



The mission of Montgomery Blair High School is to ensure that all students graduate equipped with the skills to navigate their chosen paths successfully.

Special Band Performance

The Symphonic Band, directed by Daryl Clark, gave a rousing Veteran’s Day concert November 9th, at the Margaret Schweinhaut Center in Silver Spring. Music included marches of each branch of the Service, and perennial favorites like “Stars and Stripes Forever”. Special guest at the concert was the Lt. Gov. of Maryland!

Academy of Entrepreneurship

On 11/12, Maryland State Comptroller Peter Franchot visited Blair to stress the importance of educating students in the field of financial literacy. Franchot and several guests visited Kevin Murley’s entrepreneurship class to speak with students and observe some hands-on learning. Murley, the lead teacher of the Academy of Entrepreneurship and Business Management, teaches the importance of managing personal and business finances in order to compose and execute successful business plans, and to avoid some of the financial pitfalls that have affected so many Americans in recent months. The visit was featured on the Fox 5 Evening News and will appear in next week’s Silver Spring Gazette newspaper. The visit was part of Franchot’s efforts to promote financial literacy education in all Maryland high schools.

Science Department

The 21st Annual Females in Science and Technology (FIST) Conference was held at Montgomery Blair High School on Saturday, 11/7. Over 170 7th grade girls from Montgomery County schools participated in the conference. The purpose of the conference is to provide students with an opportunity to explore several different fields of science and learn more about careers in science. The conference kicked off with a welcome by Megan Dieckman, the FIST coordinator, and keynote address by Dr. Carla Easter, the Educational Specialist with the Education and Community Involvement Branch of the National Human Genome Research Institute. Attendees then participated in 3 break-out sessions, chosen from a wide variety of science topics and fields. Sessions included: Learning how to cut plant stems in order to grow new plants with Leslie Backus, mining chocolate chip cookies to experience the mining process with Chris Brown, handling rare and ancient fossils from the private collection of Dr. Joel Cohen (scientist and Parkland science teacher), building robots with Ori Perl, Shelley Jin, and Ben Shaya (Magnet students), tracking and predicting hurricanes and tornadoes with Lawrence Hsin, and making flubber with Wenjing Chen, Wei Gao, Hongyi Xia and Angela Choi (Magnet students). Comments from students and parents were extremely positive. Parents commented that this was a wonderful way to supplement the science curriculum and help their daughters experience the possibilities of a career in science. The students thought it was not only inspiring and informative, but so much fun that some didn’t want the day to end!

Staff Stars

We’d like to congratulate this month’s Staff Stars and recognize them for going above and beyond the call of duty:

- Michele Gross - English
- Michelle Diekman - Science
- Jon Verock – Fine Arts
- Anne Manuel – Social Studies
- Rob McMahon - Phys. Ed
- Brenna Matthews - ESOL
- Mr. Pham - Magnet

Calendar Events

- **Monday, November 16 (ODD);**
- **Tuesday, November 17 (EVEN);**
- **Wednesday, November 18 (ODD);**
- **Thursday, November 19 (EVEN);**
- **Friday, November 20 (ODD);**
- **Monday, November 23 (EVEN);**
- **Tuesday, November 24 (ODD);**
- **Wednesday, November 25 (EVEN); Half day**
- **Thursday, November 26; No School - Thanksgiving**
- **Friday, November 27; No School Thanksgiving Break**