



# The Chronicle

September 10-14, 2018  
Volume 2



**Staff Birthdays: Sept. 15:** Sidney Moore

**I Make a Difference Award:** All of us at Plaza Middle School make a difference in our own way. We make a difference with students, parents and other staff members, every single day. We would not be here if we did not want to make a difference. One Plaza staff member completely embraces this philosophy and it shows! This staff member works hard to ensure the students get the care they need when they are with her. She is always there for staff members, if they ever need her help. She worked tirelessly to ensure all of our rising 6th grader were Tdap compliant, not an easy task! This staff member truly makes a difference in our school. I would like to pass along the 'I Make a Difference Award' to our dedicated school nurse, Mrs. Nancy Chrobot.(Rose DeLumpa)

**Extra Money:** We need staff members to monitor Administrative Detention and Saturday School. Teachers earn \$30 for after school detention which runs from 4:10 to 5:40, \$60 for Saturday School which starts at 9:00 AM and ends at 12:00 PM. Please contact Mr. Walton if you are interested in the administrative detention or Saturday School opportunity and/or have questions.

**Sponsor Needed:** Please Mrs. Wydra know ASAP should you be interested in sponsoring the Robotics Challenge (there is a \$1500 stipend). Plaza has had a team every year and we would like to continue this opportunity for our students.

**Fire Drill:** A fire drill will be conducted on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at 9:30 AM. Ensure you review exit routes and protocols with your Bell/Block 1 class.

**Push-In/Support Services:** This is a reminder that if you need a “push-in” from an administrator/counselor or support services for any other reason, contact the Welcome Desk at 60220 to communicate your request. See an administrator if you have questions or concerns.

**Opening of School Survey:** A link to a Google Forms survey was emailed to all staff earlier today. Information from the survey will allow us to improve future openings. Complete on or before Thursday, September 14. [School Opening Survey](#) .

**From the Library:** The library staff welcomes you back and wishes you the best for the 2018-19 school year. We invite teachers in all subject areas bring their classes to the library for research, website evaluation, and database activities. If there is any way we can be of assistance in your classroom activities, please let us know. We would be happy to help.

Our library will host a Book Fair during the school day, September 17-21 and on the evening of Open House. English teachers, please distribute Book Fair flyers as soon as possible. Any student may visit the Book Fair during the school day as long as he/she has a signed planner.

**Special Education/504 Acknowledgement Sheets:** Thanks to all of you who have signed and returned the Assurance and Acknowledgement of IEP Accommodations forms. If you have not done so at this time, please be sure to sign and return them to case managers. If you have specific questions please see either the case manager or Charnelle Summerhill.

**Student Chromebook Issues:** If you have a student who needs assistance with their Chromebook in the next week, email Mr. Daulton and copy Dr. Hirano the student's name, ID number, and a brief statement of what is needed. Mr. Daulton will revise the process using a Google form later next week.

**Safe Schools Reminders:**

1. Wear your badge at all times.
2. Keep classroom doors locked at all times.
3. Keep exterior doors closed.
4. Never allow anyone in the building. Reinforce this with students as well.
5. If you see someone in the building without a badge, escort them to the security desk.
6. If you hear or see something suspicious, report it!

**Morning Announcements:** Announcements will begin at 9:17 AM and end no later than 9:22 AM. Please ensure all students are quiet and are listening to the morning announcements. Your interactive board (SMART or Promethean) must be turned on Channel 4 each morning so your homeroom students can view the slide for the Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence, and students reading the announcements.

**Activity Buses:** Beginning Monday, September 10, after school activities will conclude at 5:40 PM and activity buses will leave at 5:50 PM. If you have students staying after school, when the announcement is made at 5:40 PM, please escort the students to the front parking lot to meet their parent or activity bus. Students are not allowed to go to the side parking lot to meet their parent. If a student's parent is not here by 5:45 PM, then the student must get on an activity bus to get home safely.

**After School Activities:** There are no after school activities or activity buses on Friday, September 21. All students must go home at dismissal.

**Showcases:** Thank you those teachers who have picked up their showcase key from Mrs. Wydra. If you have not, please look at the assignments below and do so immediately. Please be creative when developing a plan for your showcase. We want the showcases to highlight your amazing students, promote your subject areas and be visually appealing for everyone to enjoy. Showcases need to be decorated by Friday, September 14.

Showcase Location	1 <sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks Completed by Sept. 14
Blue Hall (outside room 104)	Science 6
Blue Hall (outside room 110)	Math 6
Orange Hall (outside room 650)	English 6
Orange Hall (outside room 608)	Social Studies 6
Tan Hall (outside room 411)	Theater

Art Hall (between 250 & 251)	Visual Arts
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**From the Nurse:** Notify Nancy Charbot if you are currently certified in CPR and First Aid. Notify Mrs. Charbot if you have not been trained in administering an epi pen for students in emergency situations.

**IB MYP Tip of the Week:** The Statement of inquiry is an integral part of an IB education. It explains clearly what students should understand and why that understanding is meaningful. It allows for students to see complex relationships that are worthy of inquiry. Ensure that students engage with the statement of inquiry at the very beginning of the unit and use it as a driving force throughout the unit, revisiting it often. To introduce the statement of inquiry, consider posting it in your room and having students develop their own ideas about what it might mean in general and then, what it might have to do with the material the students will be learning in your unit. By allowing students to begin forming their own ideas about the statement of inquiry you are supporting inquiry based instruction in your classroom while at the same time seeing what prior knowledge your students have as well as what connections your students might already be making!

**Special Weeks and Events for SEPTEMBER**

- Library Card Sign-up Month
- Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15, 2017)
- 10-16 National Suicide Prevention Week
- 10-16 National Arts in Education Week
- 17-23 Constitution Week
- September 10 Rosh Hashanah (Recall that Jewish holidays begin at sunset the previous day.)
- September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance
- September 17 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day
- September 19 Yom Kippur
- September 24-30 Sukkot

**Reprinted:**

**Virtual Learning Meeting:** All staff members are required to attend one of the following Virtual Learning Meetings on September 14. Elective teachers should choose one of the scheduled sessions if they occur during their planning. A before school meeting is available for those who cannot attend during the school day. All sessions will be held in Kiva I.

- Before school: 8:20-9:05 AM
- Grade 7: 9:30-10:15 AM
- Grade 6: 12:40-1:25 PM
- Grade 8: 3:10-3:55 PM

**Sponsor Needed:** Please review the attached document and let Mrs. Wydra know ASAP should you be interested in sponsoring the Robotics Challenge. Plaza has had a team every year and we would like to continue this opportunity for our students.

**Sick Leave Bank Open Enrollment:** Open enrollment for the VBCPS Sick Leave Bank extends from September 1-October 15, 2018. See VBCPS.com under Hot Topics for details or click the link which follows:

<https://www.vbcps.com/Pages/default.aspx>

**Opening of School Survey:** A link to a Google Forms survey will be emailed to all staff September 7 so administration may obtain your input on the opening of school. Information from the survey will allow us to improve future openings. Complete on or before Thursday, September 14.

**AVID Site Team:** Staff who may have an interest in joining the AVID Site Team, should email Barry Fordham and copy Mr. Walton no later than Wednesday, September 12. The Site Team meets the third Thursday of the month from 8:35-9:05 AM. Participants may earn up to 4 points for attending.

**VBEF Grants:** The Virginia Beach Education Foundation is again offering grants for Innovative Projects and Learning Programs and Sustainability Impact Project Grants. The deadline for submission is October 6. For more information, visit [www.vbcps.com](http://www.vbcps.com), and select Education Foundation under Hot Topics. All staff are encouraged to apply for these grants.

**Important Dates:**

M	A Day	10	Activity Buses begin departing at 5:50 PM PTA Board Meeting at 6:00 PM
T	B Day	11	No Events
W	A Day	12	Fire Drill @ 9:30 AM One Act Play Interest Meeting @ 4:00 PM Boys Soccer vs. PA at 5:15 PM (away) Girls Soccer vs. PA at 5;15 PM (home)
T	B Day	13	Football Scrimmage vs. VB at 5:15 PM (home)
F	A Day	14	No Events