

Legenda

Latin for “things to be read”

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News, Notes & Needs of The Washington Latin Public Charter School – 05.06.10

### Word of the Week

The 'Word of the Week' is:

**manumit** \man-yuh-MIT\

*transitive verb*

1. To free from slavery or servitude.

Manumit comes from Latin manumittere, "to emancipate a slave," from manu mittere, "to release from control," from manus, "hand" (hence "power of control") + mittere, "to let go; to send." The noun form is manumission.

**In this edition of The Legenda:**

- Letter from Head of School, Martha Cutts
- Save the Date for Science Night!!! – May 18<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Association News
- Lion Sport Report
- Around Town



## I. NEWS

## **FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL**

### **Dates to Remember:**

Monday, 5/10 –Middle School Spelling Bee (changed from 5/3); 6<sup>th</sup> grade to Holocaust Museum

Tuesday, 5/11 – Final PA Meeting: State of School – Board of Governors President

Friday, 5/14 – 7<sup>th</sup> grade dance at Decatur; US Semi-formal dance at Washington Ethical Society;

Tuesday, 5/18 Science Night at Decatur

Thursday, 5/20 *Our Town* preview

Friday, 5/21 and Saturday, 5/22 *Our Town*

Wednesday, 5/28 Hafla for Arabic class and parents

**Wednesday, 6/2 Last regular day of class for grades 9 &10**

**Thursday, 6/3-Tuesday 6/8 Finals for grades 9 &10; last day of class for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades**

**Friday, 6/4 – Finals for grades 7 and 8 start**

**Tuesday, 6/8 – Last day of classes for grades 5 & 6; last day of exams for grades 7-10**

**Wednesday, 6/9 – Field Trips**

**Thursday, 6/10 and Friday, 6/11 Valediction Assemblies and Closing Ceremony (details to follow in the coming weeks)**

Dear Latin Parents,

I am delighted to announce that the Parent Association Ante Up fundraiser made a profit of \$19,600!! Many thanks to all who helped make this so successful.

I have a request of Middle School parents from the ANC Commissioner of the Upshur campus neighborhood. He asked that parents NOT use the 4000-4100 Arkansas alley. We want to be sensitive to the concerns of neighbors given the increased traffic in the area due to our presence at 4115 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Please drive carefully, slowly, and avoid the alley behind and parallel to the MEU.

FOCUS (Friends of Choice in Urban Schools) has launched a Fair Funding campaign to ensure equitable funding for public charter schools. They need our help to let key city officials know we don't support the inequities present in the proposed FY11 budget. Please read the following information carefully and do what you can to make your voice heard on this important issue.

### **THE REQUEST**

Please help by sending a message to your ward Councilmember, the at-large members, and the Chairman to state your support for:

increasing the facilities allowance from \$2,800 to \$3,235 per student, and

providing operating funds for DCPS and public charter schools equitably and in accordance with the law.

There are multiple ways to send the message to the Council:

**By Phone.** Call the Councilmembers at the numbers below to ask for their support of fair funding. See sample message below.

**By Email.** Email the Councilmembers to ask for their support of fair funding. Click on the link below or paste the web address in your email browser to send a customizable email message:

**By Mail.** Send a postcard to the Councilmembers at the numbers below to ask for their support of fair funding. We can deliver postcards to your school to distribute at a parent meeting or community event, and we plan to send teams of volunteers to a few elementary schools to ask families to complete postcards at drop-off and pick-up times starting this week.

**By Yard/Window Signs.** Put up a yard sign at your school and recruit families who live on high-traffic streets to put one in their yard or window at home to demonstrate support of fair funding. Visit [for more info](#) and to register online to request a yard or window sign.

**By Council Visits.** We will be coordinating visits to Councilmember offices over the next couple of weeks to reinforce the message. If you, a trustee, staff member, or parent have a relationship with a Councilmember or Council staffer, please let us know.

**THE MESSAGE: Fund All Kids Fairly!**

Dear Councilmember,

I am a DC resident, and I am concerned because the DC budget includes less funding for kids who go to charter schools than it does for kids who go to DCPS schools. There is no good reason that students in public charter schools should get less public money than students in the traditional public schools. Our students are counting on you. Please make sure that all DC students are valued equally and funded equitably no matter what kind of public school they attend.

**CONTACT INFO**

|          |                  |              |
|----------|------------------|--------------|
| Chair    | Vincent Gray     | 202 724-8032 |
| At large | David Catania    | 202 724-7772 |
| At large | Phil Mendelson   | 202 724-8064 |
| At large | Michael Brown    | 202 724-8105 |
| At large | Kwame Brown      | 202 724-8174 |
| Ward 1   | Jim Graham       | 202 724-8181 |
| Ward 2   | Jack Evans       | 202 724-8058 |
| Ward 3   | Mary Cheh        | 202 724-8062 |
| Ward 4   | Muriel Bowser    | 202 724-8052 |
| Ward 5   | Harry Thomas Jr. | 202 724-8028 |
| Ward 6   | Tommy Wells      | 202 724-8072 |
| Ward 7   | Yvette Alexander | 202 724-8068 |
| Ward 8   | Marion Barry     | 202 724-8045 |

With warm regards,



Martha C. Cutts  
Head of School

### **Save the Date for Science Night!!!**

On May 18 the Science Department will be hosting our first SCIENCE NIGHT at the Decatur campus from 5:30 to 8:00. We will celebrate science with food, activities, games, prizes and speakers from the local science community.

Please RSVP for this event so we can have enough activity supplies and food. To RSVP use the following link:

<http://www.evite.com/pages/invite/viewInvite.jsp?event=IMCYGJXJKAKOUESVVE&inviteId=MPIYULWRQBTCHAEVDGZV&showPreview=false&x=812765503>

In addition to enjoying a night of science we are fundraising for the Science Department by selling food. If you can donate food, beverages or utensils for the dinner, we would really appreciate the help. When you RSVP, please indicate what you are bringing in the drop down menu and the comment box.

We look forward to a great event and can't wait to see everyone there. Please contact Megan Hannon at [megan.hannon@latinpcs.org](mailto:megan.hannon@latinpcs.org) if you have any questions.

## **II. PARENT ASSOCIATION**

Dear Latin Parents:

The final PA meeting of this school year will be held, Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 6:30 pm in the Upper school library. Please try your best to attend. The Washington Latin Board will be present to present to the parent body as well as to answer your questions. Feel free to send your questions to me via email at [ccoleman@aamc.org](mailto:ccoleman@aamc.org) prior to the meeting.

Let's show our support of the school and place this date on your calendar and show up in record numbers.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Caroline Ford Coleman  
PA President

### **School Fundraising Programs**

As the school year starts to wind down, many of the programs are starting to close. For all the parents that registered their bonus cards with Safeway and Giant, used their Target cards for their purchases and used their Visa cards through eScrip...THANK YOU!!!

For all the Box Tops and Campbell's Labels clippers, THANK YOU, and please keep clipping and saving. There will be a classroom contest for the grade that brings back the most box tops at the beginning of the new school year!!

Below are the amounts the school has earned from each program (as of this date).

Box Tops For Education - \$153.00

Giants A+ Bonus Card - \$392.30 (37 people designated the school) – this program has now closed for the 2009-2010 school year.

eScrips (Safeway Card and other shopping) - \$140.78 (37 people designated the school)

TARGET – Take Care of Education - \$218.41 (11 people designated the school)

**TOTAL EARNED: \$904.49**

The Campbell's labels are being saved until we accumulate enough to make a substantial purchase through their catalog.

Next year we will add Harris Teeter to our list, go register for a VIC card and be ready when the program starts.

### **III. AROUND TOWN**

#### **Every Girl Can "Smart Image" Conference**

Calling all parents, teachers, caregivers and providers of girls in 5th to 9th grades

Please come to the 3rd Annual Every Girl Can "Smart Image" Conference on Sat. May 8th from 9:00 to 2:30.

Bowie State University - Thurmond Marshall Library

FREE for girls - \$15.00 for women

- Conference theme - Making a Difference - Boosting Your Image, Health and Wellness
- Workshops, activities and demonstrations, prizes and surprises
- Topics: Personal Image, Nutrition, Fitness, Leadership, Posture, Poise, etiquette, civility, self respect
- Panel Discussion for Women: Sexting, Cyber bullying, Communicating with your daughter
- Early morning mother- daughter walk and talk around the campus

Come out and be part of a day of fun and learning

Registration form is on the website [www.everygirlcan.org](http://www.everygirlcan.org) . Please complete the form and fax it to 301-680-2491

Contact Yasmin - 301-792-2276

Meet First Lady of Prince George's County, Leslie Johnson, Janice Freeman- Essence Award-Winning author and former guest on the Oprah show

## Meridian's 4th Annual International Children's Festival



**When:** Saturday, May 15th, 2010 from 10:00am-4:00pm

Kids World Cinema from 4:00-5:30pm

**Where:** Meridian International Center

1630 Crescent Pl, NW, Washington, DC 20009

**Admission:** \$10 per person (Group rate for 4+ people) \*Special discount for DCPS students & teachers

**Honorary Patron:** Mrs. Michelle Fenty

Meridian International Center is proud to partner with Cultural Tourism DC for the 4th Annual International Children's Festival. The Festival is a part of Cultural Tourism DC's Passport DC program for the entire month of May!

Participating Embassies: Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Brazil, China, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Senegal, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey, United Nations, and Zambia.

Participating Performance Groups: A.H. Dance Company, Batale Percussion Band, Paul Public Charter School, The O'Neill-James School of Irish Dance, Kofi Dennis and the Three Dennis Sisters, Raqs Jameel, Nomad Dancers, HoraDC, Halau O 'Aulani, Balaji Music Academy, Fairfax Chinese Dance Troupe, Swiss Alphorn, Escuela Argentina, Bolivian Dance Group, and the Washington DC Turkish Folkdance Troupe.

Meridian International Center is delighted to present the 4th Annual International Children's Festival, an educational fun-fair where embassies host interactive booths highlighting their country's rich cultural heritage with exciting displays, crafts, and other activities. With Mrs. Michelle Fenty, wife of DC Mayor Adrian Fenty, as Honorary Patron for the 3rd consecutive year, the Festival also offers a variety of global dance and music performances. Admission includes access to all performances and activities. Last year's Festival participants enjoyed painting Kente cloth (Ghana), making origami (Japan), and tasting delicious crepes (France)...just to name a few!

We hope you can join us at the International Children's Festival to 'travel the world in a day' without leaving DC!  
For more information visit [www.meridian.org](http://www.meridian.org), or email [kidsfest@meridian.org](mailto:kidsfest@meridian.org).

### **West Education Campus Spring Fling**

The 3rd Annual West Education Campus spring fling will take place on May 15 from 11 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The fair is free for West students, and lunch will be available at no cost. The fair is \$5 each for nonstudents and concessions will be sold. Takoma Theatre Conservancy is sponsoring a performance by Urban Artistry. There will be a moon bounce, dunk tank, face painting, basketball challenge and a petting zoo. Want to help with the planning of the festival? Please send an e-mail to [events@westschool.org](mailto:events@westschool.org) or call the school at 202-576-6226.

\*Save the Date: Ward 4 Family Fun Day will take place on June 19 at Lafayette Elementary School.

### **CHINESE STUDENTS NEED HOST FAMILIES**

Wednesday, July 14-Wednesday, July 28, 2010!!! Continue the learning process into the summer with an exciting and enriching international experience at home!! Host a student from China (ages 14-17) for 2 weeks in your home through the Compass USA homestay program being organized here in our area by Duke Ellington graduate and ESL teacher, Liz Falk.

This program has been connecting American families with students from around the world for 31 years! Students are selected to participate in this program by their school as a reward for meeting certain behavioral and academic criteria - including intense final testing to come on this trip. While here, the students participate in an organized program of academic classes, field trips and cultural activities during the week, with weekends free to be with their host families!

Students eat breakfast and lunch with their host families, but bring their own money for outings – the only cost is that of including another person in family meals! Sightseeing is not necessary, but up to the host family. Students I've talked to from past exchange trips always say their favorite activities are things like visiting Target and eating home-cooked "American" food!

Participants build life-long friendships, learn about China and the Chinese culture while your student learns about living in an American family! A wonderful experience for families with children of all ages!

For more information (or to sign up!) contact Liz Falk (202) 321-8760 or email [Liz.CompassDC@gmail.com](mailto:Liz.CompassDC@gmail.com). General website information on hosting a student: [www.compass-usa.net](http://www.compass-usa.net) (then click on the host families link).

### **IT Computer WIZKids**

The Ultimate Gaming PC class: You Build It, You Keep It

PC prices ranges from \$550, \$750 and \$1000

Students will learn about disassembling and reassembling a computer, understanding its components, and how to optimize their gaming experience. They'll also learn about hosting a multiplayer LAN party. I was so impressed by the children of the owner -- teenage boys with great business sense. They also offer an All Girls technology program.

Contact: 301-350-9499 or [www.ITComputerWizkids.com](http://www.ITComputerWizkids.com)



Presented by USTA/Mid-Atlantic in partnership  
with DC Department of Parks & Recreation

# BATTLE AGAINST OBESITY

**May 15, 10 am - 1 pm**

SPECIAL VIP APPEARANCES  
TENNIS DRILLS & GAMES  
ALTERNATIVE FITNESS  
NUTRITION TIPS  
HEALTHY SNACKS  
FREE GIFTS & PRIZES



MID-ATLANTIC



**For more information call:  
(703) 556-6120**

Address: Banneker Community Center Tennis Courts  
2500 Georgia Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001  
Call: (202) 673-6861 for directions

**See You at the Battle! Rain or Shine.**

