



PRESS RELEASE

Prince George's County Public Schools • www.pgcps.org
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APRIL 19, 2007
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STUDENTS EXCEL IN TECHNICAL SKILLS COMPETITION

Thurgood Marshall MS and Gwynn Park HS Head to Maryland MESA

Thurgood Marshall Middle School and **Gwynn Park High School** were the overall winners at the Prince George's County-Maryland MESA (*Mathematics, Engineering, and Science Achievement*) competition held yesterday at the University of Maryland.

The Prince George's County-Maryland MESA program targets African-American, Hispanic-American and Native-American students in K-12. This program is designed to increase the number of students prepared for the rigor of university study in mathematics-based fields and to prepare students for professional careers in mathematics, engineering, science, and technology.

"University partnerships are critical to providing access to college and professional careers for every student," said Dr. John E. Deasy, Superintendent of Schools. "Maryland MESA assists schools by providing enrichment activities for students in the fields of mathematics, engineering, science, and technology, preparing them for opportunities they may not have otherwise considered."

Students from four middle schools (**Andrew Jackson MS, Gwynn Park MS, Thurgood Marshall MS, and Walker Mill MS**) and two high schools (**Gwynn Park HS and Northwestern HS**) demonstrated their knowledge, skills, and abilities in science, mathematics, engineering, and communication as a result of their involvement with the Maryland MESA Program.

Thurgood Marshall MS and Gwynn Park HS advanced to the statewide competition scheduled for Friday, April 27, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Maryland MESA headquarters in the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, MD. The full range of Maryland MESA activities is listed online at <http://www.jhuapl.edu/mesa/compete.htm>.

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CHILDREN COME FIRST



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The overall results were as follows:

Middle Schools

On-Site Mathematics: Slope/Rate of Change:

First Place – Walker Mill MS

Second Place – Thurgood Marshall MS

Effective Communications:

First Place – Thurgood Marshall MS

Second Place – Andrew Jackson MS

Third Place – Gwynn Park MS

Balsa Wood Glider:

First Place – Thurgood Marshall MS

Second Place – Gwynn Park MS

Bass Wood Bridge:

First Place – Thurgood Marshall MS

Hovercraft:

First Place – Andrew Jackson MS

Second Place – Walker Mill MS

Third Place – Thurgood Marshall MS

Multi-Task Trebuchet:

First Place – Gwynn Park MS

High Schools

Gwynn Park HS participated in the Bass Wood Bridge Competition, the Model Science-Heart Competition, the Electric Powered Cargo Plane Competition, and the Multi-Task Trebuchet Competition. Gwynn Park HS did well in these four areas, and was the overall winner for the high school category. Northwestern HS attended mainly to observe and prepare for next year's competition.

Maryland MESA (www.jhuapl.edu/mesa/content.htm) was founded in 1976 and currently includes more than 100 schools throughout the state. The Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering, which is a unit within the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland, serves as the Regional Center for Prince George's County. Other Prince George's County public schools participating in the program this school year include: **Central HS, Duval HS, Tall Oaks Vocational Academy, and G. James Gholson MS.**