Advisory Teachers Schedule Students One-on-One in February

Scheduling for students in grades 9-11 will be held on February 18th and 24th from 4-7:30 pm. Advisory teachers will meet with advisees and their parents individually during assigned appointment times. Counselors and other informational resources will be available to parents and students when scheduling.

School Messenger: Parent Communication Tool

Garrett County Public Schools implemented a communication system, SchoolMessenger, in September. SchoolMessenger is used to communicate a number of items ranging from school cancellations, major system wide events, to other various announcements by way of phone call, email, and/or text. Information was provided to parents to sign up for SchoolMessenger at the beginning of the year. After four months of testing the system with those registrations, all students were opted into SchoolMessenger at the beginning of January to receive important announcements. Parents can edit their contact preferences by logging in to the Parent Portal in PowerSchool and making adjustments under Contact manager. Parents can also opt out of the phone calls, email, and/or text messages from School Messenger by following the "School Messenger Opt Out Directions" link found on http://www.garrettcountyschools.org/news/2014/01/schoolmessenger-information-for-parents.

Random Acts of Maturity (RAM) Students of the Month

Four Southern Garrett High School students were recognized by Principal Jim Maddy as the RAM (Random Acts of Maturity) Students of the Month. From left to right: Mr. Maddy, senior Jessica Cooper October RAM—TOLERANCE, September’s RAM freshman Zendil Bittinger—COURAGE, junior Logan Cvetnick December RAM—CARING, and November’s RAM senior Wyatt Sanders—CITIZENSHIP. The RAM students were awarded $25 gift cards to Uno’s Restaurant and Grill, the sponsor of the RAM Student of the Month program.
Media Center Open for After School Tutoring

The Media Center is open after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 pm. Tutoring as well as access to computers is offered at this time. The teachers offering tutoring are available to help students after school in multiple content areas, not just the subjects they teach in class, and computers are available for student use. A few minutes of extra help after school is a good investment.

The Media Center also has an updated website with improved resources for student use. Check it out at http://destiny.garrettcountyschools.org/common/servlet/presenthomeform.do?l2m=Home&tm=Home&l2m=Home.

Resources on the page include:
- Destiny Quest - This is our card catalog.
- AskUsNow - Live, 24/7 help from real librarians.
- CultureGrams – An insider’s perspective on daily life and culture of the world’s people.
- Ruth Enlow Library - Search the Ruth Enlow collection from your computer. Also, with a Ruth Enlow library card you can access exclusive online databases.
- SIRS Online - Online collection of newspaper and magazine articles on current events.
- Sparknotes - Offers a variety of study guides for a variety of subjects.

Worried about the SAT? Use their review materials to brush up and may be you’ll make the 1800 Club.

Western Maryland Public Libraries - This site gathers resources from all of a lot of local history.

Questions about the SGHS Media Center, please contact John Coffman at john.coffman@garrettcountyschools.org.

E-cigarette Policy

The use of e-cigarettes by students, staff, or visitors is not permitted on school property. E-cigarettes are designed to replace cigarettes in function and also to provide nicotine to the user. They are regulated by law and are not legal for a person under 18 to purchase. In accordance with the law and due to the nicotine content, they are not permitted in school. If found in possession of an e-cigarette, students will receive the same consequences as having snuff or cigarettes, which can result in a 3-day suspension and referral to law enforcement and the Department of Juvenile Services.

Graduation Date Set

The Garrett County Board of Education set the high school graduation date for Garrett County Public Schools. Both high schools will conduct graduation ceremonies on Saturday, May 31, 2014, at the CARC (Community Aquatic and Recreational Center) on the campus of Garrett College. Northern High School’s graduation ceremony will be held at 10:00 AM, while Southern High School’s graduation will be held at 3:00 PM.