



The Chalkboard

CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 1

Elkton, Maryland

September 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/>

FUTURE MEETINGS

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



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

September is rapidly approaching and summer is coming to an end. And what a summer it has been—100+ temperatures, strong winds and heavy rains causing branches and trees to come falling down. Hopefully we will move on to a calmer fall. Looking at the Hallmark cards out on the shelves, Thanksgiving is right around the corner! Here in actual time, students will be back soon to begin a new year. One of our projects is to assist school nurses with needed supplies. Take a look at the “Kids Fund” information and see if you are able to help Kay and Paula in some way. They will be making deliveries to schools at the end of September.

Dr. Lawson is scheduled to join us for the September luncheon, giving us a glance at things happening in our schools. Paula Newton, President of Cecil County Historical Society, will take us on a journey into the past of our county.

My firm belief is that the strength of our association lies within you, our members. As we begin a new year for CCRSPA I would like to encourage you to reach out to a retiree and encourage them to join CCRSPA. Our state association MRSPA is vigilant in their efforts to keep our pension safe. It would also be great to have our present members, and maybe some new members, join us for our first luncheon on Tuesday, September 8, 11:00 at Elkton United Methodist Church. Come see the wonderful things happening in Cecil County.

Respectfully yours,
MaryEllen Butkiewicz, President

CCRSPA MINUTES – May 12, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 by President Mary Ellen Butkiewicz. She announced that primary elections were being held in Elkton. First time guests were introduced. See Chalkboard for previous meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Paul Humphrey presented the Treasurer's Report through April 30, 2026. See Chalkboard for report.

Corresponding Secretary: Joan Marie Parker sent thank you notes to people who donated at the last luncheon.

Community Outreach: Paula Sheldon, Kay DiStefano, and Barbara Buck announced that Paul Humphrey is awarded the Community Service Award. Paul donates 60+ hours per month in service to his church and the community. Kay stated that the committee shops and delivers to the school nurses, noting that the biggest needs are bottled water, underwear, and sweatpants. She also read some thank you notes from nurses.

Legislative: Linda Elwood reported no changes. The next legislative meeting is in early August.

Membership: Amy Ide reported we have currently 241 members. Twenty recent retirees have expressed interest. Dues are due soon, with \$40 at the State level.

Nominating: Sally Haberl and Kay DiStefano said that a nomination is needed for the position of President Elect.

Public Relations: Shirley Montgomery reminded members to keep her updated on any email changes.

Publications/Chalkboard: Bill Ide stated that if a member wants a printed copy of the Chalkboard, he/she should let him know. Also, the deadline for articles in the Chalkboard is three weeks before the luncheon.

Benefits Advisory Committee: Bill Ide said there is one final meeting of the Benefits Advisory Committee for the school year. For the next year starting September 1, 2026, retirees should expect about a 15% increase in their medical premium (active employees will see about 4% increase). About 200 retirees are on CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield and 515 are on Aetna. CCPS is self-insured.

Mini-grants to Teachers: Charlene Metzger reported that last fall seven mini-grants were awarded, six for \$300 and one for \$100. Teachers prepare displays for the May luncheon.

Scholarships: Charlene Metzger described the scholarship grant program. Grants are awarded to CCPS graduates majoring in education. Money is raised through raffles and donations. Started in 1987, 52 grants have been awarded, totaling \$56,952. This year, \$1500 each has been awarded to two young women. Amy Ide introduced Isabelle Pearson, a junior at Towson University. Anne Humphrey introduced Madison Potter, a student at Cecil College, who will be attending Towson.

Program and Raffle: Mary McCleary asked for ideas for future programs. One suggestion is a presentation by the Farm Museum.

Obituary: The passing of Susan Marcheski was noted.

Travel: Fred Metzger announced that our group travel will be handled in the future by Paul Julia of Collette Travel, replacing Hill Travel. There will be no minimum number of people needed to book a trip. Four trips for 2028 were mentioned to assess interest: American cowboy country; Mackinac Island, MI; Pacific Northwest and California; and Christmas Markets in Montreal and Quebec.

MRSPA Representative: Dr. Debbie Chance, a guest representing MRSPA, was introduced. She updated us on news from the Annual Meeting held the previous week in Ellicott City. Wanda Twigg is retiring from her position as Executive Director. A search for her replacement is being conducted. It is a full time, paid position with benefits. There is no longer a state travel committee. Small numbers of members were traveling, and many local groups plan their own trips. The State of Maryland has 74% of the 80% needed for a fully funded pension program. With mid-term elections coming up, 25 state legislators have announced retirement. Expect changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

Ceryl Lee



SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

Tuesday, September 8th - 11:00 AM

Elkton United Methodist Church

PROGRAM - The Historical Society of Cecil County

Have you ever been to the Historical Society of Cecil County, located on 135 E. Main Street in Elkton? There is a wealth of local history in that building, from artifacts, reference materials, and displays. Doing a family tree? The Society may be of help. Paula Newton has been the Society's president for twenty-two years. Paula will share how the Society provides information to the public at large, and other activities that they provide for our community.

Dr. Lawson to Speak at Luncheon

Dr. Lawson will be presenting an update on the new school projects and news for the 2026-27 school year.

MENU

Baked Ham with pineapple, Red Bliss potatoes
Glazed Carrots, Fruit tray, Rolls
Cookie/Brownie tray,
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 Tuesday, Sept. 1st 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!



*Paul Humphrey
received the
2025-26
Community
Service Award
from MRSPA*

SERVICE PROJECT

The Community Outreach Committee thanks each of you for your generous donations at our May 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 September 8th.

The following are the most requested items:

- bottled water and juice boxes
- cheese or peanut butter crackers
- granola bars or breakfast bars
- fruit snacks
- 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/Website:</u>	Bill Ide
<u>Scholarship/Grants</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social:</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Sunshine:</u>	Debbie Pasco



Scan our QR code to visit our website

CCRSPA BUDGET 2026-27

INCOME

Contributions - Donations

Raffle <i>(not included in total)</i>	\$2,100.00
Kid's Personal Needs	\$1050.00
Scholarship	\$1050.00
Interest from checking	\$4.00
Membership Dues	\$2,720.00

Program Services Revenue

Luncheons – Meetings (Quarterly)	\$6,000.00
Other Income	\$0.00

TOTAL INCOME \$10,824.00

EXPENDITURES

Management and General Expenses

Chalkboard	\$250.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
MRSPA Insurance	\$25.00
Postage	\$150.00
Supplies	\$150.00
Website	\$419.88

Program Services

Gifts (Social Committee)	\$0.00
Kid's Personal Needs	\$1,500.00
Luncheons (food and supplies)	\$5,400.00
Luncheons (donations for services)	\$600.00
Luncheon Programs	\$550.00
Parton's Imagination Library	\$500.00
MRSPA Scholarship	\$50.00
Scholarships	\$3,000.00
Teacher Grants	\$1,600.00
Other Expenses	\$0.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$14,194.88



IN MEMORIAM

Susan Jane Marcheski

9/18/1948 – 5/5/2026

Susan Jane Marcheski, 77, of Edgewater, Florida, passed away peacefully on May 5, 2026, surrounded by her loving family. Born on September 18, 1948, in Vienna, Austria, Susan was the daughter of Winefred Cooke and Col. Horace Cooke, U.S. Army, Ret. Her military upbringing helped Susan develop a deep appreciation for family, resilience, and community. Susan received a bachelor's and master's degrees in education and devoted many years of her life to teaching at Charlestown Elementary, Bay View Elementary, and Gilpin Manor Elementary in Maryland, as well as St. John the Beloved in Delaware.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/susan-marcheski-obituary?id=61436547>

Ricky Ray Reedy

4/11/1945 – 6/1/2026

Ricky Ray Reedy, 81, of Rock Hall, Maryland, passed away on June 1, 2026, in Elkton, Maryland, surrounded by family and friends. Rick was born on April 11, 1945, in Rugby, Grayson County, Virginia, to Ernest Clay Reedy and Carrie Hazel Davis Reedy. He graduated from Elkton High School and later earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Towson University and a Master of Education degree from the University of Delaware. He married his high school sweetheart, Mary Etta Johnson. They shared 57 years of marriage and built a life together centered on family, hard work, and service to others. Rick devoted 38 years to teaching mathematics, spending eight years in Cecil County and thirty years at Newark High School.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/ricky-reedy-obituary?id=61620755>

Janelle Sloan Heuberger

4/9/1947 – 6/26/2026

Janelle, a beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and devoted educator, passed away peacefully on June 26, 2026. Born on April 9, 1947, in Milford, Delaware, Janelle lived a full and enriching life, marked by steadfast dedication to her family and her students. Janelle answered a calling to teach, dedicating her 35-year career to Cecil County Maryland Public Schools (Cherry Hill Middle), where she taught math and science.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/janelle-heuberger-obituary?id=62027808>

Norman Claude Webster Sr.

2/2/1949 – 8/7/2026

Norman "Chucky" Claude Webster Sr., 77, of Elkton, MD went home to be with the Lord on Friday, August 7, 2026, at Christiana Care. Born in Fair Hill, MD on February 2, 1949, he was the son of the late Colonel Anthony Webster and Bertha Delphine Williams Kirven. Mr. Webster retired after dedicating over 34 years at Chrysler. He also spent 30 years in custodial services with Cecil County Public Schools.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/cecildaily/name/norman-webster-obituary?id=62164826>

Student Scholarships

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 gave \$1,500 each to two young women. Isabelle Pierson is a graduate of NEHS. She will be a junior at Towson University, majoring in Elementary Education. Madyson Potter, an EHS graduate, will also be a junior at Towson University, majoring in Elementary Education. Both attended our May luncheon.

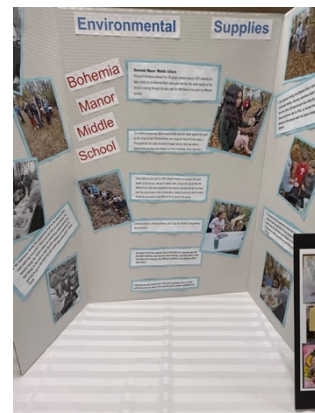
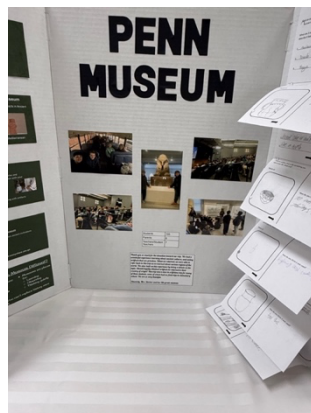
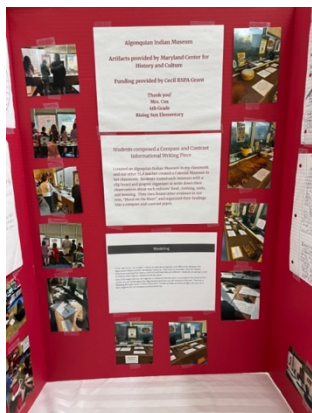


Anne Humphrey, Charlene Metzger, Madyson Potter, Isabelle Pierson, and Amy Ide

Teacher Grants

In late September, we will be offering grants of up to \$300 each to CCPS teachers for something they want to do with their classes that requires extra funding. Since 2019, we have awarded \$8280 to 39 teachers. Our recipients have been from all grade levels and disciplines, including English, ELA, chemistry, science, G&T, media, guidance, art, PE, AVID, STEM academy, math and career readiness, and the nursing department at CCST. We are hoping to award several grants this year.

Applications are to be submitted by Friday, October 30, 2026. Winners will be notified by Friday, November 6 and will receive their checks the following week.



Bermuda Cruise June 14-21, 2026

On Sunday, June 14, the 12 of us were picked up by a DE Express shuttle and headed for Cape Liberty Cruise Port, NJ. Upon arrival to the port, we checked in, waited a short time until we were able to board our home for the week, Celebrity Silhouette. We left the port at 4 PM with a sail around the Statue of Liberty and a great view of Manhattan. The next two days were at sea which were spent exploring the ship, eating, relaxing on deck, and participating in different activities provided by the staff.

We arrived in Bermuda on Wednesday morning for three sunny, fun-packed days. Many of us took advantage of the beautiful beaches & the turquoise water, exploring the island, shopping, or snorkeling and sailing on catamarans.

Late Friday afternoon, we departed Bermuda and headed back to Cape Liberty, enjoying another sea day of relaxation. Sunday came all too quickly, and we were forced to get off the ship, meet our shuttle, and head home, having made new friends and lots of memories!



CCRSPA Donation

(Please Clip and retain for your records)

Name _____

\$ _____ Ck # _____
Amount

Date: _____

☐ Kids Fund

☐ Scholarship Fund

CCRSPA Scholarship or Kids Fund Donation 2025-2026

Make check payable to CCRSPA, write "Scholarship" or "Kids Fund Donation" in lower left corner and mail along with this slip to:
Paul Humphrey

458 Welsh Hill Road
Newark, DE 19702

Name

Amount

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____



MOVING? (Don't forget to update address and phone info!)

Name _____

New Address _____
street address state zip

New Phone # _____ E-mail address _____

Mail to: Amy Ide
130 Black Oak Drive
Elkton MD 21921
or via email at amyide@comcast.net