

Maury UPDATE



Maury High School

Fall 2006

New Faces Smile and Serve Students

As students stream into the building each morning, **Debra Rocke** stands at a second-floor corner near

Room 205 with a walkie-talkie in her hand. Although she arrived here from Norview High to become a new assistant principal, she feels she is coming back to an old, familiar place. "It's like a homecoming," she said, after spending 20 years in the

Norfolk school system in a career that began at Maury. She began as a P.E. teacher here and she coached the girl's basketball team for about five years. She also taught the children of our current principal, **Michael Caprio**, and many who are now school system employees and friends. "It's like I never left," she said, although her role now puts her in charge of student services which

includes discipline and, well, discipline. "I also deal with parking issues," she said with a wide, ready-for-action smile.

Another new face at school is the ACCESS coordinator, **Cheryl Jones**. The ACCESS College Foundation is a regional non-profit organization that helps students apply for college and can often help pay application costs. (continued)



Debra Rocke

Assistant Principal for Student Services

Message from the Principal

Welcome to Maury High School and the 2006-07 academic year. It has been an exciting, busy and productive summer for the staff. We have registered students, developed and distributed schedules, hired new staff members, and planned many

activities for our students for the upcoming year. Also, we have seen the fruits of last year's labors as our school once again is fully accredited by the Commonwealth of Virginia and also has made "adequate yearly progress" (AYP), a designation

from the U.S. Department of Education. In addition to these credits, Newsweek magazine named

"We have seen the fruits of last year's labors . . ."

(continued)

Names and Numbers

Main Office
628-3344

FAX 628-3359

Guidance
628-3369

FAX 628-3361

Principal: Michael Caprio

Assistant Principals:

Lewis Hudgins

Denise Alberti

Anitra Walker

Holly Evans-Murphy

Debra Rocke

Athletics:

Ed Boyd, director
628-3357

Guidance:

Diane Feineis, director
628-0028

Karl Oelke,
student assistance
628-9176

Cheryl Jones, ACCESS
628-0030 cjones@accesscollege.org

Nicole Jackson,
transcripts 628-9170



Cheryl Jones
ACCESS Advisor

New Faces (continued)

In September, Jones was busy preparing college-prep binders that were handed to seniors at their assembly Sept. 20. She said when they were first offered last spring, “they went like wildfire.” The binders place valuable college application information and planning guidance into the hands of students, as well as their parents. Jones said she hopes to raise awareness of college planning through lunchroom promotions and other activities, even for 9th and 10th graders.

This year, freshmen met a new face and were introduced to their own corner of the school as the school launched its Small Learning Communities program. In a fourth-floor office, **Thy Nguyen** is a new counselor for freshmen who are now clustered “in the back,” as school officials and students are beginning to say. The back corners of the building’s third and fourth floors are reserved for four freshman clusters, each with 130 students. “It’s more personal. The students and teachers know each other a little bit better,” she said. She likes being in easy reach of students and has plans for small groups and new ideas to ease their transition to high school.



Thy Nguyen
Guidance and
Freshman Scholars

Brick by Brick

The Maury Foundation announces its **Brick by Brick** campaign to raise funds to provide scholarships for Maury graduates. For a \$100 tax-deductible donation, donors can have a name inscribed on a brick in honor or memory of a special person. The special bricks will line the stairway landing leading into the front of school. For information, call 825-6922.

From the principal (continued)

Maury one of the top 1,000 high schools (616th) in the nation. We have had this continued success over the past three years because of the hard work and support of our teachers, our students, and our parents.

One of the most exciting things that will take place this year is the implementation of the Freshman Academy for first-time ninth grade students at Maury. This Academy is the beginning of our efforts to create smaller learning communities (SLCs) for all students at Maury. We are fortunate to have a federal grant to support the creation and implementa-

tion of these SLCs. They are not, however, additions to our regular school program. SLCs are the way that Maury will be organized and run throughout upcoming years.

Time and space preclude me from giving a full description of our past, present, and future efforts involving the development and implementation of SLCs. You will find an insert in this newsletter that provides answers to questions that you may have. Please take a few minutes to read the insert titled the “Smaller Learning Communities Newsletter.” If you have additional ques-

tions, visit the school’s web site or give us a call or e-mail and we will be glad to clarify the information or answer any questions you may have.

Again, a big welcome to all of you! I know that 2006-07 will see the Maury tradition of excellence and equity moving forward!

Michael J. Caprio,

Principal

Maury High School

Philosophy Class Turns Lights Out to Open Minds

SOL instruction is valued by many as necessary, but for students in **Steve Earnhart's** newly introduced philosophy class, the “s,” “o” and “I’s are for Socrates, Plat-o and Locke, or others on a short list of renowned philosophers.

Moreover, Steve said that from time to time it doesn’t hurt to slide the

desks over to the walls, turn out the lights and engage juniors and seniors who choose this new and unusual elective in the meditative, mindful movements of Tai Chi.

Earnhart said Introduction to Philosophy, the first high-school level course in the area, seeks to develop critical thinking, clear writ-

ing and a fuller life of the mind. It will explore the major ideas and figures in Eastern and Western philosophy, from ancient times to the present.

“This course will deal with the big questions of philosophy and will assist students in asking their own questions,” he said.



Philosophy students follow video movements of Tai Chi

Sports

Show your Maury spirit by purchasing T-shirts, sweatshirts or mugs from the school’s **DECA Chapter**. Items are pictured at the booster association website and will be for sale at events. To order, e-mail Vanessa Smith, vsmith@nps.k12.va.us or call 628-9177.

NOTE: Athletic Director **Ed Boyd** announced that only one sports recognition banquet will be held this year. Plans are underway for an awards picnic in the spring for all athletes.

Published by the Maury

Last year the Maury Booster Association raised \$60,000 for grants to academic departments, clubs and teams. The club also makes payments to clubs and teams whose students volunteer at the Boosters’ two fundraisers, which are monthly fruit sales and a spring auction. Last year, 45 clubs and teams earned more than \$37,000 for everything from helmets for the lacrosse team to maps for social studies classrooms.

The boosters’ first fundraising drive is underway this fall. From November through March, citrus fruit will be sold monthly. You can order online starting in October or by calling 628-3349. Naval oranges, pink grapefruit and tangerines will arrive in November and December and may be picked up in the school band and orchestra room.

You can help support the school by purchasing at least one box of fruit and helping with the auction (slated for March 24) by donating an item, buying a sponsorship or attending the auction. You may share this information with friends and neighbors, as well.

Volunteers are needed for both fundraisers. Fruit pick-up volunteers work only two-hour shifts. Details are at the website, www.mauryboosters.org.

The Booster Association also pays for production and mailing of fall, winter and spring issues of Maury UPDATE, a school-to-parent resource.



- Sally Hartman, president*
- Fred Pittman and Susan Einhorn, vice presidents*
- Ann Morgan, corresponding secretary*
- Ellen Moss, recording secretary*
- Nick Georges, treasurer*
- Joy Hawkins and Seonyung Yoon, at-large members*
- Ann Burrows, UPDATE editor*
- Beth Bailey and Sheila Breeden, auction*
- Martha Ambler and Mary Ellen Triplett, fruit sales*
- Kay Godbout, volunteers*

Events

- **Maury Play: The Maury Drama Club will present "The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds" this month on Oct. 26-29. It is a four-women production. For info, e-mail scook@nps.k12.va.us**
- **Visit the sports zone at the Maury website for updated times and locations of athletic events.**
- **SAT tests: Students can register online at www.collegeboard.com**

College reps will provide juniors and seniors three opportunities this fall to meet with admissions staff. Many colleges and universities will be represented Oct. 30 at Virginia Wesleyan College, from 8 to 1, and Indian River High School, from 6 to 8. On Nov. 2 another fair will be held at Virginia Beach Convention Center, 5:30 to 8.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Senior photos	5	6 Interim grades	7
8	9 No School Conferences	10	11	12 Early Release	13	14 SAT Testing
15	16	17 PSAT Testing	18 School Board @7	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Maury Play @7	27 Maury Play @7	28 Maury Play @7 ACT Testing
29 Fall back Maury Play @3	30 College Fair	31				

Events

- **Senior Portraits** must be turned in to yearbook by Nov. 1. Photos will be in black and white and will look best with a medium-colored background. Girls must wear drapes and boys a tux or suit and tie. Photos will be available in June for return. Wills, baby pictures, senior quotes and personal ads are also due. Packets available in Rm. 421 at 6th bell.
- Fruit sales by **Maury Boosters** have begun, with the order deadline Nov. 6 and pick-up Nov. 17 at the orchestra room. Dec. 4 is the 2nd deadline and pickup is on Dec. 15. Navel oranges, pink grapefruit and tangerines are available. To check prices and order see www.mauryboosters.org
- **The Chorale** will perform its **Fall choral concert Thursday, Nov. 2 at 7 in the school auditorium.** Be sure to catch the **Holiday Choral Concert Thursday, Dec. 14 at 7.** The chorale will also be guests at the **Winter Orchestra Concert Monday, Dec. 20 at 7.**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	
			Choral Concert College Fair		SAT Testing	
5	6	7 No School	8	9	10 No School	11
	Fruit orders 628-3349	Teacher Records			Veterans Day	
12	13 No School	14	15	16	17	18
	Staff Development		Choral Concert Interim grades		Fruit Pick-up	
19	20	21	22 Early Release	23	24	25
	Under-class photos	Under-class photos		Thanksgiving	Holidays	
26	27	28	29	30		
	photo make-ups	Winter sports meeting @6:30				

Events

• Dec. 8

The **National Honor Society** will be hosting its annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday in the auditorium. You must be 17, weigh at least 110 and be in good health. For info, call 1-800-GIVELIFE, or check www.weneedblood.org

Please check the Maury website for specific times and any changes to calendar events.

To submit materials for the Maury Update, please give to UPDATE mailbox in office or send to mauryupdate@gmail.com. Deadlines are Sept. 8, Dec. 8 and March 9.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31			Happy Holidays		1	2 SAT Testing
3	4 Fruit orders 628-3349	5	6	7	8 Red Cross Blood Drive	9 ACT Testing
10	11	12	13	14 Choral concert	15 Fruit pick-up	16
17	18	19	20 School Board @7 Orchestra and Choral Concert	21	22 No School Winter Holidays	23
24	25 Winter	26	27 Holidays	28	29	30 (Return Jan. 2)

Kudos

An honorary flag pole stands in the children's garden at Norfolk Botanical Gardens for the hard work and commitment of the Maury ROTC unit, which donated more than 3,000 volunteer hours to raise a hefty donation for the garden project. About a dozen members of the unit also helped build the garden this summer, said CAPT. John Warren, senior naval science instructor.

Also, for the tenth consecutive year the Maury unit is named a distinguished unit with academic excellence.

Maury High School
PTSA[®]
everychild.one voice.

Join now

Brenda Horne is the new PTSA president. You can reach her at brendahorne@cox.net

Web Help for Parents:

You can monitor your child's grades and attendance via the web. Use the "parent access" feature of the NPS "eSembler" automated teacher grading system.

Tidewater Community College offers degree credits

The Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium services 31 high schools in the four school districts and four community college campuses. **Irene Mosenthine** of the Business Department at Maury said Tech Prep encourages students to achieve good grades at the high school level so they can transfer certain business classes directly to their degrees at Tidewater Community College. "Tech prep is an innovative approach linking high school, college, and career preparation with business and indus-

try," she said.

High School graduates may receive college credit for career and technical education courses taken in high school under an articulation agreement between the members of the Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium. Students earning a "B" or better in selected career and technical courses and continuing in the same course of

"High school graduates may receive college credit."

study may receive advanced standing at TCC if they enroll at within two academic years after graduation and in the same technical associate in applied science degree program.

Mosenthine invited interested students to complete a Tech Prep packet. She can be contacted by e-mail (techprep@tcc.edu) or through the school office. For more information, consult TCC's website. www.tcc.edu

Guidance

News

NPS has added useful features to its web pages.

Access the "Parent Resources" tab for information regarding diploma requirements, promotion requirements, scholarship and financial aid links. Also, check the guidance page at the Maury website for counselor contact information and for dates of visiting college representatives.

www.nps.k12.va.us

MAURY UPDATE
MAURY HIGH SCHOOL
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NORFOLK, VA 23517

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US Postage Paid
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Visit the Maury website: www.nps.k12.va.us
Select Maury High from the *Our Schools* menu.



It's Easy to Support Maury!

Harris Teeter's **Together In Education** program is a fund raising program for schools in our communities. Simply give the cashier your VIC Card and Maury's Together In Education number – **3993** - during checkout