



# The Patterson Press



October 2008

Patterson High School

75 cents

## Welcome, New Faculty & Staff!

The Patterson Press staff would like to express a warm welcome to all of our new teachers! If you haven't met these teachers yet, introduce yourself and welcome them to the Patterson Family.



**Officer Baker**  
School  
Police Officer



**Mr. Barbalace**  
Science  
Professional Health  
Services Academy



**Ms. Bell**  
English  
Professional Health  
Services Academy



**Ms. Berdin**  
Math Co-Teacher  
Transportation &  
Engineering Academy



**Ms. Brooks**  
Office Assistant  
Main Office



**Ms. Caldwell**  
Social Studies  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Ms. Casas**  
Math  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Ms. Checa**  
Art  
Success Academy



**Ms. Gensler**  
Math  
Success Academy



**Ms. Gotia**  
Special Education  
Success Academy



**Ms. Green**  
Hall Monitor



**Mr. Hal Im**  
Math Co-Teacher  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Ms. Hildebrandt**  
English  
Success Academy



**Mr. Hornbuckle**  
I.A.,  
Business &  
Finance Academy



**Ms. House**  
TSP  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Maj. Lewis**  
JROTC  
Transportation &  
Engineering Academy



**Ms. Lewter**  
Science  
Transportation &  
Engineering Academy



**Ms. Loring**  
ESL  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Mr. Luxenburg**  
Foreign Language  
Professional Health  
Services Academy



**Ms. Matties**  
School Psychologist



**Mr. Mitz**  
Hall Monitor



**Mr. Perkins**  
Co-Teacher  
Success Academy



**Ms. Roller**  
English  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Ms. Ruiz**  
Math  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Ms. Setzer**  
Business Education  
Business &  
Finance Academy



**Ms. Scott**  
Teacher Mentor



**Paul Smith**  
JROTC  
Transportation &  
Engineering Academy



**Mr. Trovillion**  
Spanish  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Ms. Tuballa**  
Gym  
Professional Health  
Services Academy



**Ms. Vaughn**  
HSTW



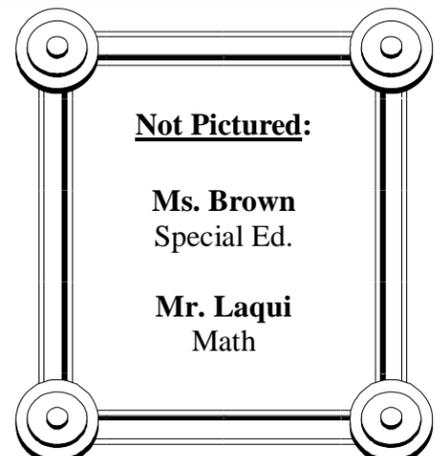
**Mr. Warner**  
Special Education  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Ms. Wynn**  
Office Assistant  
Upstairs  
Success Academy



**Mr. Young**  
English  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Not Pictured:**

**Ms. Brown**  
Special Ed.

**Mr. Laqui**  
Math

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# Cell Phones Don't Contribute to Learning

This article is reprinted with permission from the Virginia Tech "Science Coalition On Campus" page at <http://www.research.vt.edu/resmag/sc2002/cellphones.html>. The cartoon is also reprinted with permission.

By Mary Ann Johnson

People are using cell phones everywhere, even in schools, leading some school systems to ban them during the academic day. "Cell phones don't contribute to learning and are potentially a distraction," says Thomas Sherman, Virginia Tech professor of education. "There are already enough distractions; there's no need to add another."

Sherman, who researches how children learn, explains that cell phones may inhibit younger children from learning the full range of communication.

"Cell phones mediate or 'stand between' people," he says. The words are sent but the non-verbal information is not. Some consider the voice tone, facial expression, and physical gestures as important to the meaning of a message as the words. When communication is frequently mediated, it is possible children will not learn these subtle aspects of communicating well. Today much communication is mediated with telephones, computer e-mail, and video. It is appropriate to limit

this mediated communication with young children.

Modern cell phones are sophisticated devices that, like games, television sets, and computers, operate from screens. The idea of excessive "screen time" worries many educators. Children can spend two to four hours each day in front of screens. Much of this time has limited physical and mental activity. Often solitary entertainment screen time can occupy the majority of children's out of school free time. Educators recommend that children engage in active play, read, play social board games, and fantasy play. "Screen time" should be limited.

Sherman listed a few other

reasons for not having cell phones in school including that the ringing can be a distraction. Cell phones could contribute to social inequities creating a new level of "have/have-not" distinction. There may also be



(c) 2002 George Wills

a "keep up with Jones'" response as new and fancier phone technology comes along. Cell phones are small and getting smaller, thus, are easily lost and a potential target for theft.

"There are no good reasons for children to have cell phones," he says. One of the reasons frequently given for youngsters to have cell phones is to allow them to be able to contact someone in an emergency. "But schools are safe

places so emergencies don't happen often," Sherman says. "Schools are good about recognizing emergencies and making the appropriate contacts. Besides, it is not good to give children the impression schools are unsafe - exactly the opposite of the truth.

"There really are no clear learning related uses," Sherman says, "and several disadvantages." It also is not accurate for families to think that the cell phone is making it easier for daily planning. Sherman suggested that waiting until the last minute to make plans -thus necessitating a call to the child - is a poor model for children. It is a better model for children to be learning to plan and study with a longer perspective. Parents should keep children informed and within a well planned context.

"Young students don't need this electronic tether to home and parents. They should learn to make decisions and experience the consequences. If children can't make, on their own, the decisions needed at school, they may never learn to be independent thinkers. We just don't need to be so 'connected,'" Sherman says.

Thomas Sherman, professor of teaching and learning, can be reached at (540) 231-8348 [tsherman@vt.edu](mailto:tsherman@vt.edu)

## We want YOU!



**STUDENTS:**  
Respond to this editorial.  
-OR-  
Write your own Op-Ed piece.

The Patterson Press

**Adviser:**

Ms. Aspensen, Room 213  
Arts & Humanities Academy

**Senior Editor:**

Monique Frink

**Staff:**

Kevin Allen  
Jamie Elick  
Sasha Holmes  
Megan Matherly  
Jade McClendon  
Brandon McCullum  
Iesha McKnight  
Jimmy McLeod  
Savoy Miller  
Susan Pazos  
Alondra Ramirez-Espejo  
Alprentice Stokes  
Veronica Valencia  
Brenda Vergara  
Antoinette Webb

**Spanish Translation:**

Alondra Ramirez-Espejo  
Susan Pazos  
Veronica Valencia  
Brenda Vergara

**EDITORIAL POLICY:** The Patterson Press' opinion page is intended to acquaint readers with varying viewpoints on matters of concern to teachers and students at Patterson, and our community and business partners and parents. Guest columns and letters to the editor reflect the opinions of the writers only.

**LETTER POLICY:** To enhance the public discussion on issues, the Chronicle encourages letters from our readers. Letters should be no more than 300 words and must include the writer's first and last name (no initials), home address and daytime phone number. Addresses and phone numbers may be used for verification but will not be published. Letters may be edited for grammar, taste, brevity and libel. Thank-you letters, letters in poetic style or dominated by scripture quotations will not be published. We will also not knowingly print letters sent to other publications. Letters may be mailed to the editor at the Patterson Press, Patterson High School, 100 Kane Street, Baltimore, MD, 21224, or by e-mail to [pattersonpress@pattersonhs.com](mailto:pattersonpress@pattersonhs.com).

This year the Patterson Press is adding an Opinion page, as well as a section for "Letters to the Editor." We want to hear from YOU! The "Letters to the Editor" is intended primarily for student participation, because we want the students to have a place to voice their opinions about issues of concern to them at our school.

In the October issue of the Patterson Press, we hope to have this page filled with letters to the editor from students in response to the editorial printed in this issue. **Teachers: please provide extra credit or some other appropriate incentive to encourage your students to submit letters and articles to the newspaper!** See our "Letter Policy" for submission guidelines for letters to the editor.

We would also like to hear from aspiring writers with opinions who would like to write an Op-Ed piece for each issue of the Patterson Press. If you would like to submit your Op-Ed piece, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Use short, simple sentences.
- Avoid jargon.
- Explicitly support or oppose something.
- Personalize the op-ed with an anecdote.
- Link the op-ed to a current news story but keep the focus on Patterson.
- Follow our submission guidelines closely.

We suggest the following outline for Op-Ed submissions:

1. Start with a personal anecdote.
2. Make your main point in the first paragraph.
3. Begin to elaborate two, maximum three, supporting points in the following paragraphs. Make sure your paragraphs are short and contain one main idea.
4. Use facts, statistics and studies to support your arguments. Use metaphors (sports, movies and music work best) to relate complex ideas.
5. Conclude with a paragraph that draws the piece together and links to your opening anecdote.

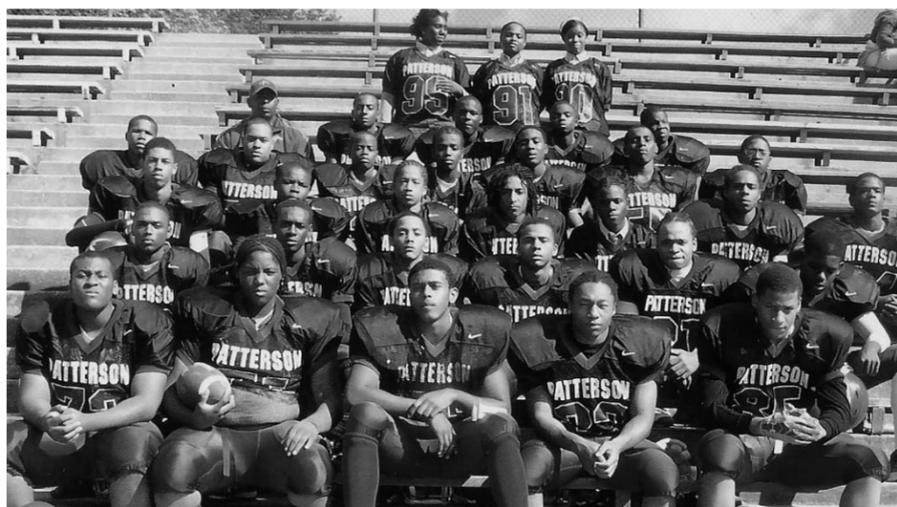
Para ver la version del periodico de  
Patterson Press en español, visita  
<http://www.pattersonhs.com/pattersonpress/>

# Patterson Upsets 12<sup>th</sup> Ranked Edmondson 20-0!

By Coach Corey Johnson

Behind the tremendous defensive effort of Senior Rodney Straughter, the Boys Varsity football team shut out the Edmondson Red Storm 20-0 before a raucous home crowd! Aaron Overton engineered two scoring drives and capped off both with touchdown runs. Senior Davon Taylor made a tremendous fourth down catch that helped to set up the Clippers'

third touchdown, which was scored by Junior quarterback Nathan Hunt. The defensive line of Derrelle Harris, Allister Jones, Keon Lemon, as well as linebackers Tyrell Addison, Jeryl Cole, Travis Green, Lamont Butler, and Trayvon Taylor harassed the Edmondson backfield all day. Player of the game honors go to Senior Rodney Straughter who had three interceptions. Come out and support your Clippers!



2008-2009 Varsity Boys Football Team, The Mighty Clippers



## Creative Writ



### A Feeling Like No Other

By Walter Reynolds

A feeling like no other can be simple or it can be pure.  
It can even hit me when you walk in through the door.

Your stunning beauty catches my eye,  
Takes my breath away and then for a moment I sigh.  
Wishing that you noticed that I'm too afraid to say  
The way I feel for you each and every day.  
Wanting to be with you is like an engine that won't start,  
Because it won't run until my love is in your heart.  
Stars up in the sky make the whole world shine bright.  
And upon a shooting star I'll wish for you tonight.  
If I told you how I feel you'd probably laugh out loud.  
You hardly even know me, I'm like a fan out in a crowd.  
If I was your man my feelings for you would show.  
I'd cherish every moment and never let them go.  
I would hold you forever and make you my world.  
I just wish that I could call you my baby girl.  
But wishes only come true in books or on TV.  
If I had you in my life, girl, I'd never leave.  
The guys who have hurt you must be stupid or have been blind  
To give you up for some other girl it seems like it's a crime.  
Your beauty can steal anything and on any given day.  
Sometimes I hope it comes by and steals me away.

# Back To School Night

This year's "Back to School Night" was a great success. Patterson rolled out the red carpet to welcome new and old members of the Patterson family. Teachers, staff, students, parents and community partners enjoyed refreshments, and got to know one another. The JROTC color guard presented the colors. Officer Hamm of the Baltimore Police Department gave a great presentation on some of the challenges facing our students this year, so parents and teachers will be more prepared to assist them. Community partners were present with information about services available to students and their families.



Ms. D'Anna welcomes members of the Patterson Family to "Back to School Night."



As usual, Ms. Reid was the "hostess with the mostess" and provided a beautiful and delicious array of refreshments.



Junior ROTC shows its true colors at "Back to School Night."

# Get Involved—Join a Club!

Club:	Advisor:
Dance Team	Ms. Adia Jones
Debate Team	Mr. Reed
Future Educators Association (FEA)	Ms. Hope
National Arts Honor Society	Ms. Aspensen
National Honor Society	Ms. Cole
Orgullo Latino	Ms. Aspensen
Project Lead the Way	Ms. Ball, Mr. Yates
Robotics Club	Ms. Ball
Service Learning Club	Ms. Allen
Sisters Helping Sisters	Ms. Dexter-Thornton
Step Team	Ms. Staton
Student Government Association (SGA)	Ms. Dexter-Thornton
Skills USA	Ms. Brigeforth
DECA	Mr. Somers
NFTE	Mr. Babcock
MESA	Ms. Ball, Mr. Yates
Health Sciences Club	Ms. Stevens

By Megan Matherly

It is important to join a club and get involved in extra-curricular activities because it could help students gain some skills that they might need for the future. It could also keep students out of trouble and off the streets. These clubs could help the students to become better participants in class, and just better people in general. For example the debate team could help students get their thoughts out and debate important topics everyone is talking about.

I do not belong to any clubs or extra-curricular activities at the moment, but I am on the staff of the Patterson Press, and I do plan on joining the swim team. When you belong to a club or participate in an extra-curricular activity it helps your grades, because if you do not maintain a

passing grade then you are not allowed to stay in the club or extra-curricular activities.

Some of the clubs could help you later after high school because they would go on your resume, which could help you get into a better college. By joining a club or extra-curricular activity you could also increase your GPA, because in order to be in a club you must pass all of your classes. That would help you get into a 4 year college because to get into a 4-year college they always want people with high GPAs.

Also a club could help you stay out of trouble and keep you off of the streets. At Patterson we have many programs and extra-curricular activities that students could join. Look through the list on this page and see if there is a club that would be right for you.

## Meet the 2008-2009 Patterson Press Staff



**Ms. Aspensen**  
Room 213  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Kevin Allen**  
Transportation &  
Engineering Academy



**Jamie Elick**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Monique Frink**  
Professional Health  
Services Academy



**Sasha Holmes**  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Megan Matherly**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Jade McClendon**  
Professional Health  
Services Academy



**Brandon McCullum**  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Iesha McKnight**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Jimmy McLeod**  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Savoy Miller**  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Susan Pazos**  
Business & Finance  
Academy



**Alondra  
Ramirez-Espejo**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Alprentice Stokes**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Veronica Valencia**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Brenda Vergara**  
Arts & Humanities  
Academy



**Antoinette Webb**  
Business & Finance  
Academy