

The Chalkboard

CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 2

Elkton, Maryland

May 2026

2025-2026 OFFICERS

President: MaryEllen Butkiewicz
Immediate Past President: Anne Humphrey
Corresponding Secretary: Joan-Marie Parker
Recording Secretary: Cheryl Lee
Co-Treasurers: Anne Humphrey
Paul Humphrey

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Spring has had a hard time pushing through, but I believe it is finally here to stay for more than a few days. All around the earth is coming back to life and with it our spirits. Spring also brings several statewide meetings. I participated in the Presidents' Meeting on March 17, 2026. It's always good to hear what MRSPA is doing for the good of its members. Another state event is the MRSPA Annual Business Meeting on May 5, 2026 in Ellicott City, MD. Our delegates for this year are Kay DiStefano, Sally Haberl, Kathy Mullen, Linda Ellwood, and myself. Nominees for the Community Outreach Service Award will be honored at this time. We are honored to have Paul Humphrey as our nominee this year.

Dr. Debbie Chance, our area director, will be joining us for our luncheon on May 12. At this meeting we will get to view the wonderful projects our teachers designed for their students which were supported by our mini grants. Charlene Metzger has done an excellent job supervising this project for many years. A big thank you goes out to Kay DiStefano, Paula Sheldon, and Barbara Buck who have delivered supplies to 29 schools this year. Another big thank you goes to you, our members. We are a membership organization and it's our members that define CCRSPA. Your dues help support these activities. What a great way to show what Cecil County is doing to support our teachers and students.

You may know someone who is set to retire at the end of the school year. Bring them along on May 12 and let them see what good things are happening with CCRSPA.

Until then, respectfully yours,
MaryEllen Butkiewicz

FUTURE MEETINGS

Tues, May 12, 2026 - Luncheon 11:00 am
Tues, August 11, 2026 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am
Tues, September 8, 2026 - Luncheon 11:00 am
Tues, November 10, 2026 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am
Tues, December 8, 2026 - Luncheon 11:00 am
Tues, January 12, 2027 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am
Tues, February 9, 2027 - Luncheon 11:00 am
Tues, April 13, 2027 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am
Tues, May 11, 2027 - Luncheon 11:00 am

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



CCRSPA MINUTES – February 10, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 by President Mary Ellen Butkiewicz. Guests were introduced.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Humphrey gave his report and noted that \$1,358 was spent for the Kid's Fund so far this year. We made our annual donation of \$500 to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Community Outreach: Kay and Paula thanked everyone for their donations. They recently completed their final delivery of the school year. For the May 12th luncheon, please only bring non-food items since these items won't be distributed until the fall.

Nominating: Mary Ellen Butkiewicz has agreed to serve for another year, but we still have a need for the position of Co-President or President Elect for the 2026-2027 year.

Legislative: Linda Elwood reported there will be a state budget overview and an update on the state pension system. Stay tuned for more information.

Membership: Amy Ide reported that membership as of January 2026 is 241 members as compared to 246 at the end last year. Additionally, we have 20 local only members. Several of our members have passed away this year but we have added several new members to keep our membership steady.

Publications/Chalkboard: The Chalkboard is published 4 times each year. Our goal is to publish each issue at least two weeks prior to our scheduled luncheons. The deadline for May's submission is April 24th.

Benefits: Bill Ide reported that the Benefits Advisory Committee has two meetings scheduled this spring to review the benefits/healthcare needs of employees and retirees.

Luncheon Registration: Shirley Montgomery requests that members keep her informed of any updated email addresses.

Student Scholarships and Mini Grants to Teachers: Charlene Metzger reported that this year we awarded \$300 to 6 teachers and \$150 to 1 teacher. Since 2019 we have awarded over \$8,000. You can check out photos of our recipients on the website. Each year since 1987, our organization has had the privilege of helping future teachers reach their goals by awarding scholarships. This year we are offering 2 - \$1500 scholarships and the deadline for receiving applications is April 19th. To date have given 60 recipients a total of \$53,950.

Sunshine: Reminder to please send names of anyone you might know who needs a card of support.

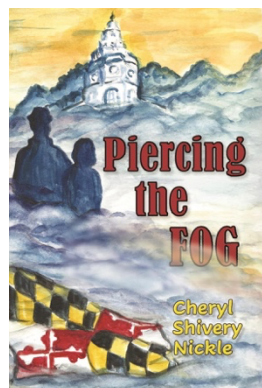
Travel: Fred Metzger reported that all information for the June 2026 cruise to Bermuda is on the website.

Website: Tony Mattern requests that any changes or corrections to the website be sent to him.

Program and Raffle: Cheryl Shivery Nickle, a local author and former NEHS teacher shared her new novel Piercing the Fog.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45. Respectfully submitted, Amy Ide (for Cheryl Lee)

Scenes from February's Luncheon



MAY LUNCHEON

Tuesday, May 12th - 11:00 AM

Elkton United Methodist Church

MENU

Fire grilled Boneless Chicken breast or
Baked Tilapia with Vidalia onion sauce,
Garden Salad, Dutch Country Potato salad,
Fresh fruit tray, Brownies/Cookies
Coffee, Tea, and Iced Tea

Payment will be at the door.

Please pay by check or have \$25.00 in cash.

Email or call by Monday, May 4th at 5pm.

Reply to Shirley Montgomery at:

shirlnems@gmail.com or 302-731-5371

Contact Shirley to inquire about special dietary needs.

Please be aware that if you RSVP, then you are responsible for the cost of your lunch even if you don't attend. We pay our caterer based in the number of lunches ordered.



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



SERVICE PROJECT

The Community Outreach Committee thanks each of you for your generous donations at our February luncheon. The school nurses often comment that they just ran out of whatever we happen to be delivering and are so thankful for the support from CCRSPA. We made a final delivery to 28 schools in April and our next delivery will be in the fall of 2026. Please consider picking up a few items to bring to our luncheon on May 12th.

The following are the most requested items:

Bottled water

Unisex sweatpants for children - size S, M, & L

Unisex sweatpants for adults - size S, M, L, & XL

Underwear - boys and girls - size 5 - 14

Underwear - women - S, M, & L

Thank you again for making such a difference in the lives of our CCPS students. Here are photos of a few happy nurses receiving the donations from CCRSPA.



CCRSPA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS 2025-2026

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<u>Community Outreach:</u>	Paula Sheldon
<u>Education/Protective Services:</u>	Tony Mattern
<u>Legislation:</u>	Linda Elwood
<u>Membership:</u>	Amy Ide
<u>Nominating:</u>	Kay DiStefano
<u>Benefits Advisory:</u>	Bill Ide
<u>Programs:</u>	Mary McCleary
<u>Publications - Chalkboard:</u>	Bill Ide
<u>Scholarship/Grants</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social:</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Sunshine:</u>	Debbie Pasco
<u>Website:</u>	Tony Mattern

Student Scholarships and Teacher Grants

Each year our organization has the privilege of helping future teachers reach their goals by awarding scholarships. We started this program in 1987, and as of 2026, there have been 62 recipients for a total of \$56,950. This year we are giving \$1,500 each to two young women. Isabelle Pierson is a graduate of NEHS. She will be a junior at Cecil College, majoring in Elementary Education. Madyson Potter, an EHS graduate, will also be a junior at Cecil College, majoring in Elementary Education. Both have been invited to our May luncheon.

We started giving grants to teachers in 2019. This fall we gave 7 grants. As of now, we have awarded grants to 39 teachers, totaling \$8,280. Teachers provide displays for us to share with you. Come to the May luncheon and see what we have helped them do with their students this year!

CCRSPA TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Balance as of January 1, 2026	\$5,305.47
Deposits since January 1, 2026	\$1,912.57
Expenditures since January 1, 2026	\$2,618.25
Checking Balance as of March 1, 2026	\$4,593.79
Certificate of Deposit as of 3/1/26	\$10,214.61
Balance on Hand	\$14,808.40

Change since January 1st

Contributions - Donations

Raffle <i>(not included in total)</i>	\$252.00
Kid's Personal Needs	\$286.00
Scholarship	\$526.00
Interest from checking	\$0.57
Membership Dues	\$20.00

Program Services Revenue

Luncheons – Meetings (Quarterly)	\$1,080.00
MRSPA Postage	\$0.00
Other Income	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,912.57

Expenditures

Management and General Expenses

Chalkboard	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$41.20
MRSPA Insurance	\$0.00
Postage	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00
Website	\$104.97

Program Services

Gifts (Social Committee)	\$0.00
Kid's Personal Needs	\$716.48
Luncheons (food and supplies)	\$958.55
Luncheons (donations for services)	\$150.00
MRSPA Scholarship	\$0.00
Parton's Imagination Library	\$500.00
Programs for Meetings	\$153.05
Scholarships	\$0.00
Teacher Grants	\$0.00
SUB TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,624.25

IN MEMORIAM

Charles "Chuck" Kasinec

1/10/1937 – 2/1/2026

Born on January 10, 1937, in Masontown, Pennsylvania, to the late Frank and Sophie Kasinec, Chuck lived a life defined by service, creativity, kindness, and devotion to family.

A passionate educator and respected administrator, Chuck dedicated decades to shaping young minds. He served for many years at Rising Sun High School in Maryland and spent over 35 years with Cecil County Public Schools in Elkton, Maryland, where he worked as both a teacher and principal at the junior and senior high school levels. His leadership, integrity, and genuine care for students and colleagues left a lasting impact on the communities he served.

<https://obits.hakyfuneralhome.com/obituary/charles-kasinec>

Susan M. Matkins

10/20/1961 – 2/20/2026

Born in Bowie, MD, on October 20, 1961, she was the daughter of Linda (Styles) Brantner, of Yakima, WA, and the late Robert Brantner.

She retired as a Guidance Counselor, employed at Cherry Hill Middle School and Gilpin Manor Elementary School. Susan spoke five languages: French, English, German, Spanish and Finnish. She enjoyed playing her guitar and clarinet and played in the Elkton Community Band.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/susan-matkins-obituary?id=60852742>

Frederick Charles McDonald

7/17/1952 – 4/11/2026

Frederick Charles McDonald, 73, of Chesapeake City, MD passed away on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Born in Elkton, MD on July 17, 1952, he was the son of the late Kenneth B. and Betty Williams McDonald.

Mr. McDonald devoted 26 years to teaching in Cecil County Public Schools, where he inspired countless students through history and economics. After leaving CCPS, he continued his passion for history as professor at Cecil College for 16 years. Mr. McDonald was an active member of First and Central Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, DE and the Maryland State Teachers Association, reflecting his lifelong dedication to both his faith and his profession.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/frederick-mcdonald-obituary?id=61245794>

Barbara Jean Radcliff (Borgese)

3/29/1948 – 4/28/2026

Barbara Jean Radcliff, 78, passed peacefully on April 28, 2026, at her home in Elkton, Maryland. Born on March 29, 1948, Barbara worked for the Cecil County school district as a respected substitute teacher for many years.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/barbara-radcliff-obituary?id=61392325>

It's *MRSPA Foundation* Raffle Time!

The MRSPA Community Service and Scholarship Committees provide tremendous support to students and staff in our schools across Maryland. Therefore, we are seeking **donations** to the *MRSPA Foundation* so that we can continue our work. Again this year, raffle tickets will be purchased solely through the MRSPA newsletter and through local association newsletters using the form below. All donations are tax deductible and come with our thanks and appreciation!

Your name will be entered into a drawing upon receipt of your donation based on this criterion: Donations of \$10 will earn 1 raffle ticket while donations of \$25 will earn 3 raffle tickets incrementally. MRSPA staff will write your name on the correct number of tickets and send your ticket stubs to you in the US Mail when we receive your check. The drawing will take place at the May 2026 Annual Business Meeting, whether held in person or virtually. You can win the \$300 cash first prize, a Maryland-themed basket valued at \$175 second prize, or one of 5 third place themed baskets valued at \$125: Cooking, Game Night, Wine Lover, Book Worm, and Sports Lover. Out-of-state winners will receive gift cards in lieu of basket contents.



Entering the drawing is fun and easy!

1. Make your **check payable** to **MRSPA Foundation**.
2. Write **MRSPA Foundation Raffle** on the FOR line.
3. Date and **sign** your check.
4. **Mail** check and completed form to:

MRSPA
8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A
Odenton, MD 21113
before March 20, 2026.



MRSPA Foundation

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

