



**TOGETHER WE MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE**

North Carroll Middle School

# The Panther's Tale

Volume 12, Issue 2

October/November 2011

James R. Carver  
Principal

Robert J. Lenz  
Assistant Principal

## Principal's Message

***Our Mission  
Recognizing the  
characteristics of  
young adolescents,  
North Carroll Middle  
School is dedicated to  
providing all students  
with a quality  
education.***

Parents,

I want to thank you on behalf of the PTO on the amount of enthusiasm the students showed in raising funds for our school. I heard a lot of chatter about attending the skating party in November. The money raised goes directly back to the students in a variety of ways.

This new school year has gotten off to a positive start. The students are now into their routines of attending classes during the day and completing homework in the evening. At the beginning of the year, they were encouraged to set goals for themselves. Be sure to ask your child their goals for this school year.

Home Access Center is available to parents through the county website. You are able to view current grades and student information only, such as addresses, phone numbers, emails and student schedules. There are also features to have daily attendance and weekly grade reports emailed directly to you. This is a great way to keep communication open regarding your child's education.

Also, in October our sixth grade students will attend Outdoor School. This is an exciting time for our students to make real life connections to the environment. They will learn to become aware and to appreciate how we, as humans, interact with and how we can protect our environment and the many living plants and animals in our community.

There has been a very strong showing of volunteers in our building during the first month of school. Thank you for your support! The success of our school revolves around the partnership between students, teachers and parents. We hope to see many parents visiting during American Education Week, please see our article on page two.

Sincerely,

James R. Carver

### Inside this issue:

SGA News	2
PTO Information	2
American Education Week	2
Student Service Learning Absence Notes	3
6th Grade Events 7th Grade Activities Change of Residence	4
Media Center News	5
NCMS Calendar of Events	6

## SGA News

We welcome Mrs. Kristi Reppe as a co-advisor to our NCM SGA organization. She brings with her years of experience as an advisor and as a student member of SGA. We are looking to have several fundraisers this year as we like to help many organizations meet their needs. In October we will kick off our annual Food Drive to help feed the Hungry Kids in our community. Please consider contributing can goods and non-perishable items.

Congratulations to our new executive board for the 2011-2012 school year:

President – Colin Piper

Vice President – Andrew Boone

Secretary – Sam Getty

Treasurer – Lauren Cremens

Historian/Sargeant@Arms – Ethan Bare



SGA meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month from 2:30 – 4:00 pm in room 209. We have four scheduled CCSGA meetings at Carroll Community College, the first one will be held on October 14. MASC will hold its Middle School Leadership Conference on Friday, October 21 (schools are closed on this date.) If any SGA member is interested in attending please see Mrs. Blank.

## PTO Information

### Did you know?

Did you know that you can donate your Coke Reward Points to North Carroll Middle School? Log onto **my-cokerewards.com**, look for "Donate Points to Schools," and scroll down to find North Carroll Middle School. Enter the code found on all Coke products including Dasani water. You can donate all or some of your points. The PTO will be redeeming these points to obtain new equipment for our Physical Education department.

## American Education Week

American Education Week is celebrated in November of each year. American Education Week will run from November 14 through November 18 this year.

We believe the cooperation and hard work of parents, educational staff, community members, and area businesses help make NCMS a great public school for each of our students.



Parents are cordially invited to visit the school on Tuesday, November 15, Wednesday, November 16, or Thursday, November 17 during American Education Week to visit your child's classes. For safety purposes, we ask that you please visit during the hours of 8:30 am to 2:00 pm to avoid traffic jams with buses.

Your visit sends a strong message to your child that you value his/her education. We hope you will be able to join us.

# Student Service Learning

Service learning combines service to the community with curriculum based learning. All CCPS students must complete 75 service learning hours to graduate from high school. Students can begin earning service learning hours the summer after they complete fifth grade.

A description of the Service Learning graduation requirements are outlines on page 58 of the CCPS Informational Calendar.



Students can earn 10 service learning hours after successfully completing Outdoor School, and they can earn another 10 hours by completing an approved environmental project at home. Students can also visit **www.volunteercarroll.org** to get information about service learning opportunities. Parents are encouraged to visit the site to check out volunteering opportunities. What better way to show your son/daughter about the value of helping others than through your example. Students need to complete a Reflection Form to get credit for their hours. The Reflection Form and a pamphlet describing service learning are available in the main office. Mr. Craig Giles is NCMS's Service Learning Coordinator. Students can contact him if they have questions about the program.

Students who earn a minimum of 300 service learning hours by May 1 of their senior year in high school will receive the Exemplary Service Award and will receive a certificate upon graduation.

Visit our web page at:

<http://www.carrollk12.org/ncm/>

## Absence Notes

You need to contact the school to provide a reason any time your child is absent from school. You may send in a note, call the school and ask for Ms. Cosden, or you may send an e-mail to the school at [ncmattendance@carrollk12.org](mailto:ncmattendance@carrollk12.org). Please note that if the school does not receive a note within five days of your child's return from the absence, the absence is marked "Unlawful."

Thank you for your cooperation.

## Borrowed Lunch Money



Please remind your child that if he or she borrows lunch money from the school office they must pay it back the next school day. We have limited funds available to lend to our students, and if they do not pay back in a timely manner we will not have the money available to help other students.

## Sixth Grade Events

Sixth Grade students will attend Outdoor School during one of the following weeks:

- October 10 - 14 - Team 1 (2/3 of team)
- October 17 - 20 - Team 1 (1/3 of team) and Team 2 (1/3 of team)
- October 24 - 28 - Team 2 (2/3 of team)



Students will participate in the Maryland State Police DARE program during the following dates:

- October 3 - 14 - Team 2
- October 24 - 31, November 7-8 - Team 1

DARE stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. Maryland State Trooper Clinton will teach students lessons to help them make the right choices about alcohol, tobacco, and drugs so they can stay safe and healthy. A graduation ceremony will follow each of the programs.

## Seventh Grade Activities

Teams 3 and 4 have had their first team activity on Friday afternoon, September 16th. Students and teachers alike enjoyed the afternoon. Everyone attended the first activity, and participation in subsequent team activities will be earned based on academic progress and behavior.

Teams 3 and 4 have their first field trip planned to go to the National Aquarium in Baltimore on Friday, October 28th. Any parents interested in chaperoning should make sure they have attended a volunteer training at least 10 school days prior to the trip. A list of volunteer training dates is posted on the CCPS website. We will be leaving at 8:30 am and return by 2:15 pm. We will be touring the Aquarium and attending the dolphin show. Students will not be permitted to leave the Aquarium during the field trip. Students will need to bring money to purchase lunch at the Aquarium. No food is allowed to be brought in to the Aquarium.



## Change of Residence

If you should move during the school year, you will need to bring in a proof of residence so we can update our files. A proof of residence can be in the form of a signed lease or rental agreement, settlement agreement, receipt utility bill for service delivered to the residence, and/or a signed contract on a home being built. If you have any questions with another form that you may have, please call the Guidance Office for assistance.

# Media Center News

## Fall Book Fair

The whole school is excited about our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair taking place on October 10th until October 14th. An amazing selection of books is headed our way!

At the Book Fair you will find the latest and finest titles for students. Every student will have an opportunity to visit with his or her ELA class. Mark your calendar for our Family Book Fair night which is Thursday, October 13th from 3:00 pm – 6:30 pm.

The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone excited about reading. See you there!



## On-line Databases

Randomly surfing the Internet for valid information can be a time consuming and difficult task. Encourage your child to take advantage of the many On-line Databases to which the Media Center subscribes. These databases are available to your student at school, and they are available for home use too. These databases are authoritative sources that provide a wealth of valid information.

### **World Book Online**

www.worldbookonline.com

User Name: ccps09

Password: media09

### **Student Resource Center**

<http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/hamp60152>

User Name: panther

Password: panther

### **SIRS Knowledge Source**

<http://sks.sirs.com>

User Name: ccpsms

Password: middle

### **Culture Grams**

<http://online.culturegrams.com>

User Name: ncarrmid

Password: ncarrmid

## Media Center Blog

The Media Center is proud of its Blog about Books!

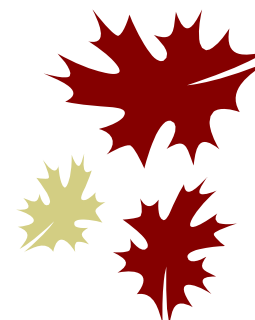
[http://blogs.carrollk12.org/ncm\\_media/](http://blogs.carrollk12.org/ncm_media/)

This is a wonderful resource for students to grab ideas about books to read. They can even see what books faculty and staff are reading. Your student can become a contributor to the blog and share thoughts about what he/she is reading by picking up an informational sheet and filling out a permission slip from the Media Center. Visit the blog and see what the excitement is all about.



# NCMS Calendar Of Events

<b>OCTOBER</b>	
3	2 Hours and 45 Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide
5	Parent Conferences, 3:00-6:30 pm
10—14	Book Fair, Media Center Outdoor School, Team 1
11	School Pictures
12	SGA Meeting, 2:30-4:00 pm
13	Parent Conferences, 3:00-6:30 pm Family Book Fair Night , 3:00-6:30 pm
17—21	Outdoor School, Teams 1 and 2
21	Schools Closed for Students
24—28	Outdoor School, Team 2
28	7th Grade Field Trip to the National Aquarium
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
2	SGA Meeting, 2:30-4:00 pm
3	Two Hours and 45 Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide
14	Two Hours and 45 Minutes Early Dismissal System-wide
15—18	Vision and Hearing Testing
16	Parent Conferences, 3:00-6:30 pm
23—25	Schools/Offices Closed—Thanksgiving Holiday
28	School Picture Retakes
30	8th Grade Field Trip to Career and Technology Center



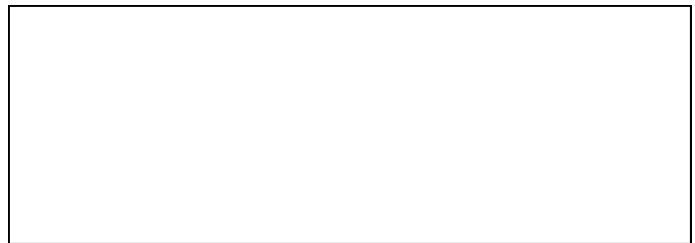
## North Carroll Middle School

2401 Hanover Pike  
Hampstead, MD 21074

Phone: 410-751-3440  
Fax: 410-751-3464  
[www.carrollk12.org/ncm](http://www.carrollk12.org/ncm)

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**Together We Make A  
Difference**



### NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ancestry or national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The CCPS provides nondiscriminatory access to school facilities in accordance with its policies and regulations regarding the community use of schools (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts). The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Gregory J. Bricca  
Director of Research and Accountability  
125 North Court Street  
Westminster, Maryland 21157



### CCPS MISSION

The mission of Carroll County Public Schools is to ensure that every student can thrive as a responsible citizen in a changing world by providing rigorous and challenging curriculum in partnership with quality staff, caring parents, and supportive community members.