

# The Chalkboard

## CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 37 NUMBER 4

Elkton, Maryland

December 2024

### 2024-2025 OFFICERS

**President:** Mary Ellen Butkiewicz

**Immediate Past President:** Anne Humphrey

**Corresponding Secretary:** Joan-Marie Parker

**Recording Secretary:** Signe' Mika

**Treasurer:** Tony Mattern

Website: <http://www.cecilrspa.org/>

MD State Website: <https://www.mrspa.org/>

### FUTURE MEETINGS

Tues, December 17, 2024 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Tues, January 21, 2025 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am

Tues, February 18, 2025 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Tues, April 22, 2025 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am

Tues, May 20, 2025 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Elkton United Methodist Church  
219 E Main St  
Elkton, MD 21921



### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Looking around, it appears we are trading the beautiful fall leaves for bright colored Christmas lights. The holiday season begins earlier every year! As we draw near the end of the year, it's a good time to reflect on all the positive events in our lives. I joyously celebrated  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a century of living on this wonderful earth. Life is good.

This fall we had two members of our community honored. Barbara Buck, a vital member of CCRSPA, was inducted into the Maryland Sr. Citizen Hall of Fame. Brittany Rigon, teacher at the School of Technology, was honored as a finalist for Maryland Teacher of the Year. We are so proud of these worthy women as they represent our county.

A goal of our local association, as well as the state, is to increase membership. Our membership is holding at 255, but we would greatly like to increase this number. Reach out to any retired friends and encourage them to join us for our festive holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at Elkton United Methodist Church. We will enjoy the lovely selections of North East High School chorus and have the opportunity to support our service projects with the raffle proceeds.

Come and join us as we celebrate this joyful season.

MaryEllen Butkiewicz

# CCRSPA MINUTES – September 17, 2024

Our meeting was called to order by our president, Mary Ellen, at 11:25. Minutes were approved, and thanks were given for donations

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:** Paula Shelton thanked participants for donations. She has many deliveries to be made to the schools. The luncheon for Barbara Buck is in October. Congratulations, Barbara.

**CONSTITUTION:** Copies of the By-Laws were handed out to each table. Some changes have been made.

**LEGISLATION:** Linda Elwood reported that the committee met and made some changes. The members will meet again in January, then every other Tuesday after that.

**MEMBERSHIP:** We are currently at 252 members. Sherry Lewis is working with three retirees, hoping for membership increase. There is a lot of money being spent at the state level. One extravagance that was mentioned is the cost of redesigning the logo for 20,000 dollars.

**NOMINATING:** Nominations for positions will be done in February. In May, new officers will be installed. Officers and committee chairmen will take office in July 2025. We need a president, co-president, corresponding and recording secretaries, and treasurer.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** We were encouraged to keep our e-mail addresses up to date.

**PUBLICATIONS:** There are still 53 members receiving paper copies of The Chalkboard. The price of postage continues to rise. Gretchen will need any entries by November 18<sup>th</sup>. Bill Ide has graciously shown interest in taking over the Publications position in 2025.

**SCHOLARSHIP/MINI GRANTS:** There will be ten teacher mini grants of \$250 offered. Teachers will have until the middle of October to submit their plans.

**SOCIAL:** Our next luncheon will take place on December 17<sup>th</sup> at EUMC.

**TRAVEL:** By the time you read this, our world travelers will have returned from Scotland. The pictures on Facebook have been beautiful.

**PROGRAMS:** Maryann Yong once again entertained us with her talents. She asked that we spread the word of her performances to any organization who would be interested. We need suggestions for a high school program for our December luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Signe' Mika

## MEDICARE

Last month, the Board of Education sent out letters about retiree health coverage. If you received that information AND if you recently received an updated red, white and blue Medicare card, the BOE needs a copy of that card. The easiest way to do this is to email a photo of the card to [benefitsinfo@ccps.org](mailto:benefitsinfo@ccps.org). They only need to see the front of the card. Please check the letter dated October 14, 2024, if you have any questions. You can contact the Benefits office at 410-996-5415.

## CCRSPA OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### OFFICERS

<u>President:</u>	Mary Ellen Butkiewicz
<u>Past President:</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Corresponding Secretary:</u>	Joan-Marie Parker
<u>Recording Secretary:</u>	Signe' Mika
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Tony Mattern

### COMMITTEE

<u>Community Outreach:</u>	Paula Sheldon
<u>Education/Protective Services:</u>	Tony Mattern
<u>Legislation:</u>	Linda Elwood
<u>Membership:</u>	Sherry Lewis
<u>Nominating:</u>	Kay DiStefano
<u>Benefits:</u>	Bill Ide
<u>Programs:</u>	Mary McCleary
<u>Public Relations/Publications:</u>	Gretchen Ginder Bill Ide
<u>Scholarship:</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social:</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Sunshine:</u>	Debbie Pasco
<u>Website:</u>	Tony Mattern



## MINI GRANTS

Our mini-grant committee was happy to give a total of \$2,230 to eight teachers in November! We only had about one third of the applicants we had last year, and all seemed quite worthwhile, so we were able to fund every teacher who applied. The amount given varied from \$210 to \$270, with most receiving \$250. We had our first application from the Cecil County School of Technology. Since 2019, we have given \$6,330 to 32 teachers. To the right is a list of this year's recipients, their schools, and what they teach. Visit our website to see photos of the happy teachers receiving their checks!

- Char Metzger

## CCRSPA TREASURER'S REPORT

**BALANCE:** June 30, 2024 \$3,985.60

### Receipts:

Kids Personal Needs	\$547.00
Scholarship	\$337.00
Interest (from Checking)	\$0.95
Membership Dues	\$2,625.00
Luncheons/Meetings (Quarterly)	\$955.00

**SUB TOTAL INCOME** **\$4,464.95**

### Management and General Expenses

Postage	\$40.34
Supplies	\$36.53
Website	\$79.95

### Program Services

Kids Personal Needs	\$675.79
Luncheons/Meetings (Quarterly)	\$983.53
Programs for meetings	\$450.00
CCPS Teacher Grants	\$2,230.00

**SUB TOTAL EXPENDITURES** **\$4,496.14**

**Net Balance** **-\$31.19**

CD at Cecil Bank 06/30/2024 \$12,063.38

CD Interest – 5.18% \$128.97

**Balance on Hand** **\$16,146.76**



<b>Teacher</b>	<b>School/Content</b>
Christine Iaquinto	Charlestown/Art
Michele Hawkins	Leeds/Art
Dolores Wooddell	Calvert/Media
Christopher Casadonti	Bainbridge/GMES/Band
Elizabeth Money	CCST/Nursing
Christine Zatalava	RSHS/Stem Academy
Kimberly Dyar	RSHS/Media
April Fritts	PVHS/Avid

# DECEMBER LUNCHEON

Tuesday, Dec 17th

## Program - Holiday Music by NEHS Chorus

Our choral music will be provided by the Concert Choir from North East High School, under the direction of Mr. Andrew Cassell. This is Mr. Cassell's first year at North East High School. The Concert Choir has fourteen members and is an upper voice ensemble. Many of the students were accepted into the All-County Secondary Chorus.

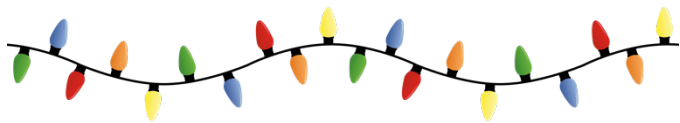
## Menu - Traditional Holiday Meal

Roasted Turkey  
Garlic Mashed Potatoes  
Stuffing  
Glazed Carrots  
Green Beans  
Rolls and Butter  
Pie/Cheese Cake

Did you know that we have a huge raffle at each luncheon with usually around 30 prizes! The raffle supports our service projects!

Payment will be at the door. Please pay by check or have \$25.00 in cash. Email or call by December 10, 2024. Reply to Shirley Montgomery at shirlnems@gmail.com or 302-731-5371

*IF YOU RSVP, THEN YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR LUNCH - EVEN IF YOU DON'T ATTEND.*



## Cecil County Mentors

cecilcasa.org  
(410) 996-3025

At Cecil County Mentors, we believe in the power of connection. We're more than just a mentoring program – we're a community dedicated to helping children, young adults, and families reach their full potential.

Join Us in  
Reinventing  
Mentorship and  
Empowering Cecil  
County's Future:

*One Family at a Time*



## SERVICE PROJECT

We are continuing our support of CCPS students by helping the nurses have needed supplies on hand in their school health rooms. Bring your donations to the luncheon! Items on their supply lists are:

- personal hygiene items
- snacks
- bottled water - small
- underwear
- gender-neutral sweatpants and tops



## TRIP TO SCOTLAND

We had a fantastic 11-day trip to Scotland. There were 21 of us and 2 Canadians joined our group in Glasgow.




We were fortunate to have very good weather while touring. Our guide took us along Lock Loman, to the Isle of Skye, through the Highlands and on to the Orkney Islands.

We visited the Eilean Donan Castle, Dunvegan Castle, Inverewe Gardens, Dunrobin Castle, and Edinburg Castle. Our group sailed on Lock Ness (no monster sightings), visited a 5,000-year-old village, and sheepdog demonstration where some of us helped shear a sheep. We visited pubs for dinner and stopped at a distillery for some Scottish whisky. We brought back some souvenirs as well as memories of a fantastic trip.



- Fred Metzger

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CCRSPA Donation</b></p> <p>(Please Clip and retain for your records)</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>\$ _____ Ck # _____</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Amount</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Kids Fund</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Fund</p>	<p><b>CCRSPA Scholarship or Kids Fund Donation 2024-2025</b></p> <p>Make check payable to CCRSPA, write "Scholarship" or "Kids Fund Donation" in lower left corner and mail along with this slip to:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Tony Mattern 160 Willard Drive North East, MD 21901-1631.</p> <hr/> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%; text-align: center;">Name</th> <th style="width: 40%; text-align: center;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of _____</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of _____</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Name	Amount	<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor of _____		<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of _____	
Name	Amount						
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 <p>Have nice things that you don't need/want/use anymore? If so, Mary McCleary wants to hear from you. She may be reached at 410-398-3556 or email <a href="mailto:mmcdairy@comcast.net">mmcdairy@comcast.net</a>.</p> <p>Purchasing Luncheon raffle tickets help support Kids Fund and the CCRSPA Memorial Scholarship. You may benefit as well as a child who receives a new coat or scholarship because your donation\$ are <u>tax deductible</u>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MOVING?</b></p> <p>Don't forget to update address and phone info!</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>New Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>New Phone # _____</p> <p>E-mail address _____</p> <p>Mail to:</p> <p>Sherry Lewis 4793 Telegraph Road Elkton MD 21921 or via email at <a href="mailto:chickeelewis@mac.com">chickeelewis@mac.com</a></p>
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