

About the Newsletter

High Expectations is a publication of the Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC). It is published and distributed quarterly as a tool to help keep members, schools, and community organizations informed, motivated, and inspired to act in positive ways to support students and our schools in closing the minority achievement gap in Fairfax County Public Schools.

Send comments to the following:

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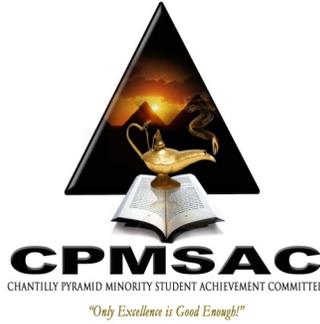
or

Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee
P.O. Box 221351
Chantilly, VA 20153

For more information, go to www.cpmsac.org.

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High Expectations

www.cpmsac.org

Volume 5 Issue 1

MARCH 2014

30 YEARS AND GROWING HOW WE GOT STARTED AND WHY WE KEEP GOING

Dr. Johnny L. Nelson, President CPMSAC

SAW A NEED: To help solve the academic achievement gap problem in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) and in our nation

See this photo.

HAD A VISION: The photo personifies how the late Shirley Oliver Nelson formulated the vision for CPMSAC. Early one morning in 1984, the vision came to her to put a "Lamp of Learning Statute" on the top of a host of trophies our young daughter had won during numerous talent contests. The trophies would then be awarded to minority students as a means to congratulate some and encourage others to maintain or improve their academic achievement in school.

PUT THE VISION INTO ACTION: Living in Fairfax County, one of the wealthiest counties in the nation with a nationally ranked school system, Shirley believed that an organization of parents working in partnership with the schools and community could help minority students improve their academic aspirations and achievement and thus help close the achievement gap. So, with the consent of her church, she convened a meeting of parents at Chantilly Baptist Church and founded The Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC).

KEPT GOING AND GROWING: Over the past thirty years, CPMSAC has evolved from an ad hoc church committee to a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt community-based non-profit organization with an all-volunteer executive board and over 100 members yearly. With the contributions of many dedicated workers, CPMSAC has received numerous public and private sector accolades and awards and continues in its mission to support, motivate, and recognize minority students (African Americans and Hispanics). A past FCPS Deputy Superintendent said in his 34 years in public education, "I've never seen an organization that had the power to make the impact that CPMSAC has." Please visit our website, www.cpmsac.org, for a description of our hallmark and emergent programs and activities. To keep it real, CPMSAC and educators across our nation still face many challenges to resolve the academic achievement gap between minority and non-minority students. Therefore, CPMSAC resolves to keep going and growing so as to accomplish our mandate and to pursue our goal of helping to eliminate the academic achievement gap. With the same resolve, may Schools, Students, Parents, Communities, and our Nation continue to partner with us in this steadfast quest.



BOARD MEMBERS

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Coordinators

Dr. Rosalind Blunt
Newsletter Editor

BECOME A MEMBER OF CPMSAC

CHANTILLY PYRAMID MINORITY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Membership Application

\$25.00 Per Family, Per Year



Please join CPMSAC today or if you are already a member, please re-new your membership for the next year – July 1, 20__ through June 30, 20__.

Your membership and/or donation will help support our community's most precious resource "Our Children."

Your donations and/or membership application may be mailed to:

CPMSAC, P.O. BOX 221351, CHANTILLY, VA 20153 OR JOIN ON-LINE AT www.cpmasac.org.

PLEASE PRINT

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	NEW	RENEW	PHONE #

PARENT'S E-MAIL ADDRESS

HOME ADDRESS			
ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

CHILD'S/CHILDREN'S NAME(S)			
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	GRADE	SCHOOL

The Board of Directors requests your support in volunteering with one or more of the following CPMSAC programs:

There are many opportunities to serve with CPMSAC. Please check the activities you would like to volunteer in.

- Annual King Festival (February) _____, Annual Youth and Motivation Awards Program (June) _____,
- Enrichment Teach-In (April) _____, Fundraising (Year round) _____,
- Minority Student Achievement Parent Rep (School year) _____, Motivational Speaker (Year round) _____,
- Principals' Reception (October) _____, Shirley O. Nelson Golf Tournament (September) _____, Tutoring Programs (Sept.-May) _____

For additional information, please contact: Dr. Johnny Nelson, CPMSAC President at 703-968-2471

SPOTLIGHT ON CPMSAC'S STUDENTS - CONGRATULATIONS!



As a sophomore at Christopher Newport University, I have taken it upon myself to become fairly engaged on campus. In regards to academics, I am double majoring in Political Science and American Studies with minors in US National Security Studies and Philosophy of Law. As cumbersome as that may sound, I make time outside of my studies to play saxophone in the

marching band; lead a small group with the campus ministry, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship; and serve as a tour guide with the Office of Admission. As if that weren't enough, I am also proud to call myself a brother of the Kappa Delta Rho fraternity.

During the summer of 2013, I was afforded the opportunity to intern in the Law Offices of Karen Dunkley. During my time with Ms. Dunkley, I engaged in a rare hands on experience in the legal field. I have been considering law school as a potential avenue for post graduate study for a few years, and this experience gave me a first-hand understanding of this field. Perhaps, the most valuable part of the experience was that Ms. Dunkley did not treat me like an intern; she treated me like a colleague, teaching me how to effectively contact clients, manage a schedule of hearings, and perform legal research. My internship was spent in the courtroom rather than the copy room. This was undoubtedly one of the most enriching and insightful vocational interactions that I have experienced in regards to my career aspirations. My time with Ms. Dunkley has effectively shown me what to expect in this line of work and has given me a great friend and associate that I can turn to for advice and guidance.

By
William Morgan-Palmer
A CPMSAC Alumnus

For Enrichment Opportunities, see
<http://enrichmentalley.com>



Sophia Mau, an 8th grader at Rocky Run Middle School, received "Outstanding Interpretation" for her photography entry in the PTA Reflections contest.



James Mau, a 6th grader at Greenbriar East Elementary School, received "Outstanding Interpretation" for his photography entry in the PTA Reflections contest. He will move on to the next level of competition.

2013– 2014 Reflections "Believe, Dream, Inspire"

According to vapta.org, the National PTA Reflections program "encourages students to explore the arts and express themselves by giving positive recognition for their artistic efforts."

2013—2014 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Executive Board, General Membership, and Minority Achievement Rep Meeting
May 8, 2014

STEP Program Banquet - May 17, 2014
Chantilly High School

BITS Program Banquet - TBA

Annual Academic Awards and Youth Motivation Program - Middle and High Schools
June 7, 2014

Chantilly High School
4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly, VA

Annual Academic Awards and Youth Motivation Program - Elementary Schools
June 8, 2014

Brookfield Elementary School
4200 Lees Corner Road, Chantilly, VA

Strategic Planning Meeting
June 12, 2014

Summer Math Institute - July 22 - August
(Provided Funds are Available)

MEETING TIME AND LOCATION will be announced for Executive Board, General Membership, and Minority Achievement Representatives. We hope to rotate the locations of meetings among the schools. Some Executive Board Meetings will be by teleconference. Advance notices will be provided.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS



Office of Education Infrastructure Division (OEID) Launchpad
An Innovative Solution to Support the STEM Workforce of Tomorrow



NASA Internships, Fellowships, and Scholarships

For: High school students through doctoral students in STEM fields

Apply at: <https://intern.nasa.gov>



The Department of Education Internship

For: Students 16 years of age attending an accredited educational institution

Deadline: For Summer – March 15, 2014; Fall – July 15, 2014; Spring – November 15

<http://www.ed.gov/blog/2014/01/ed-now-accepting-applications-for-summer-2014-internships-through-march-15/>



UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY
LEADERS TO SERVE THE NATION

The United States Naval Academy Summer Seminar

For: High achievers who have completed their junior year in high school

Deadline: March 31, 2014, 11:59

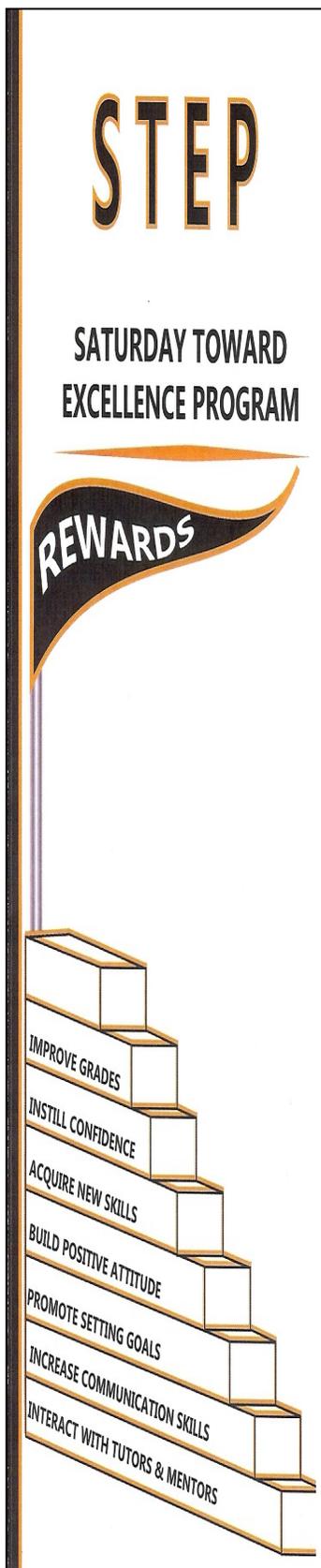
<http://www.usna.edu/Admissions/>

C-Tech2 - Computers and Technology at Virginia Tech

For: Rising junior and senior high school girls
June 29 - July 12, 2014

Deadline: March 25, 2014

<http://www.eng.vt.edu/ctech2>



STEP IS ON THE MOVE

By Barbara Tyler

2013-2014 School Year

STEP is a change agent helping students to improve their grades, develop more confidence in their ability to achieve academic success, and develop a positive attitude toward learning.

STEP has been providing tutoring service to students in third through twelfth grades for over 25 years at Chantilly High School to help students seeking improvement in various subjects.

- **Project BEST** continues to present STEM education one Saturday each month, and the students are enthusiastic to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math.
- **College Information Session** was held in January 2014. At that time, high school seniors serving as STEP tutors participated in an information session. The seniors shared their college plans, including colleges to attend, intended majors, and preparations for college success.
- **Book Club Café** continues under the instructor of Dr. Rosalind Blunt who helps the students to develop their reading and writing skills.
- **Spelling Bee Contest** is offered to encourage students to learn how to spell. The contest will be held in May. The winner will receive a trophy.
- **American History Contest** will be held in May. Middle and high school students will compete for the prize. The winner will get a plaque.
- **STEP Annual Banquet** will be held on May 17th to celebrate our students' accomplishments and to thank our tutors.
- **Summer Math Institute** will be offered during the summer of 2014 to give 7th and 8th graders a head start with algebra and geometry if funds are available.



Project BEST Workshop



Project BEST Workshop

Martin Luther King, Jr. Festival “50 Years Later – A Time for Reflection and Remembrance”

By Kim Graham

What a wonderful celebration CPMSAC had in January to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westfield High School hosted the event again this year with opening remarks from Principal Tim Thomas and CPMSAC President Dr. Johnny Nelson.

Our Masters of Ceremony were both juniors at Westfield High School, Joseph Grant and Evan Gray. The Centreville HS Wildcats, veterans of many MLK celebrations, opened the evening with the “National Anthem,” under the direction of Bill Burke. Edward Brient, our featured guest artist, sang two songs, “Amazing Grace” and “Make Them Hear You.” He has shared his gift with our audiences before, and we were delighted to have him return.

Colin Powell ES sang, “It Starts with Me.” Their director Estavia Rowe said, “If Martin Luther King, Jr. could visit our school, he would see his dream right before his eyes!” Bull Run ES String Ensemble under the direction of Heidi Solis and Kelly Butler-Noel performed “Believe.” The lyrics from the song say, “Believe in what you feel inside and give your dreams the wings to fly.” Their ensemble featured vocalists Lara Zanotti and Vy Vu, and they were accompanied by Eli Kirtley.

Charles Wolfer, a student from Greenbriar East ES sang “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” He believes that the song contains “a message of hope.” Ricky McGlothlin, a sixth grader from Lees Corner ES, did an inspiring reading of excerpts from Dr. King’s most popular speeches.

The Advanced Women’s Chorus from Franklin Middle School shared “I Dream a World” under the direction of Mrs. Naomi Schick, accompanied by Ms. Fran Tompkins.

Brother and sister, Sophia Mau (Rocky Run) and James Mau (Greenbriar East) performed a piano duet of “We Shall Overcome,” and they feel that the lyrics “are as powerful today as Dr. King’s profound message of equality and unity.” Brookfield ES 5th and 6th Grade Chorus under the direction of Ms. Dori Eggan and Steven Darling sang “There Has to Be a Song.” They said that the song “speaks about how the power of music comforts and inspires us through good times and bad.”

Praise in Movement Liturgical Dance and Mime Ministry joined us with their members comprised of both children and adults from Shiloh Baptist Church in McLean. They did a powerful dance interpretation to “Break Every Chain.”

The Westfield HS Step Team under the direction of Scott Burroughs brought added energy to the celebration. Evan Ayers brought Chantilly High School’s Chamber Chorale and Show Stoppers to entertain, too!

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Festival is able to keep this unique leader in our memories because of the talented performers, directors, stage crew, technicians, and all who continue to support this event!

Thank you all from the 2014 MLK Festival Committee – Brenda Johnson, Wanda Tanks-Gregory, Deneen Vaughn, Kim Graham, Joe Barr, and Sye Smith



Praise in Movement



Collin Powell Elementary Puma Choir



Brookfield Elementary Chorus

All photos reprinted with permission from
Centre View

Co-Sponsored by:



**SHIRLEY O. NELSON
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
GOLF TOURNAMENT
September 19, 2014**



Registration and Driving Range: 7:30 a.m.
Shotgun Start Time: 9:00 a.m.



Thank You:

To All of Our Great Sponsors,
Players and Volunteers



South Riding Golf Club

South Riding Golf Club
43237 Golf View Dr
South Riding, Virginia 20152
(703) 327 3673

Awards and Contests:

- Men's/Women's Longest Drive
- Men's/Women's Closest to the Pin
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Winners by Flight
- Drawings for Prizes and Gift Bags for all

Tournament Costs:

- To be determined for 2014 Golfers

Sponsor Levels:

- Title Sponsor: Company name/logo at prominent locations plus 1 Foursome: \$1000
- Platinum Sponsors: Company sign at selected key locations plus 1 Foursome: \$750
- Gold Sponsors: Company Sign at Longest Drive/Closest to the Pin holes: \$250
- Hole Sponsors: Company Sign at Tee, Green, Driving Range, Putting Green: \$100
- Program Sponsors: \$50

The Chantilly Pyramid Minority Student Achievement Committee (CPMSAC) is a nonprofit, community-based and family oriented organization designed to assist in closing the academic achievement gap for African American and Hispanic Students

Format: Best Ball/Captain's Choice
-Flights Applied at Conclusion of Tournament

30 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIPS

WWW.CPMSAC.ORG - "WHEEL" OF SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SERVICES

