

History: Drive for Supplies, now celebrating its tenth anniversary, is the product of collaboration between Learn Shop, Inc., and Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). This program not only teaches students that they can have a direct impact on communities by donating their reusable school supplies to local, national, and international schools and organizations, but also teaches them the importance of recycling and reducing landfill waste.

Drive for Supplies was conceived in 1999 by Kevin and Louise Newcomer, founders of Learn Shop, Inc., a nonprofit organization based in Wheaton, Maryland. Each year since its inception the program has been expanded. Last year, with a renewed emphasis on recycling, MCPS collected 14,480 pounds of supplies. Since 2002, when hard data started being collected, MCPS has collected over 36 tons of school supplies!

This year, 104 schools, along with six MCPS offices and several businesses participated in the program. The collected supplies will be distributed locally to nonprofit agencies, county schools with a high number of low-income students, and needy families. In addition, supplies will be sent to needy children in several foreign countries through international aid organizations.

Special thanks to the many volunteers who spent several days this summer sorting and repacking the donated supplies!

Drive for Supplies is a Learn Shop, Inc., year-round program. For information about the end-of-the-school-year collaboration with MCPS, call Student Affairs at 301-670-1419, or visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentaffairs/sao/supplies>.

Drive for Supplies



Celebration

July 26, 2010

10:00 a.m.

Richard Montgomery High School
250 Richard Montgomery Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Learn Shop, Inc. & Montgomery County
Public Schools

Program

MCPS appreciates the donation of 500 bags from Giant Food. Families will use the bags to pick up needed supplies.



A special thanks also goes to these businesses that generously donated school supplies for this program (alphabetical order).

- **Nutricia North America**
- **Schreiber Translations**
- **Westat**

Opening

Ms. Louise Newcomer, Executive Director,
Learn Shop, Inc.

Welcome

Dr. Jerry D. Weast, Superintendent of Schools

Comments

Mr. Christopher Barclay, Vice President,
Board of Education

Additional Board of Education Members

Civic Leaders present in the audience

Ms. Theresa Testoni, Commissioner, Governor's
Commission on Service and Volunteerism, on behalf of
Governor Martin O'Malley

Closing

Mr. Alan Xie, Student Member of the Board of Education

Schools, agencies, and families are asked to pick up supplies at the end of the ceremony. Student volunteers are available to help.