’s in counseling is from Florida A&M University. Did you know she has been a vegetarian for six years?

Ms. Azcuna has worked at Einstein for nine years. She received her undergraduate degree in elementary education from George Mason University in Virginia and her masters in counseling from Bowie State University. She has been married for 26 years and has two kids (one at the UMD, College Park and one going to veterinary school in the fall of 2011). In her free time she sells Silpada jewelry. Did you know her mom works at Einstein too?

Ms. Karma is a licensed clinical professional counselor. She accompanies the AEHS chorus on piano. She went to Stetson University in Florida for her undergraduate degree in
music education and received her master’s in counseling at John’s Hopkins University. Did you know she is a singer/songwriter, with a CD coming out in January?!

Ms. Keller went to Jacksonville University in Florida for her undergraduate degree in early childhood and elementary education; she received her master’s in counseling from Johns Hopkins University. She did her counseling internship at Einstein, under the guidance of Mr. Monte. Did you know she ran in the Marine Corps Marathon on Oct. 31? It was her first marathon.

Mr. Stickler is one of our newest counselors; he worked at Northwood last year. Mr. Stickler received his undergraduate degree in psychology with a minor in business administration from Eastern University in Pennsylvania and his master’s in counseling from West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Before being a counselor, he ran group homes and was a realtor. Did you know he also works at Home Depot?

Ms. Young is one of our newest counselors; she completed her undergraduate degree in human development and early childhood education and master’s in counseling at Howard University. She comes from a family full of educators and completed her internship at Rockville High School. Did you know that while in college she was on the Division 1 women’s soccer team at Howard? Go Bison and Ms. Young!

Ms. Medina is our ESOL Counselor; she works at Einstein on Wednesdays and Fridays. She also works at Wheaton High School and Paint Branch High School. She received her undergraduate degree in social work and criminal justice at Andrews University in Michigan and her masters in counseling at Loyola College in Maryland. Did you know that Ms. Medina hates cold weather but loves to go skiing?

Homework Hotline Live!
On the Air and Online

Back for its 25th season, Homework Hotline Live! (HHL) connects students in all grades with MCPS teachers who can assist with homework questions. This season, it will be easier than ever for students to ask their homework questions through a phone call, text message, email, or Facebook post. And with a two-hour format, more students can receive help from teachers. HHL is produced by MCPS TV.

The show—broadcast on Comcast Channel 34, Verizon Channel 36 and RCN Channel 89, and streamed live at AskHHL.org—airs from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Important Dates to Remember

SAT Administration: Dec. 4
Financial Aid Night: Dec. 8 at 7:00 p.m.
ACT Administration: Dec. 11
Alumni Day: Dec. 22
Deadline to register for Jan. 22, 2011 SAT: Dec. 23
Gates Millennium Scholarship application deadline is in January.

Here’s how students can get their homework questions answered:
- Phone: (301) 279-3234
- Text message: send questions to (724) 427-5445
- Website: www.AskHHL.org
- Facebook: Search for “Homework Hotline Live.” Click on the thumbs-up “like” button. Post a question on the wall.
- Email: question@AskHHL.org

Work on the Quantum Quest

Are you interested in helping to foster school and family communications? Do you enjoy finding out what’s happening at AEHS? Like to coordinate and edit? Interested in building your resume to add experience using Microsoft Publisher?

Then the Quantum Quest team is for you! Contact Emily Ellenbogen or Kathy Carroll at aehsnews@yahoo.com for more information.
MCPS PROMOTION POLICY

All students must earn 22 credits in specific content areas and meet the Maryland High School Assessment (HSA) graduation requirements to achieve a Maryland diploma. In order to earn the required credits and graduate in four years, students should complete the four HSA courses prior to their senior year.

The chart below indicates the minimum number of credits each student must earn to be promoted to the next grade level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>End of:</th>
<th>Total Credits Needed for Promotion to Next Grade</th>
<th>Mathematics Credits in Required Courses</th>
<th>English Credits in Required Courses</th>
<th>Science Credits in Required Courses</th>
<th>Social Studies Credits in Required Courses</th>
<th>Other Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 10</td>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>(15)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 12</td>
<td>(22)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Join Einstein’s Email Lists and Stay Connected

**AEHS Discussion**
At this virtual gathering place, you can trade tips about tutors, remind each other about upcoming events and deadlines, and clarify Einstein rumors. Einstein staff members join in, too, letting you know about important programs, services, and activities. To join, send an email to einsteinhs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

**AEHS Bulletin**
You’ll receive only email announcements from the school and parent groups on this list. Members cannot reply to or post messages unless they are authorized “posters” for a particular group. To join, send a blank email message to aehs_bulletin-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.
In recognition of their exceptional achievement on Advance Placement Program® (AP®) exams through May 2010, 88 Einstein students earned AP Scholar Awards. This is 21 more scholars than AEHS had last year. The College Board’s Advance Placement Program provides motivated and academically prepared students the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school. Students can earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP exams. About 18% of the 1.7 million students worldwide who take AP exams performed at a sufficiently high level to earn an AP Scholar Award.

Casey Drogin and Benjamin Jonas have been recognized as National AP Scholars for receiving an average grade of at least 4, on a five-point scale, on all AP exams taken, and grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

Seventeen students earned the AP Scholar with Honor Award by having an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are:

- Virginia Anderson
- Lena Ayechemi
- Ian Bradley
- Guangrong Chen
- Rose Donohue
- Xena Dreyfuss
- Ziv Dreyfuss
- Alicia Escoto
- Pyry Koivula
- Jacob Lourie
- Quoc-Tuan Luu

Forty-six students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams with grades of 3 or higher. The AP scholars are:

- Charles McGady
- Miguel Resendiz
- Benjamin Rivers
- Nathaniel Ruby
- Gamliel Sassoon
- Gary Vargas
- David Amaya
- Kelsey Anderson
- Toni Birdsong
- Peter Boyd
- Emily Bragg
- Lara Brenne
- Andrew Ceruzzi
- Alishah Cobblah
- Karen Crisostomo
- Nicholas Dja-jagomulja
- McCaul Durkin
- Fariha Fatima
- Arielle Gantt
- Zoe Goozner
- Drew Hairston
- Molly Hickman
- Timothy Higgins
- Susan Hillis
- Conor Jackman

More Einstein Students Earn AP Scholar Awards

- Jennifer Jolles
- Gabriel Katzman
- Ryan Keating
- Ryan Klein
- Monica Larravide – Goodson
- Dan Patrick Leano
- Griffin Lerner
- Jiayi Li
- Kevin Mbemba
- Tyler Morris-Harrington
- Joan Nguy
- Cat-Han Nguyen
- Timothy Padilla
- Helen Ploussiu
- Zane Polston
- Erica Reyes
- Jacqueline Richa
- Michelle Richmond
- Tanya Saleh
- Sumit Sharma
- Ashley Thurmond
- Hannah Thurmond
- Andrew Tucker
- Andrew Turow
- Farida Uddin

Quantum Quest

Albert Einstein High School
PTSA

President: Ellen Sands
Editors: Emily Ellenbogen, Kathy Carroll
aehsnews@yahoo.com
Deadline for the Jan./Feb. issue is Jan. 10.
AEHS
Ineligibility Analysis, as of 4th quarter 2009-10
By Gordie Brenne

Most Students Finished This Year Stronger than Last Year

Overall ineligibility was 28% for the fourth quarter of the last school year, better than the rate the year before, but up slightly from the third quarter. Year-over-year improvements were achieved for all grades except for juniors. Hispanic students showed the biggest year-over-year improvements followed by African American and IEP students.

The overall freshman ineligibility rate was better than the rate for last year’s fourth quarter (30% vs. 36%), but slipped from previous quarter (27%). The closely-watched ineligibility rate for true freshmen (28%, excluding repeating freshmen) was higher than the true freshmen rate last quarter (24%), but still better than would have been predicted by the incoming share of freshmen at risk due to poor middle school grades (33%). Repeating freshmen had a 68% ineligibility rate, worse than the third quarter (64%), but when blended with the true freshmen rate yields the combined freshman rate of 30%. Rates for true freshmen are monitored to adjust for intervention strategies because performance in the first year often determines later success. In total, there were seven more ineligible freshmen than the third quarter, and most of these were true freshmen.

Grades for sophomores improved slightly over a year ago, but decreased from the third quarter. Grades for juniors were down from a year ago and the third quarter. Grades for seniors improved over a year ago, but slipped from the third quarter. In total, eight more sophomores, five more juniors, and six more seniors became ineligible since the third quarter.

Hispanic students’ ineligibility rate of 37% was their best fourth quarter rate in two years, continuing a positive trend. Since Hispanic students comprise 43% of all students, they also had the largest share of fourth quarter ineligibles—57%. However, that represents an improvement over their overall share of ineligibles from the third quarter (59%). The difference between their share of students and their share of ineligibles is their “eligibility achievement gap.” African Americans had the second highest ineligibility rate (31%), but their share of total ineligible students (27%) was close to their share of students (24%), indicating that their ineligibility achievement gap continues to remain stable. African American and White students showed improvement in grades over last year’s fourth quarter. Asian students did slightly worse than a year ago and in the third quarter; the decline was six more ineligible students. IEP students did better than a year ago, and declined only slightly from the third quarter. Their share of total ineligibles was close to their student share (15% vs. 14%).

This data is preliminary and subject to change as parents appeal grades and Loss of Credit. MCPS has repealed the Loss of Credit policy beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Attendance still makes a difference in student performance, and the school has replaced the Loss of Credit policy with new policies for unexcused absences. You should discuss unexcused absences with your student’s teachers. You may help your student by discussing to change his or her attendance pattern, improve performance on class assignments, and follow school policies and procedures.

How To Make a Difference

Again, talk with your student’s teachers to get ideas about how to improve performance. Make sure your student is taking advantage of the intervention programs offered by the school for any subjects your student is struggling with. These range from lunch time sessions with teachers to after-school and Saturday programs. Talk to your guidance counselor if you have any questions. For school-wide issues, the PTSA and African American Parents Group also have ideas that may help and would be pleased to answer questions: (Ellen Sands, PTSA President; Virgie Barnes, Black/African American Parent Council, nikonay@msn.com).

Observations:

Objective- Reducing ineligibility is one goal of MCPS and AEHS. MCPS uses the ineligibility rate to measure how
effective instructional programs are at increasing attendance and promotion, and in reducing drop outs.

Measure- The ineligibility rate is the percent of students with a GPA less than 2.0, or two or more failing grades or losses of credits. It is the only overall measure of student performance covering all grades and all students. Data shown for 4th quarter is preliminary and subject to grade and loss of credit appeals.

Demographics- The overall 4th quarter ineligibility rate is 28%, better than last year’s 31%. Hispanics had the highest rate this quarter (37%), but did better than the last two years. Since Hispanic students comprise 43% of all students, they also had the largest share of total 1Q ineligibles (57%). The difference between the Hispanic share of students and share of ineligibles is the “eligibility achievement gap.” American Indians also had a high ineligibility rate, but represent only three students. African Americans had the second highest rate (31%), but this was better than the two preceding years. Their share of students (24%) was close to their ineligible share (27%), indicating that their ineligibility achievement gap continues to remain low, a positive trend started last year.

Grade Level- Freshmen and sophomores were tied for the highest ineligibility rate (30%). However, when just first-year freshmen are considered, true freshmen had an ineligibility rate comparable to other grades (28%), continuing a positive trend started this year. This is far better than the risk analysis of incoming freshmen would have predicted for this year, since 33% were classified at risk based on their 8th grade grades. The ineligibility rate for seniors worsened in the fourth quarter, going from 22% to 24%, but was still the lowest rate of all grade levels.

Interventions- Interventions for Math, Reading, Biology and Government have been implemented to improve Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and High School Assessment pass rates. Many teachers are available at lunch time and after school to help.

Extracurricular Safety Net- School sports are the oldest, largest and most well funded eligibility program. Frequent grade monitoring by coaches continued with spring sports and resulted in 12 of the 13 teams maintaining 100% eligibility at the end of the 3rd quarter (for an overall eligibility rate of 99.5%). Other extracurricular activities can be just as effective at helping kids maintain their eligibility. The after-school YMCA program helped 15 students achieve eligibility in the third quarter.
Shopping Helps Our School

Make a donation to Einstein without putting out any extra money!! Just do your regular shopping. If you haven’t already done so, please sign your Giant, Safeway and Target cards to benefit Einstein High School! For those who have, thank you! When you sign up, these corporations contribute a percentage of your purchase totals to our school.

Sniders is a little different. The physical receipts are collected, tallied and submitted.

Each fall your card must be re-registered for Einstein to benefit.

GIANT – Visit www.giantfood/aplus.com, and click on Register your card, to designate our school for benefits. Einstein’s ID # is 00831.

SAFeway – Safeway/EScrip: visit www.escrip.com and click on the check mark to "renew my card". Einstein’s code is 6651547.

TARGET – If you have a Target Visa card, visit www.target.com, at the top go to redcards, then under Rewards and Benefits on the left side, click on Take Charge of Education- click enroll.

Einstein’s ID # is 58091.

SNIDERS - Bring your supermarket receipts to school. They go in the PTSA mailbox in the office and PTSA takes care of the rest. Or, send receipts directly to Joanna McCully at 10411 Amherst Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902.

Thank you very much! If you have any questions, please contact Joanna McCully at mccullyjo@verizon.net or (301) 649-3724.

MCPS QuickNotes

Interested in getting the latest scoop about what’s happening in Montgomery County Public Schools?

Subscribers to QuickNotes receive a monthly email newsletter with the latest news and information about programs and activities for students, links to helpful publications and interesting Web sites, plus emergency announcements.

To subscribe, go to http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/quicknotes/welcome/english/ and enter your email address.
College Fair a Success!!

“It was a great event – extremely well organized and attended. We look forward to participating in the future.” -- “I had fun, see you next year!” -- “Thank you for having us. It was a great event! Count on Loyola next year! My compliments also to whoever arranged for the food. It was terrific.”

Based on these comments from some of the college representatives, this year’s College Fair was another informative and fun night! And everyone wants to come back. If you and your student missed it this year, plan on attending next year. This opportunity to chat with representatives from 100 schools all in one night comes to your school once a year. It is like having these folks in your living room, and they like our students.

We ask students to sign in by school name and grade, so I can assess total numbers from year to year. From the people who signed in we had the following numbers:

—Einstein students: 277 in 2010; approximately 200 in 2009.
—151 Seniors, 194 Juniors, 62 8th, 9th, and 10th graders and 3 Einstein alumni.

I am glad the overall number is up from last year, and the number of Einstein students is up as well.

We had students from all over the county, with Montgomery Blair High School sending the second largest pool of students.

This was the first year we had a book swap for AP and SAT study guides. People brought in books they were finished with, and folks gearing up for this year’s tests picked up the books they needed. This was so successful, we had one book left at the end of the night, and that went to the Career Center.

A big thank you goes to the school administration, including Ms. Jasper and her fabulous connected phone calls; all the parent volunteers; the student ambassadors; Ms. Ligon; Ms. Lanning, the Career Center counselor; Mr. Seaforth, the business manager; and anyone else I may have forgotten. I want to especially thank my team – Angila Gordon, Debbie Klein and Sue Miller – you ladies rock! I am truly happy to be a part of this community.

Cindy Frank

Peer Tutors Available

Each One Teach One peer tutoring has started! We have 20 tutors signed up for peer tutoring in 11 subjects. These tutors are National Honor Society students or student ambassadors who were recommended by a teacher.

We meet every Wednesday at lunch time in Room 248.

Here’s how it works:

1. Students may drop in on Wednesdays with the homework or class assignment and get on-the-spot help.
2. Students may request tutors by seeing me in room 164 or signing up on my door.
3. Parents may request help for their child by contacting me at (301) 962-1034.
4. Teachers may contact me with names of students who need help, and I will match them with a tutor.

Eva Sullivan
Academic Intervention
Eva_K_Sullivan@mcpsmd.org
MCPS Parent Academy Classes

MCPS offers the following free classes. You can register online at www.mcpsparentacademy.org; by phone at (301) 517-5940; by fax at (301) 279-3815; or by mail to Parent Academy, Department of Family and Community Partnerships, 850 Hungerford Dr., Room 50, Rockville, MD 20850. A downloadable flyer is available at http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/departments/parentacademy/0253.11_ParentAcademyFlyerFALL_ENGLISH.pdf.

Understanding Mental Illness: Learn how to recognize and understand the early warning signs of mental illness in children and adolescents, and find out about links to community mental health services. Presented by the National Alliance on Mental Illness, Montgomery County. Tilden Middle School, 11211 Old Georgetown Rd., Rockville. Dec. 8, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Let’s Get Organized!: Assignments, projects, schedules, papers, activities, and more—good organizational skills are important for learning. Help your child develop organizational skills that will increase academic success. Presented by Peer2Peer Tutors. Carver Educational Services Center, Auditorium, 850 Hungerford Dr., Rockville. Dec. 8, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

The Academy of Finance Albert Einstein HS

Pinning Ceremony

The Academy of Finance held its Pinning Ceremony on Nov. 29 at 8:30 a.m. in the High School Auditorium. This ceremony was to recognize and honor Academy of Finance students who had completed their paid internships in a career-related field. This brings them one step closer to program graduation in the spring of 2010. It was also designed to thank the internship sponsors for taking time from their busy careers to assist in the education of the students at Albert Einstein HS.

The following students were recognized at the ceremony: Michael Adam, Victor Benitez, Bibhiam Cabral, Yessenia Clary, Sesia Cruz, Trang Do, David Guerreiro, Miriam Hernandez, Ashis Khadka, Rolando Kwan, Bonita Linton, Andre Marques, Jessica Marquez, Maria Moreno, Indah Namira, Odelys Payano, Cristian Pelayez, Joseph Richa, Merlyn Rivera, Walter Rodriguez, Marco Sanchez, Jamil Shah, Sumit Sharma, and Christina Williams.

Montgomery County Teachers In-School Bank (MCT ISB)

The goal of the MCT ISB partnership with Albert Einstein is to create a robust student banking program that assists in the development of personal finance and job skills for high school students. Our In-School Branch offers a unique way for students to set themselves apart from their peers, develop workplace skills in their school environment, build relationships with professionals, and develop the confidence and rapport of a first-time employee.

We encourage students, faculty and staff to take advantage of the In-School Bank located on Main Street and open Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch.

The Titan Hut

The Academy of Finance is running and operating the Titan Hut every day after school from 2:10 to 2:30 p.m. outside the gym lobby. There is an assortment of snacks and beverages from which to choose. We appreciate your support!!

Delmer Padgett III
Acting Business Resource Teacher
Academy Head for Finance and Visual and Performing Arts Choral Music
YMCA Offers Workshops and Classes

The YMCA is offering the following workshops and classes. For registration and information: call (301) 229-1347, email parenting@ymcadc.org, or visit www.ymcadc.org.

Free Library Workshops, donations appreciated.

Ten Reasons Children Don’t Succeed… and Eleven Things Parents Can Do

Come to this parenting skills workshop to discover common pitfalls of parenting that deprive children of the opportunity to succeed with daily tasks of living. Parents will learn strategies for helping kids become more confident, courageous, capable and caring.

Mon., Jan. 10, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m  Silver Spring Library, 8901 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring

Helping Kids Deal with Anger

Anger is good for identifying problems but not good for solving them. This workshop addresses ways parents can help their children recognize early warning signs and develop strategies for dealing with their anger in a positive way.

Wed., Jan. 12, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Rd., Bethesda

Parenting Without Threats and Bribes (two locations)

Parenting tools will be the focus of this how-to workshop. While the use of rewards and threats in disciplining may be effective in controlling behavior in the immediate situation, over time it can decrease mutual respect in the relationship. Come learn alternative approaches.

Mon., Jan. 24, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. White Oak Library, 11701 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring.

Dealing with a Strong Willed Child

Do you sometimes feel your child is more determined, more sensitive, more argumentative, more volatile than others? Come and learn how to turn these strong characteristics into positive attributes and make day-to-day family living more tranquil.

Tues., Jan. 25, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda

Helping Kids Deal with Anger

Anger is good for identifying problems but not good for solving them. This workshop addresses ways parents can help their children recognize early warning signs and develop strategies for dealing with their anger in a positive way.

Thur., Jan. 27, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Long Branch Library, 8800 Garland Ave, Silver Spring

Parenting Classes

Family Anger Issues (four sessions plus snow makeup day)

This class will help parents understand their own and their family members’ intense feelings. Topics include:

Parent-child issues: power struggles and emotional outbursts
Child-child issues: sibling rivalry, dealing with conflicts.
Looking for patterns and creating strategies for change
Prevention strategies: trigger thoughts, temperament issues

Required text, available first night: $20; class fee: $30.

Tues., Feb. 8 – March 15, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. YMCA Ayrlawn Program Center, 5650 Oakmont Ave., Bethesda

Parenting Teens

A down-to-earth and practical way to meet the challenges of raising teenagers. The group discussion format teaches skills to help improve parent/teen relations; develop teen self-esteem and self-reliance; and promote responsible teen behavior at home, school and in the community.

Required text, available first night: $20; class fee: $30.

Thu., Feb. 3 – March 10, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. United Church of Christ, 9525 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring

Parenting Children

Parents will learn to identify the purposes of a child’s misbehavior and develop effective discipline and encouragement strategies for positively redirecting these behaviors. Skills include: Developing effective consequences, structuring choices, and ending power struggles.

Required text, available first night: $20; class fee: $30.

Tues., Feb. 8 – March 15, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. YMCA Ayrlawn Program Center, 5650 Oakmont Ave., Bethesda
School Closing Procedures

Contributed by Mrs. Lopez

Winter weather emergencies, such as snow and ice, may cause disruptions in school operations, including the closure of school, a delayed opening, or an early dismissal. The county uses the following procedures when such disruptions occur. Also included is information about plans that could add days to the end of the school year if schools are closed more than four days due to weather emergencies.

Closure of School

When schools are closed systemwide, all instructional programs and extracurricular activities in schools are canceled. Private day care providers in school buildings may elect to stay open if the schools are closed but the administrative offices are open. In extreme conditions, administrative offices also may be closed. If this occurs, private day care programs located in school buildings are closed as well.

Delayed Opening

A delayed opening means that schools open two hours later than scheduled. All buses operate on the same delayed schedule and, therefore, the pick-up times are two hours later than normal. Parents should continue to check for radio, television, or Web announcements in the event a decision to delay the opening of schools is reconsidered and a decision to close schools for the day is made (by 7:00 a.m.).

Early Dismissal

An early dismissal means that schools will close 2.5 hours earlier than scheduled. All buses operate on that same early schedule and, therefore, drop-off times are 2.5 hours earlier than normal.

Public Announcements

Information about school operations is announced publicly as soon as possible on area radio and television stations, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Cable TV (Comcast Channel 34, Verizon FIOS Channel 36, RCN Channel 89), Outlook, on the Internet at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org, and on a recorded telephone message at (301) 279-3673. Emergency email announcements are available by signing up for MCPS QuickNotes on the school system’s home page. If schools are closed or delayed, the announcement is made no later than 5:00 a.m. (or the night before if possible). If schools are closing early, the announcement is made by 11:00 a.m.

Emergency Weather Contingency Plan

An emergency weather contingency plan will add student instructional days to the end of the scheduled school year if schools are closed more than four days because of weather emergencies. The planned school year for students ends on Thurs., June 16, 2011. However, if schools are closed for more than four days due to weather emergencies, the following schedule would extend the school year in order to add the necessary make-up days:

1. If schools are closed for five days, the school year will be extended by one day to June 17, 2011.
2. If schools are closed for six days, the school year will be extended by two days to June 17 and June 20, 2011.
3. If schools are closed seven days, the school year will be extended by three days to June 17, June 20, and June 21, 2011.
4. If schools are closed for eight days, the school year will be extended by four days to June 17, June 20, June 21, and June 22, 2011.
5. If schools are closed nine days, the school year will be extended by five days to June 17, June 20, June 21, June 22, and June 23, 2011.

Weather Conditions and Decisions

The school system uses a variety of sources of information to determine whether to close schools, delay the opening of schools, or dismiss schools early. These sources include actual physical inspection of road and school conditions by transportation officials and other staff at areas throughout the county, and an analysis of independent reports from the National Weather Service, Accu-Weather, and the news media. The most severe weather conditions within the county are used as the basis for decision-making. Consistent procedures are maintained in order to respond quickly to emergency weather conditions and protect the safety and well being of students.

All public schools within Montgomery County adhere to the same schedule concerning emergency weather conditions. The decision to change school
Cierre de Escuela

Cuando las escuelas del sistema escolar deben permanecer cerradas, todos los programas de enseñanza y las actividades extracurriculares en establecimientos escolares se cancelan. Las guarderías privadas en establecimientos escolares pueden optar por permanecer abiertas si hay cierre de escuelas, siempre y cuando las oficinas administrativas se mantengan abiertas. En casos extremos, podría ser que las oficinas administrativas también deban permanecer cerradas. Si eso ocurriese, las guarderías privadas que operan en establecimientos escolares también deberían cerrar.

Demora en el Inicio de la Jornada Escolar

Una demora en el inicio de la jornada escolar significa que las escuelas abrirán dos horas después de su horario habitual. Todos los autobuses escolares observarán ese mismo cambio de horario y por lo tanto recogerán a los estudiantes en sus paradas regulares dos horas más tarde del horario habitual. Cuando las escuelas elementales abren más tarde de lo habitual, los siguientes programas quedan cancelados por ese día: las sesiones de la mañana de Head Start de media jornada, prekinder-garten y otros programas especializados o excursiones escolares programadas para antes de las 10:30 a.m. (por ejemplo, la sesión de la mañana en Thomas Edison High School of Technology). Las actividades que comienzan después de las 10:30 a.m., se realizan según lo programado. Las sesiones de prekindergarten de la tarde comienzan en su horario habitual. Las clases de jornada completa de Head Start mantienen el mismo horario que los demás programas de jornada completa. Los padres deberán estar atentos continuamente a los anuncios que se transmiten por radio, televisión y a través del Internet, en caso de que sea necesario modificar la decisión de abrir las escuelas más tarde y en cambio se deba decidir cerrar las escuelas por todo el día. De ser así, se anunciará la decisión a las 7:00 a.m.

Cierre Antes del Horario Habitual

Cerr ar las escuelas temprano significa que las clases finalizan dos horas y media antes de su horario habitual. Todos los autobuses escolares observarán ese mismo cambio de horario y por lo tanto dejarán a los estudiantes en sus paradas regulares dos horas y media más temprano del horario habitual. Cuando las escuelas elementales cierran temprano, los programas de prekindergarten y otros programas para los niños más pequeños quedan cancelados por ese día, como así también cualquier otro programa especial o excursiones escolares programadas para después de las 10:30 a.m. Los estudiantes de la sesión de la mañana de prekindergarten y de la sesión de la mañana de Head Start de media jornada se retirarán de la escuela a la misma hora que los estudiantes que cursan desde kindergarten regular hasta el Grado 5.

Anuncios Públicos

Información acerca de las operaciones escolares se anuncia públicamente cuanto antes posible, a través de las estaciones de radio y televisión, por Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) TV por Cable (Canal 34 de Comcast, Canal 36 de Verizon FIOS, Canal 89 de RCN), Outlook, por Internet ingresando a www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org y por mensaje telefónico grabado, llamando al teléfono 301-279-3673. Se pueden recibir anuncios de emergencia por correo electrónico, suscribiéndose al boletín informativo QuickNotes, en la página principal de MCPS, y a través del servicio de cor-

Estimados Señores Padres/Guardianes:

Las emergencias por mal tiempo durante el invierno, como ser cuando cae nieve o hielo, pueden causar alteraciones en las actividades escolares, incluyendo el cierre de escuelas, demoras en el inicio de la jornada escolar o cierre de las escuelas antes de su horario habitual. Esta carta proporciona información acerca de los procedimientos que se deben seguir en casos como los anteriormente mencionados. También proporciona información sobre el plan de emergencia por inclemencias del tiempo, el cual sumaría días adicionales de instrucción al final del ciclo escolar regular, en caso que las escuelas deban cerrar por más de cuatro días a causa de una cantidad excesiva de días de emergencia debido a tiempo inclemente.
Plan de Emergencia Por Tiempo Inclemente

Un plan de emergencia debido a tiempo inclemente sumará días adicionales de instrucción al final del ciclo escolar regular, si las escuelas deben permanecer cerradas por más de cuatro días debido a tiempo inclemente. El ciclo escolar regular para los estudiantes está programado a finalizar el día jueves, 16 de junio de 2011. Sin embargo, si las escuelas debiesen cerrar por más de cuatro días por inclemencias del tiempo, el ciclo escolar será extendido para aumentar los días que sean necesarios para recuperar los días lectivos perdidos, como se indica a continuación:

Si las escuelas estuviesen cerradas por cinco días, el ciclo escolar será extendido por un día, hasta el 17 de junio de 2011.

Si las escuelas estuviesen cerradas por seis días, el ciclo escolar será extendido por dos días, que serán el 17 y el 20 de junio de 2011.

Si las escuelas estuviesen cerradas por siete días, el ciclo escolar será extendido por tres días, que serán los días 17, 20 y 21 de junio de 2011.

Si las escuelas estuviesen cerradas por ocho días, el ciclo escolar será extendido por cuatro días, que serán los días 17, 20, 21 y 22 de junio de 2011.

Si las escuelas estuviesen cerradas por nueve días, el ciclo escolar será extendido por cinco días, que serán los días 17, 20, 21, 22 y 23 de junio de 2011.

Las Condiciones del Tiempo y las Decisiones

El sistema escolar utiliza diversas fuentes informativas para determinar si se deben cerrar las escuelas o si se debe demorar el inicio de la jornada escolar o cerrar las escuelas antes de su horario habitual. Entre estas fuentes se incluye que funcionarios de la oficina de transporte y otros miembros del personal de las diversas áreas del condado inspeccionen personalmente y verifiquen las condiciones de las rutas y de las escuelas, y que efectúen un análisis de los informes independientes provenientes de National Weather Service, AccuWeather y demás medios noticiosos. Para tomar las decisiones referentes a las condiciones climáticas se utilizan como base los lugares más severamente afectados dentro del condado. Se mantienen procedimientos sistemáticos para responder rápidamente a condiciones de emergencia debido a tiempo inclemente, para así proteger la seguridad y el bienestar de los estudiantes.

Todas las escuelas públicas de Montgomery County se rigen por el mismo horario en cuanto a condiciones de emergencia por mal tiempo. La decisión de modificar las actividades escolares es responsabilidad del superintendente de escuelas o una persona designada por el superintendente y esa decisión afecta a todas las escuelas del sistema escolar.

Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA)

The Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations serves 189 local PT(S)As and their over 50,000 parents, teachers and people in our community who, through advocacy, support the mission of PTA:

- to support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental agencies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
- to assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect children;
- and to encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of the nation.

Like every PTA, MCCPTA is a membership-driven organization:

- Every local PTA's president and two delegates each have a vote in our assembly;
- Issues of concern to the membership are the focus of our monthly programs;

MCCPTA cluster coordinators serve as a link between local PTAs linked
to a high school (a cluster) and the council, sharing information on issues of local and county-wide import.

Committees within MCCPTA work with clusters, local PTAs, Montgomery County Public School staff and local, state and national sources to provide current information and make recommendations to our assembly regarding advocacy positions they may wish to adopt.

Once the membership has adopted a position, local PTAs, council officers, chairs and cluster coordinators all work to advance that position.

MCCPTA also works to strengthen each local unit by facilitating the sharing of information and experience and providing leadership training in such areas as:

- The National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs
- Building the Home-School Partnership Resource Notebook developed in conjunction with MCPS
- Advocacy as Focused Persuasion
- Organizational Structure and Supports - from by-laws to Robert's Rules
- Goal Setting.

There are no restrictions on membership, any person can join. To learn more about PTA, please read What is PTA? If you want to be a voice for children, contact a school near you and ask to join their PTA!

Important Links from Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)

- 2010-2011 School Calendar: http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/calendars/
- Sign up for text and email alerts: http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/emergency/sources/alertmcps/
### November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Early release day, K-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving holiday, no school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### December

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Instrumental Winter Concert and Art Exhibit, 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Alumni Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Deadline to register for 1/23/11 SAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>No school: Holidays and Winter Break</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### December, cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>PTSA Meeting, 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Second Marking Period ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Maryland High School Theater Festival, 9 am—7 pm, Auditorium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>No school, Professional Day for Teachers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### January 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>PACE meeting, 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Boosters Meeting, 7 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>No school; Martin Luther King Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The Montgomery County Public Schools Web site is
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/